

## Rainford Parish Council

### MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 21 MARCH 2016 COMMENCING AT 7.00pm IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT RAINFORD VILLAGE HALL

**Present:**                      **Councillors:** Brown, Collins, Grice, G Jones, P Jones, Long, Monk,  
D Mussell, L Mussell, D Nichols, R Nichols, Reynolds (Chairman),  
Wesley

**In attendance:**              Sally Powell (Clerk)

**Absent:**                         None

**412. APOLOGIES:**      Councillor Aspinall (Ill), Councillor Lee (Holiday)

**413. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**  
None

**414. FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN:**  
None

**415. TO HEAR AND RESPOND TO ANY QUESTIONS/DEPUTATIONS BY COUNCILLORS OR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:**  
None.

**416. TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2016**

**RESOLVED:**      That the minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record.

**417. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

**408.3** Councillor L Mussell informed the meeting that the enquiry related to Lathom House in Crank. The Clerk stated that the enquirer had been put in touch with Joan Dagnall.

**418. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

**RESOLVED:**      Councillor Reynolds proposed that the Income and Expenditure Figures be accepted. This was seconded by Councillor R Nichols and carried unanimously.  
(See Appendix 1)

**419. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN FOR MAY 2016/17**

Councillor Reynolds proposed Councillor D Nichols as Chairman of Rainford Parish Council for the year 2016/17. This was seconded by Councillor Long and carried unanimously.  
Councillor P Jones proposed Councillor Grice as Vice Chairman of Rainford Parish Council for the year 2016/17. This was seconded by Councillor Reynolds and carried unanimously.

**420. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk summarised the following correspondence:

1. Letter from Barclays Bank regarding changes to the Business Current Account. The Current account will go on to an e-Payments Plan. Bank charges will increase but a loyalty reward will be paid. Overall there will be an increase of around £3.00 per month. **Councillor P Jones informed the meeting that this was in line with changes other banks were making and was due to the increase in turnover.**

2. Letter from Barclays Bank as the name of the Saver Account is changing to Business Premium Account.
3. Email from St Helens Senior Voice Forum asking if the fee would be waived if they held an event at the Hall in connection with excess winter deaths. Rainford is in the top 4 areas in the borough for excess winter deaths. **Use of the Hall Free of Charge was declined**
4. Details and example of Commemorative medal for the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday @£1.99 each
5. Letter from PWLB – the next payment OF £979.20 is due on 29.03.16
6. Letter from Barclaycard informing us that the card machine can now accept Diners Card
7. Email with attached Photographs of the Village Hall roof where repairs are required from Trojan Roofing **Councillor R Nichols asked if the Police had been informed that there was scaffolding on the building. The Clerk stated that this had not been done. Councillor D Mussell indicated that the firm providing the scaffolding have a duty of care to ensure it cannot be accessed by members of the public**
8. Letter from St Helens Council following a visit from an Environmental Health Officer. The kitchen has once again been given a 5 star rating for food hygiene
9. Letter from the Pensions Regulator asking which Pension scheme has been selected and requesting that the declaration of Compliance is started.
10. Letter from Merseyside Fire & rescue Service confirming that the Fire safety improvements and relevant documentation required in the Action Plan have been completed in compliance with the order
11. Quote from Trojan Roofing for the scaffolding - £920.00
12. Invoice from Trojan Roofing for works to the flat roof - £3,330.00
13. Email from Sharon Nixon, Health Trainer with St Helens Council – Read out (See Appendix 2) **The Council did not wish Ms Nixon to attend a Council Meeting, but agreed that the clinics could be advertised by the Parish Council**
14. Email from a resident regarding the new lighting in the Village Centre – read out (See Appendix 2) **Councillor L Mussell informed the meeting that St Helens Council are only legally obliged to light up public areas. LED lights are used as they are more cost effective and have less carbon emissions. This type of lighting is being used across the Borough. The lights have been tested and meet all current legal standards and requirements. The street light near the Bus Stop is being changed to a double fitment**
15. Email from Joanne Griffiths at St Helens Council stating that the Council are required to publish the register of interests of Members on the website.
16. Email from resident asking where the nearest you can park if you want to shop and have lots of packages to carry
17. Form from PRS for Music to complete for 2015/16
18. Email from Mike Berry asking if the Council would find it beneficial if he attended meeting once every 6 months to update the Council on the work of the Police & Crime Commissioner **It was agreed that this would be useful**
19. Email from Police & Crime Commissioner's office with information regarding an initiative encouraging people to come forward with information about unlicensed and uninsured bikes in collaboration with 'Crimestoppers'
20. Copy of The Clerk Magazine
21. Copy of Clerks & Councils Direct Magazine
22. Complaint from resident about the way the lines have been painted on the resurfaced carpark near the pedestrian exit to the chemist – no room for wheelchairs
23. Rate demand from St Helens Council for 16/17 - £12176.50 an increase of £98 or 1%

