

**Rainford Parish Council**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 23 JANUARY 2017 COMMENCING AT 7.00pm  
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT RAINFORD VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:**                    **Councillors:** Aspinall, Brown, Collins, Grice, G Jones, P Jones, Lee, Long, Monk,  
D Nichols (Chairman), R Nichols, Reynolds, Wesley  
**In attendance:**         Sally Powell (Clerk)  
Victoria Swainbank (Administration Assistant)  
**Absent:**                     **None**

- 522. APOLOGIES:** Councillors D Mussell (Family matters), L Mussell (Family matters)
- 523. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**  
Councillors Grice, D Nichols and Wesley declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 533.  
Councillor Aspinall declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning application P/2017/0006/HHFP
- 524. FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN:**  
None.
- 525. TO HEAR AND RESPOND TO ANY QUESTIONS/DEPUTATIONS BY COUNCILLORS OR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:**  
None.
- 526. TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 19 DECEMBER 2016**  
**RESOLVED:** Councillor P Jones proposed that the minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record.  
This was seconded by Councillor Wesley and carried unanimously.
- 527. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**
- 517 Councillor R Nichols requested that the wording was altered as it was not 4 years ago that Lord Derby had given the land for community use, but many years before this. Councillor Brown asked the Clerk if she had found out the Insurance implications. The Clerk informed the meeting that she had been advised that the current policy would cover the land if it was included in the lease, at no extra cost. The Chairman declared that this discussion should be taken forward to the next meeting of the Council as Councillor D Mussell who had taken a lead on this issue was not at the meeting.
519. Finance Councillor Aspinall informed the meeting that he had had several residents complementing the new external lighting.
519. Borough Council Councillor Aspinall stated that he had received complaints from residents that the advertising board is still outside the Co-op. Councillor Long informed the meeting that he had spoken to Councillor L Mussell who is having discussions at Borough level regarding this matter

## 528. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The Clerk clarified the following issues:

- i. Councillor Wesley questioned the high cost of cleaning. The Clerk stated that the hall had been used a lot in December and also that the current cleaners are doing a very good job. She had also had further discussions with the company manager regarding the frequency of cleaning. Councillor R Nichols suggested that an additional charge is made for cleaning the hall after large functions such as weddings and parties and a short discussion followed regarding the merits of this.
- ii. Councillor Aspinall asked what had happened regarding the returned cheque. The Clerk informed the meeting that the invoice had been paid in full.

**RESOLVED: Councillor P Jones proposed that the Income and Expenditure Figures for December 2016 be accepted. This was seconded by Councillor Long and carried unanimously.**  
(See Appendix 1)

## 529. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk summarised the following correspondence:

1. Letter from St Helens Council stating the proposed Council Tax base for the precept for 2017/18 at 2889 (an increase of 37). The dates for payment will be 50% on 20.04.17 and 50% on 20.06.17
2. Email from a resident regarding the amount of dog excrement on Rookery Lane and the overflowing bins for the disposal of this. *There was a short discussion and it was agreed that this was a problem that had been particularly bad over the holiday period due to the dog bins not being emptied. The Clerk was asked to write to the resident and give Councillor Reynold's details as he will take up the issue with St Helens Council*
3. Email from Cllr D Mussell requesting proof that written confirmation from St Helens Council had been received stating that planning permission was not required for externally up-lighting the Village Hall.
4. An email forwarded from Cllr Grice from Tony Jackson (St Helens Planning Dept.) confirming that planning permission would not be required to flood light the Village Hall
5. Email from James Wright thanking the Parish Council for its support of RAG and encouraging Councillors to join in with the group's activities.
6. Leaflet from SLCC detailing the Conferences to be held this year
7. Copy of Clerks and Councils Magazine
8. Copy of The Clerk magazine
9. Letter from The Mayor of St Helens inviting the Chairman to attend the Holocaust Memorial Service
10. Leaflet from Greenbarnes with details of noticeboards
11. Email from Cllr D Mussell stating that a certificate of conformity was required for the electrical wiring work carried out for the power socket to the Christmas Tree
12. Further email from Cllr D Mussell requesting confirmation that the certificate had been received
13. Letter from St Helens Council requesting the use of the Village Hall as a Polling Station on Thursday 04.05.17 for the Combined Authority Mayoral Election and stating that Local Elections are scheduled to be held on the following dates:  
03.5.18, 02.05.19, 02.05.20
14. Letter from Corin Trivass asking if the Parish Council would be interested in investing in IT classes for local residents *The Clerk was asked to check if there are already similar classes being held by St Helens Council and if not, pass the letter on to Rainford Hub, then inform the correspondent accordingly*