24. Details from The Valuation Office Agency stating that the building is being revalued. The new draft rateable value will be available in October 2016. The new rate will come into effect on 01.04.17
25. Notice of the annual review of accounts for the year ending 31.03.16 from BDO (External Auditors)
26. An invoice is being sent from St Helens Council for £20,000 for Village Centre Improvement Scheme. **It was agreed that this invoice would not be paid until the work has been completed in accordance with the original arrangement**
- + responses to approx. 250 emails 128 telephone Calls and 132 Visitors

**RESOLVED: That the Correspondence be accepted**

#### **421. COMMITTEE & COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

- **Audit** – No meeting had taken place since the last Full Council Meeting, but the committee will be meeting when the end of year accounts have been completed.
- **Finance, Planning & Administration**  
PLANNING - 7 sets of plans were considered. No objections were raised.  
A discussion took place regarding application P/2016/0137/FUL for the War Memorial on the Village Hall lawn. The application had been altered to include the removal of a tree on the advice of the Tree Preservation Officer. Removal of the tree would open up the area. Obtaining Planning Permission does not mean that the tree has to be removed. Other trees would have to be planted if any are removed. It was agreed that the next meeting of the CDC would be delayed until 19.04.16 by which time the permission will have been granted or not. All Councillors would be welcome to attend this meeting and a proposition would be circulated in advance of the meeting for all to consider.

**RESOLVED: That the plans be agreed en bloc**

FINANCE – Councillor P Jones reported:

- i. The repairs to the flat roof above the Bar area have been completed. Extra work was required. The work on the main roof has commenced. As it is the year end, funds are depleted, but it is not possible to put this off.
  - ii. Following a short discussion, it was agreed that the Insurance policy should be renewed with Zurich for a further 5 years
- **Community Development (including Rainford in Bloom)**  
Councillor Nichols reported the following:
    - i. The Newsletter is in the process of being put together. It was acknowledged that distribution would need to be within the restrictions of purdah which begins on 07.04.16, before the local elections on 05.05.16. The newsletter will be available on-line and in hard copy for residents to collect. It was agreed that a discussion should take place at a future CDC meeting regarding the publication of newsletters within the Village.
    - ii. 2 new members from Crank have joined the Rainford in Bloom steering committee. Sadly, some of the daffodils planted on Old Lane have been vandalised
    - iii. The Food Festival has been delayed until September. It will be held on the same day as Rainford Show – 03.09.16. The possibility of using the land behind the Village Hall is being explored.
  - **Health & Safety**  
Councillor D Mussell asked if the staff had attended Health & safety training. The Clerk reminded him that this was to take place in the 2016/17 financial year.
  - **Borough Council**  
Councillor L Mussell reported:
    - i. There have been problems with groups of adults gathering at Siding Lane and indulging in inappropriate behaviour. The St Helens Council's response to this will focus on the public health and education issues