15. Letter from United Utilities stating that a new company – Water Plus, will be taking over the billing services for business customers in April 2017 when non-domestic customers will be able to swap to another water supplier for retail activities
16. Email from Helen Tanzey confirming that the Police and Crime Commissioner, her deputy and the Deputy Chief Constable would be visiting regarding using space at the Village Hall as a Community Police Station on 19.01.17
17. Copy of the Chairman’s report for the Rainford in Bloom AGM
18. Email forwarded from Cllr Grice with a quote for attaching stainless steel lettering saying ‘Rainford Village Hall’ to the outside of the building. (£750.00 + VAT)
19. Email from Selectabase Team asking if we would like to receive a new address list each month of the recently engaged couples in St Helens
20. Email from James Wright asking for help with Public Liability Insurance for a Protest March from Rainford to St Helens Town Hall
21. Copy of the minutes of the Rainford in Bloom AGM
22. Email from James Wright with a timetable for the protest March on 28.01.17
23. Letter from St Helens Council confirming that the Council Tax Base for 2017/18 will be 2889 Band D equivalent
24. Email from a resident requesting a sign for the Sports and Social Club at Springfield on the Bypass (A570)
25. Email from James Wright regarding Rainford Action Group

**RESOLVED: That the Correspondence be accepted**

**530. POSSIBLE USES FOR THE LAND AT THE REAR OF THE VILLAGE HALL**

This item to be carried forward to the next meeting as Councillor D Mussell was not present.

**531. SIGNAGE ON THE FRONT OF THE VILLAGE HALL**

Councillor Grice suggested that there should be signage on the front of the building reading ‘Rainford Village Hall’. He had had a firm prepare a mock-up photo of what it would look like if the letters were in aluminium, which was distributed. The cost would be around £750.00. Whilst there was universal agreement that there should be signage on the Village Hall, several Councillors were of the opinion that stainless steel was not the correct material for the letters. Concern was also expressed regarding the requirement for planning permission as the Village Hall is in the conservation area. Following a discussion, the Clerk was asked to contact St Helens Council and speak to the Conservation Officer.

**532. THE ST HELENS DEVELOPMENT PLAN PREFERRED OPTIONS**

The Clerk had circulated a draft submission following the FPA meeting on 18.01.17 (See Appendix 1 for the submitted document). Councillor Wesley congratulated the Clerk on the document. Some revisions were suggested and Councillors were asked to submit any further comments to the Clerk by 25.01.17 and the submission will be sent on 17.01.17.

The Chairman urged all Councillors to make individual submissions.

**533. RAINFORD CHRISTMAS FAYRE 2017**

The Chairman gave an overview of the Christmas Fayre and said she understood that the Council had voted last year to keep the first Saturday in December free to accommodate the Rainford Christmas Fayre in the event of inclement weather. However, whilst a vote had taken place in the previous year, it was not clear from the minutes whether this was for 2016 only or an on-going arrangement. Councillor P Jones informed the meeting that there was the opportunity of a Wedding Party on 02.12.17 which could generate significant income for the Parish Council. It was acknowledged that the Rainford Christmas Fayre is an event which benefits the community and many organisations and charities in the village. Notwithstanding this, it was also accepted that the Village hall is expected to generate income. Following a discussion, the following proposal was made by Councillor D Nichols:

**RESOLVED: Councillor D Nichols proposed that the first Saturday of December should be kept available for use by Rainford Christmas Fayre for as long as Rainford Parish Council agreed. The motion was seconded by Councillor Brown and carried by a majority vote of 10 in favour and 3 against**

**534. BUDGET 2017/18**

A copy of the draft budget had been circulated. See Appendix 2.

This item was discussed under committee reports

**535. COMMITTEE & COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

- **Audit** – The full committee had not met, but the Chairman of the FPA had met with the Clerk to discuss the budget
- **Community Development** – As Councillor Lee had been unable to attend the last meeting, the Chairman reported the following:
  - The CDC had met on 04.01.17 (See Appendix 3 for the minutes)
  - A quiz, lunch and a fashion show are planned to raise funds for the Chairman’s War Memorial Fund. In addition, the profit from the Gin Table at the Beer Festival will go to the Chairman’s Fund and a café would be run during the Model railway Exhibition on 01.04.17
  - The Scouts are collecting Christmas Trees to make into Bug Hotels
  - The possibility of a grant to provide heritage signs at the sites of the old railway stations in Rainford is being looked into by Councillor Reynolds.
  - Rainford in Bloom are considering taking over the Ground Maintenance for the Village Hall
- **Health & Safety** - No meeting had taken place since the last Full Council Meeting.
- **Finance, Planning & Administration (See Appendix 2 for the minutes)**  
PLANNING - 8 sets of plans were considered. No objections were raised

**RESOLVED: Councillor P Jones proposed that the plans be agreed en bloc. Councillor Long seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.**

FINANCE – Councillor P Jones highlighted the following from the FPA Minutes:

- The Police Commissioner, along with other Police staff had visited the Village Hall regarding setting up a Community Police Station on the premises. A stand will need to be put at the back of the building for bicycles and a ‘Police’ sign at the front, which will be in keeping with the surroundings. The PCSO’s for Rainford would be stationed at the hall. The station would not be staffed 24/7. Councillor Brown asked how much rent would be paid. The Clerk informed the meeting it would be £500.00 per calendar month.

- The Budget for 2017/18. Discussions took place and clarification was given regarding various aspects of the draft budget including an increase of £1.00 on the precept.

**RESOLVED: Councillor P Jones proposed that the Budget for 2017/18 is adopted including the £1.00 increase in the precept for Band D equivalent properties. This motion was seconded by Councillor Long and was carried unanimously.**

➤ **Borough Council**

Councillor Reynolds informed the meeting of the following:

- There is a proposal for St Helens Council to take over the running of bus services within the Borough
- Regarding the road works on Pasture Lane: The relevant Government Department have agreed funding, but a report is required on the presence of Water Voles and this can only be undertaken in September
- Funding for the alterations to the bridge on Randle Brook at Beech Gardens has also been agreed, but there is a dispute with one of the landowners

**536. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

1. The Chairman expressed her disappointment and embarrassment at the lack of attendance at the meeting held for Rainford Parish Councillors regarding the St Helens Local Plan. She informed the meeting that there are individuals who have expressed an interest in becoming members of the Parish Council and suggested that existing Councillors should consider what their contribution to the Parish Council is.
2. Councillor D Nichols reminded the meeting of the march arranged by Rainford Action Group from Rainford to St Helens Town Hall on 18.01.17.
3. Councillor Aspinall offered his apologies for the next full Council Meeting on 27.02.17 as he will be on holiday.

**537. DIARY DATES**

22.02.17	6.30pm	FPA Meeting
26.02.17	12.30pm	Lunch – fund-raising event for the Chairman’s fund
27.02.17	10am	Rainford Christmas Fayre AGM
27.02.17	7pm	Full Council Meeting
01.03.17	6pm	CDC Meeting (Please note earlier start time)
04.03.17	11am – 11.30am	Borough Councillors’ surgery
12.03.17	10.15am	Civic Service URC
22.03.17	6.30pm	FPA Committee meeting
27.03.17	7pm	Full Council Meeting

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.45pm

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Councillor Diane Nichols  
Chairman 2016/17

## APPENDIX 1

### RAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL'S SUBMISSION TO ST HELENS COUNCIL REGARDING THE LOCAL PLAN PREFERRED OPTIONS

**FOR THE ATTENTION OF:** Mark Dickens, Assistant Director Development and Growth,  
St Helens Council  
Jan Lourens, Development Plans Manager, St Helens Council

**DATE:** 24.01.17

**FROM:** Rainford Parish Council

#### **This document is Rainford Parish Council's submission to the St Helens Council Local Plan Preferred Options Consultation**

The current preferred options include the proposal to build 1100 dwellings within the Parish of Rainford on Green Belt land. While the Parish Council recognises the need to provide new housing and employment across the Borough, it wishes to make the following comments and observations in relation to the existing document:

#### **The Proposed Housing Allocation Sites HA14 & HA 15 included in Phase 1 of the plan**

It is understood that the current proposals would see up to 300 dwellings being built on these Green Belt sites. The existing Village does not have the infrastructure and services to provide for such a sudden high percentage increase in the population:

- ❖ Rainford has 2 Doctors surgeries and 2 Dental practices. Anecdotal evidence suggests that waiting a week or more for an appointment with a doctor is commonplace. Neither of the dental practices presently accepts NHS patients.
  
- ❖ Although no estimate for the number of new residents is given, it is reasonable to assume that many of the occupants of the proposed housing would be less than 18 years of age. While the CE Primary School is currently undersubscribed by 26 places, 15 of these are in one year group. Although Corpus Christi and Brook Lodge Primary schools may both currently have the capacity for extra pupils, this is not on a scale to accommodate the number of children requiring places. All three of the primary schools in the Village have little or no room for expansion. This would mean that a substantial proportion of children residing within Rainford could not be educated within the Village, or that a new primary school would have to be built.  
No site is identified within the plan for this purpose.  
Rainford High School was oversubscribed by in excess of 100 places for the September 2016 intake. The Parish Council understands that the school has increased its PAN by 20 to 290, with 10 entry classes, which was approved by St Helens Council. Rainford High has ambitions to increase 6<sup>th</sup> Form pupil numbers as part of its academisation plans, the fulfilment of which will bring the infrastructure of the school to capacity.  
There is no provision for the secondary education of an increased number of resident 11 – 18 year olds within the plan.

- ❖ The current limited retail offering within the Village would not be able to support the requirements of an additional 3000 residents and there is no provision within the plan for additional retail outlets.
- ❖ It is commonly estimated that for every new home built, the occupiers will have 2 cars. The roads in and around Rainford were not designed or built to accommodate the volume of traffic the first phase of building would create and it is impossible to envisage how the traffic generated by an additional 800 dwellings would be managed. Indeed, many of the roads in the Village, (for example Mossborough Road), struggle to cope with the prevailing vehicular movement. Furthermore, there are frequent accidents, some of a serious nature, at the junction of Mill Lane and Higher Lane and the junction of Mill Lane and the Rainford by-pass (A570). Building houses at site HA15 would further aggravate this dangerous situation. Additionally, much of the extra traffic would wish to travel through Windle Island during the rush hour period. It is the understanding of the Parish Council that the works shortly to commence at this busy junction are expected to be a solution to the *existing* traffic problems at this location, not to alleviate the anticipated increases due to the implementation of the Local Plan.  
The lack of available parking in the Village centre is also an existing issue and further development on such a large scale would only exacerbate this problem. The roads accessing sites HA14 & HA15 are in the main too narrow for the high number of HGVs that would be required during development.  
No provision has been made in the plan to cope with the extra traffic generated either in or around Rainford or for improving the access roads to the Village.
- ❖ The high volume of cars travelling in, out and through Rainford is partly due to the very poor public transport services. The bus services that are available do not connect with the meagre rail services, and it is impossible to get to and from either Liverpool or Manchester by train in the evening from Rainford.

### **Other General Observations regarding the content of the Plan**

#### **FLOOD RISK**

Much of the land within Rainford is prone to flooding and remains such despite remedial works. This is particularly true of sites HA14, HA15, HS18, HS19, HS20 & HS21. Development on these sites would cause even greater problems in adjacent areas and it is difficult to see how the stipulation in the plan that the water flow rate must remain the same post development as it was before, is achievable.

#### **AGRICULTURAL LAND**

All the Green Belt sites identified for development within Rainford in the Preferred Options consist of Grade 1 agricultural land. People need to be fed as well as housed and there is no provision in the plan for the recovery of this lost farming land in other areas of the Borough. Agriculture and its associated industries are major commercial activities and the highest source of employment within the Parish. No consideration is given to the amount of land locally (and nationally) that is required for growing food or more importantly perhaps, the effect on the local economy of building on farmer's fields. The Parish Council would question the morality of building on land which produces 2 and sometimes 3 crops per annum.

## POPULATION

Rainford Parish Council does not accept the premise made in the plan that 570 new homes per year will be required and queries whether the 'Brexit' referendum decision has been factored into the population figures the Council has used to predict housing requirements. It is not unrealistic to assume that EU migration into St Helens will decline over the timescale of the Development Plan. The population of the Borough is currently decreasing with the greatest exodus in the 25 - 44 age group: the very people that developers wishing to build on Rainford's Green Belt would want to target. The overall effect is a further reduction in population numbers and this calls into question the Council's statistics in predicting housing requirements in the Borough over the stated 15 years and beyond. Furthermore, there are newly built houses within the Borough that have still not been sold, despite being available for some time. Rainford Parish Council would suggest there is insufficient evidence to support the perceived need for the number of houses required. Therefore the case for using Green Belt land constituting the exceptional circumstances required to release the land for development is invalid.

## BROWNFIELD SITES

It is the understanding of the Parish Council that there are a sufficient number of Brown Field sites within the Borough to fulfil the perceived housing and industry requirement. Although more costly to develop, building on these sites would provide affordable housing within walking distance of St Helens Town Centre. This would provide employment and thus stimulate and boost the economy of a town currently struggling to attract both business and residents. Leaving ugly Brown Field contaminated sites as they are is not going to alleviate this situation. Building dwellings on the Green Belt in Rainford will not alleviate this situation. Building affordable homes close to the town centre will.

## INFILL

In recent years, a number of dwellings have been built in Rainford on small plots of land and the Parish Council have supported these initiatives which have put unused land to good use. The Parish Council wish to propose that in order to maintain the rural and Village nature of Rainford, smaller plots of land are identified where minor developments could take place which would not damage the infrastructure of the Village. It would be possible to integrate and absorb the resultant additional number of dwellings and residents, which would not be the case if the many hectares of Green Belt land the plan proposes are developed.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, Rainford Parish Council maintains that Rainford does not have the infrastructure to support the large scale development proposed on Green Belt sites within the Village. The current preferred options for Rainford are completely disproportionate given the current size and rural nature of the Village and the limited facilities and services available. Flooding of the sites and/or of adjacent land should be a great cause for concern and St Helens Council should be mindful of the wider effects of releasing Grade 1 agricultural land from the Green Belt for the building of houses.

The Parish Council does not consider that St Helens Council has successfully made the argument for the 'exceptional circumstances' required for releasing Green Belt land for development as it questions the validity of the assumptions made regarding the increase of the population and need for housing within the Borough during the time frame of the plan.

Rainford Parish Council suggests that Brown Field sites within the Borough, even if they are more problematic, would be more appropriate for development as this would have the added advantage of assisting in the rejuvenation of St Helens Town Centre. The Parish Council would support small scale developments within the Parish.

**APPENDIX 2**  
**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE, PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**  
**OF RAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON**  
**WEDNESDAY 18 JANUARY 2017 at 6.30pm IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT RAINFORD VILLAGE HALL**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: J Collins, P Jones (Chairman), J Long, D Nichols,

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Sally Powell – Clerk

**ABSENT:** None

**1. APOLOGIES:** Councillors: K Aspinall, L Mussell (St Helens Council Meeting)

**2. PLANS:**

7 sets of plans (see appendix 1 for details) were considered. No objections were raised.

**3. INCOME & EXPENDITURE:**

See Appendix 2 for Income & Expenditure figures for December 2016.

Councillor D Nichols requested clarification regarding the Community Cinema and sponsorship for the event. The Clerk confirmed that the sponsorship money had now been received.

Councillor Collins asked for an update on the cheque that had been returned by the bank. The Clerk informed the meeting that the amount had been paid along with other arrears owed.

Councillor Jones asked if the figures included expenses from the Bar Account. The Clerk stated that the expenditure figures are for the Current Account only.

**4. ST HELENS DEVELOPMENT PLAN:**

The Rainford Action Group had held a further meeting in the Village Hall on 15.01.17.

7 Parish Councillors had been present.

Parish Councillors would be encouraged to make an individual submission. A submission will also be made by the Parish Council. The Clerk was asked to draft and circulate a document for discussion at the Council Meeting on 23.01.17 to include:

- Lack of infrastructure
- Flood risk
- Inability of the sewers to cope with extra housing
- New houses across the Borough remain unsold
- Proposed land is Grade 1 Agricultural land
- Lack of services and facilities in Rainford (Schools, Doctors, Dentists etc.)
- Unsuitability of roads for increased traffic
- Lack of evidence of increase in population within the Borough

**5. BUDGET 2017/18:**

See Appendix 3

A draft budget was considered and discussed.

Suggested price increases for the Bar were circulated and deliberated. It was agreed that all spirits currently charged at £1.70 should increase to £1.80. This would still make the bar prices very competitive.

The number of Band D equivalent properties has increased by 37 to 2889.

It was proposed that the precept is increased by £1 to £26 for a Band D equivalent with the extra income allocated to the Repairs and Renewals budget head as a contingency against unforeseeable expenses. If the funds are still available towards the end of the year, they could be used to purchase a new noticeboard and signage on the front of the Village Hall.

The revised budget can be seen in Appendix 3.

## 6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- i. Councillor Long requested an update on the situation regarding the Police establishing a Community Police Station at the Village Hall. The Clerk informed the meeting that the Commissioner would be visiting later in the week along with her Deputy Commissioner and staff officer. They will be joined by the Deputy Chief Constable and the Area Commander and a final decision will be made following the visit.
- ii. The Council Tax Base for the Parish has been set at 2889 (Band D equivalent properties). The figure will be confirmed once the Tax Base has been formally approved by St Helens Council on 18.01.17. The payment of the precept will be made as follows:  
50% on 20 April 2017  
50% on 22 June 2017
- iii. Councillor Long asked if there had been any adverse reaction to increasing the cost of hiring the hall for weddings to £350. The Clerk stated that no comments had been received so far.
- iv. Councillor Jones informed the meeting that a request had been received to hire the hall for a wedding on 02.12.17. This is the date of the Village Christmas Fayre and last year the hall was kept free in case of inclement weather. (A booking for a wedding reception had to be declined). It is estimated that approximately £2000 of revenue will be lost by keeping the hall free. A discussion ensued and the following points were made:
  - The Hall is a commercial venture that must pay its own way
  - The Hall is a Community Resource and should be available for groups/organisations to use
  - The conundrum is what the balance should be and how that is decided
  - Rainford Show and Rainford Heritage Society use the hall each year FOC. If the Christmas Fayre was inside, then the possibility of other bookings would not be considered.
  - The Christmas Fayre is too large for the Village Hall
  - There are commercial stalls at the Christmas Fayre
  - Rainford Show and the Heritage Weekend are not income generating events.
  - It is easy to see both sides of the argument

It was agreed that the issue should be voted on at the Full Council meeting on 23.01.17. Councillor D Nichols will state the case for keeping the hall free and Councillor P Jones for taking the booking.

*Any Councillors who are also members of the Christmas Fayre Committee should declare a non-pecuniary interest but may take part in the discussion and vote.*

*The following is an extract from the minutes of the Council meeting held in December 2015, which suggests that the resolution related to the Christmas Fayre planned for December 2016:*

### **“379. RAINFORD CHRISTMAS FAYRE 2015**

The weather during the week of and on the day of the Fayre was atrocious with high winds and driving rain. The decision was made at 7am on the day to move the Fayre inside to the Village Hall. No contingency plans to do this had been made. The Fayre went very well despite the problems and the best was done in the situation. Overall it was an excellent weekend. It was the feeling of the meeting that all events taking place that day had benefitted from so much going on. Councillor Aspinall confirmed that the Christmas Tree Festival had had a lot of visitors and it was believed the same was true of the BB & GA Christmas Fayre.

However, concerns were raised about the number of people in the Hall at times and whilst it was wonderful that the Parish Council were able to step into the breach and prevent the Fayre from being cancelled, there were issues that needed clarifying in case the same happened next year. It would be necessary to work with the Christmas Fayre committee to formulate a contingency plan which included

the implementation of a one-way system around the hall and a system implemented to prevent too many people being in the hall at one time.

Councillor P Jones asked if any payment had been made for the use of the Hall. A discussion followed at the end of which the following proposal was made:

**RESOLVED: Councillor Reynolds proposed that the Main Hall and Reception Room are kept free on the first Saturday in December for the use of the Christmas Fayre in case of inclement weather. There would be no charge for the use of the hall in this instance. The motion was seconded by Councillor Lee and carried unanimously.**

Councillors Grice and Wesley who sit on the Christmas Fayre committee informed the meeting that profits from the Christmas Fayre will be given out in donations to local organisations.”

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.40pm.

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**Chairman 2016/17**

### APPENDIX 1

RAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL - PLANS FOR January 2017				
NUMBER	APPLICANT	DESCRIPTION	SITE ADDRESS	OBJECTIONS
P/2016/0895/FUL	Park Hill, Bushey Lane Rainford	Change of use of part of a car repair garage for the sale of cars/vehicles	Park Hill, Bushey Lane Rainford	
P/2016/0914/FUL	Mr David Gill 10&12 Dairy Farm Road Rainford Wa11 7JH	Change of use of 2no existing dwelling houses into 1no separate dwelling to be used as a childrens home.	10&12 Dairy Farm Road Rainford Wa11 7JH	
P/2016/0928/HHFP	Miss Jennifer Mylchreest 2 Keswick Way, Rainford WA11 7LJ	Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension.	2 Keswick Way, Rainford WA11 7LJ	
P/2017/0006/HHFP	Rev'd John Highman 86 Ormskirk Road Rainford, WA11 8DB	Single storey rear extension.	86 Ormskirk Road Rainford, WA11 8DB	
P/2017/0020/ADC	The Golden Lion Hotel 30 Church Road, Rainford	Consent to display assorted illuminated and non illuminated signs.	30 Church Road, Rainford	
P/2017/0040/HHFP	10 Rookery Lane Rainford, WA11 8EF	Single storey rear extension along with minor external alterations.	10 Rookery Lane Rainford, WA11 8EF	
P/2017/0034/OUP	Mr P Cunningham 29 Pewterspear Green Rd Appleton, Warrington WA4 5FD	Outline application (all matters reserved except for access) for the erection of 2no dwellings with associated access arrangements.	Land between 297-307 Higher Lane, Crank	
P/2017/0033/FUL	Mr Karl Spratt Promised Land Farm Kings Moss, WA11 8RW	Erection of new agricultural building	Promised Land Farm Kings Moss, WA11 8RW	
Chairman				

## APPENDIX 2

RAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL				
Income & Expenditure 2016 - 2017				
Month ended 31 December 2017				
Expenditure				
Date	Company	Detail	Total	VAT
05.12.16	Barclays Bank	Bank charges	£ 23.00	
09.12.16	St Helens Council	Insurance Premium including IPT & Administration 01/07/16 - 30/06/17	£ 2,248.10	
09.12.16	Scottish Power	Electricity - Pavillion	£ 10.17	£ 0.48
09.12.16	Daily Poppins	Cleaning	£ 527.76	£ 87.96
09.12.16	B & M Waste Services	Waste Removal	£ 76.56	£ 12.76
09.12.16	Mark Hudson	Window Cleaning	£ 100.00	
09.12.16	Edmundson Electricals	Replacement security light	£ 27.52	£ 4.59
20.12.16	Greenhope Recycling & Waste Services Ltd	Glass recycling	£ 8.10	£ 1.35
	Barclaycard	Merchant services	£ 41.95	£ 6.99
12.12.16	Community Cinemas	Cinema Screening	£ 250.00	
13.12.16	Barclays Bank	Unpaid Cheque	£ 102.00	
13.12.16	Opus Energy	Electricity	£ 310.61	£ 51.77
14.12.16	Booker/S Powell	Toilet roll	£ 8.70	£ 1.45
14.12.16	A. Leigh (Rainford Electrical)	Installation of security light	£ 35.00	
21.12.16	A. Leigh (Rainford Electrical)	Electrical supply to Christmas Tree	£ 235.00	
22.12.16	Titan Telecom	Telephone & Broadband	£ 77.95	£ 12.99
28.12.16	St Helens Council	Rates	£ 1,218.00	
07.12.16	Lancashire Evening Tickets	Transfer to Community Account	£ 75.00	
21.12.16	Christmas Reception	Transfer to Bar Account	£ 58.58	
09.12.16	Booker/S Powell	Refreshments for Remembrance Day/Christmas Reception	£ 39.73	£ 6.62
<b>Total</b>			<b>£ 5,473.73</b>	<b>£ 186.96</b>
	<b>Income</b>			
		Bar Sales	£ 3,441.17	
		Main Hall	£ 1,128.72	
		Reception Room	£ 130.00	
		Rent	£ 1,693.25	
		Other	£ 740.00	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 7,133.14</b>	
	<b>Current Account</b>	As at 31.12.16	<b>Bank</b>	
		Balance Brought Forward	£ 3,336.91	
		Total Income	£ 4,054.88	
		Expenses	-£ 5,340.15	
		Transfers in		
		Transfers Out	-£ 133.58	
		Closing Balance	<b>£ 1,918.06</b>	
		Bank Balances @ 31.12.16		
		Bar	£ 8,480.56	
		Current	£ 1,918.06	
		High Interest	£ 16,415.30	
			<b>£ 26,813.92</b>	
		Debtors @ 31.12.16	£ 8,774.00	
		<b>Bank Balances + Debtors</b>	<b>£ 35,587.92</b>	
<b>Chairman</b>				

APPENDIX 3

**RAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL  
BUDGET 2017/2018**

<b>INCOME BUDGET 17/18</b>							
	<b>Budget 2016/17</b>	<b>Actual to 31.12.16</b>	<b>Prediction to 31.03.17</b>	<b>BUDGET 2017/18</b>	<b>% ↑↓ over Prediction to 31.03.17</b>	<b>% ↑↓ over Budget 2016/17</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Main Hall	13000	10601	13521	14873	10	14	1
Reception Room	3500	1742	2690	2825	5	-19	1
Rent	18519	14839	19919	22630	14	22	2
Other	5500	5426	6326	6629	5	21	3
Bar	15000	27059	32979	34628	5	131	4
Precept	71300	71300	71300	75114	5	5	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>126819</b>	<b>130966.65</b>	<b>146735</b>	<b>156699</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>24</b>	

<b>EXPENDITURE BUDGET 17/18</b>							
	<b>Budget 2016/17</b>	<b>Actual at 31.12.16</b>	<b>Projected Actual 31.03.17</b>	<b>Budget 2017/18</b>	<b>% ↑↓ over Prediction to 31.03.17</b>	<b>% ↑↓ over Budget 2016/17</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Bar Expenses		19007	21986	23085	5		6
General admin	65462	79340	90705	71736	-21	10	7
PWLB	1928	969	1928	1888	-2	-2	
Pavillion	250	106	141	155	10	-38	
Publicity	500	289	289	550	90	10	8
Rent	1934	1934	1934	1934	0	0	
S137	1000	1129	1189	1200	1	20	
National Insurance	1400	1363	1874	2044	9	46	
Pensions	10230	4424	5258	10727	104	5	9
Salaries	44115	31104	39436	43380	10	-2	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>126819</b>	<b>139665</b>	<b>164740</b>	<b>156699</b>	<b>-5</b>	<b>24</b>	

Income	£ 156,699
Expenditure	-£ 156,699
Deficit/Surplus	£ -



## APPENDIX 3

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
**OF RAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4 JANUARY 2017 AT 7pm**  
**IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT RAINFORD VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** Councillors: I Brown, D Grice, G Jones, D Nichols, D Wesley  
Other Members: M Olley  
**In Attendance:** S Powell (Clerk)

**Absent:** Councillors D Mussell

**1. Apologies:** Councillors: M Lee (Social), Reynolds (No reason given)  
Other members: A Bradley (Holiday)

As the Chairman, Councillor Lee, was unable to attend the meeting, she had requested that Councillor D Nichols chair the meeting in her absence

### **2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 07.12.16**

The minutes of the meeting of 07 December 2016 were approved and signed as a correct record.

### **3. Matters Arising**

4. The Quiz has been advertised on fb and the idea of the Gin Table at the Beer Festival has been very well received. Tickets for the Lunch will be £15.00 each for a roast lunch. The Ladies choir will be asked to sing. Additionally an Afternoon Tea will be held on 30.04.17.

### **4. War Memorial Update**

- The Village Hall is to be up lit up at night as part of the project. The Parish Council will be asked to contribute approximately half the cost. The plastic tubing for the cables has been placed under the flags and stands built for the lights. The work should be completed by 09.01.17.
- There is currently £1726 in the Community account with approximately £460 to be banked. It is estimated that costs of circa £2500 would still be required.

### **5. Rainford in Bloom**

- The AGM will be held on 11.01.17 at 6.30pm in the Council Chamber.
- The Clerk was requested to make Toni Reddington an Editor of the RiB fb page.
- RiB will be taking over the ground maintenance of the front of the Village Hall

### **6. Railway Signs**

This item to be carried forward to the next meeting as Councillor Reynolds was not present. The Chairman stated that would be important to know who is responsible for the different aspects of the project and what the involvement of the Rainford Heritage Society and Rainford in Bloom would be.

### **7. Newsletter (including distribution)**

The Chairman suggested that the next newsletter should go out in May 2017 to coincide with the change of Chairman of the Parish Council. It could include an update regarding the St Helens Local Plan preferred Options.

For information, the date of the Chairman's Evening is 19.05.17

### **8. Any Other Business**

1. Councillor Grice stated that it was his opinion that the Parish Council should take on the responsibility of the land at the rear of the Village Hall. Councillor D Nichols stated that this would be a very ambitious project and the costs involved would not just be the anticipated £4000 for the increase in rent and rates. She suggested that this should be put as a separate agenda item for the next full Council meeting and that Councillor D Mussell was looking into on-going costs.

2. A team of volunteers will be required to run the café at the Model Railway Exhibition on 01.04.17
3. The raffle from the Christmas Fayre was drawn on 19.12.16 and the winners have been publicised. Next year it is intended to make the raffle on-going (not just on the day). It is anticipated that at least £4000 was raised and bids for funding will be requested shortly. The Christmas fayre will be held on the same day as the Christmas Tree Festival.
4. Mike Olley gave an update from the First Responders:  
Currently, they are very busy – Mike had had 7 calls during the day and the New Year period was hectic. They often have to wait several hours with patients for an ambulance to arrive. There are 2 new volunteers awaiting interview, but at present there is no-one in place who deals with the admin for First Responder recruitment. An additional 2 volunteers would make a huge difference in Rainford.
5. Councillor Nichols informed the meeting that she had been approached by Phil Lancaster regarding a family music festival to be held on 11 June 2017. The aim would be to bring the Village Community together and raise funds. Entrance would be by ticket only and people would be able to take in picnics. The group involved have met with officers from St Helens but met some snags and were looking for help and support from the Parish Council. The CDC agreed that this would be a good project and support could be given through publicity and sharing information and knowledge gained from previous events. Councillors D Nichols and Grice would be meeting with the team on 12.01.17.
6. Councillor Grice asked if it would be possible to refurbish the old noticeboard. After a short discussion, it was agreed that a new one should be budgeted for along with a sign on the front of the building saying 'Rainford Village Hall'.
7. The Chairman asked the Clerk to read out an email from a new resident regarding the amount of dog fouling there is in the Village. All at the meeting agreed that it is a problem. The Chairman agreed to raise the matter with St Helens Council.
8. It was agreed that there should be a discussion regarding the Art Exhibition at the next meeting.
9. Councillor Brown stated that the date for the public (Annual Parish) meeting should be set for April and suggested it is held on the same day as the Parish Council meeting.
10. Councillor Brown informed the meeting that traditionally the Vice Chairman of the Parish Council for the following year is announced at the January meeting. *The Clerk advised that there is no statutory requirement for this*

**There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.00pm**

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**Councillor D Nichols**

**Chairman of Rainford Parish Council 2016/17**