- ii. A large number of complaints have been received about owners not clearing up after their dogs. 'Dog Poo Hotspots' have been identified and the small team of enforcement officers will be focusing on these areas.
- iii. Whilst there are residents in Rainford who are drug users, there is no perceived drug problem within the Village.
- iv. Non-payment of fines for dropping litter are clogging up the Magistrates Court
- v. Rainford is the worst place in the Borough for flooding. Water monitors are to be installed following the worst flooding for 60 years at Christmas time. Houses affected by the flooding will get a refund on their Council Tax. The Environmental agency have confirmed that a fence panel causing a blockage made the flooding more extreme. The bridge at Parsons Brow will be raised so the problem does not recur
- vi. In a new initiative, the Fire Service will be undertaking risk assessments for falls and providing kits for testing for bowel cancer when they are visiting residents in their homes to check fire alarms
- vii. The First responder scheme is being extended throughout Merseyside.

**422. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

1. The resurfacing of the Village Centre is due to take place at the end of the month (03/16)
2. The date for the Annual Meeting of the Parish is Monday 16 May 2016 at 7pm in the Reception room at Rainford Village Hall.
3. Councillor Grice stated that the radiator in the Ladies toilets was giving out an excessive amount of heat on Saturday 20.03.16
4. Councillor Grice informed the meeting that the Rainford in Bloom troughs need treating with wood preserver.

**423. DIARY DATES**

02.04.16	11am – 11.30am	Borough Councillors' Surgery
07.04.16	Purdah begins	
08.04.16	5.45pm – 6.15pm	MP's surgery
19.04.16	7pm	Community Development Committee Meeting
20.04.16	6.30pm	Finance Planning & Administration Committee Meeting
23.04.16	7pm for 7.30pm	St George's Night – Chairman's Fundraiser
25.04.16	7.00pm	Full Council Meeting
05.05.16	Local Elections	
07.05.16	11am – 11.30am	Borough Councillors' Surgery
16.05.16	7.00pm	Annual Meeting of the Parish
18.05.16	6.30pm	Finance Planning & Administration Committee Meeting
20.05.16	6.30pm	Annual Parish Council Meeting followed by Full Parish Council meeting and The Chairman's Evening
03.06.16	Blood Donor Sessions	
04.06.16	7pm	Wartime Memories – Chairman's Fundraiser
05.06.16	10am	Civic Sunday at All Saints Parish Church
22.06.16	6.30pm	Finance, Planning & Administration Committee Meeting
27.06.16	7pm	Full Council Meeting

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.35pm

---

Chairman

**APPENDIX 1**

<b>RAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL</b>				
<b>Income &amp; Expenditure 2015 - 2016</b>				
			<b>Feb-16</b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>VAT</b>
04.02.16	Barclays Bank	Bank Charges	£ 11.49	
10.02.16	Barclaycard	Merchant Charges	£ 41.05	£ 5.16
13.02.16	Opus Energy	Electricity Bill	£ 325.79	£ 54.30
17.02.16	The Range/S Powell	Light Bulbs and Stationery	£ 41.89	£ 6.98
17.02.16	Ryman/S Powell	Stationery	£ 45.56	£ 7.59
18.02.16	St Helens Council	Salaries/Pensions/NI/Fees	£ 3,868.44	
18.02.16	St Helens Council	Christmas Lights installation & Removal	£ 780.00	£ 130.00
18.02.16	Booker/S Powell	Refuse sacks	£ 16.79	£ 2.80
18.02.16	Scottish Power	Electricity Bill - Pavillion	£ 42.09	£ 0.91
18.02.16	Cleanse cleaning Solutions Ltd	Cleaning	£ 197.50	
18.02.16	Cleanse cleaning Solutions Ltd	Toilet Rolls	£ 13.39	
18.02.16	Golden Hygiene	Washroom & Hygiene Services	£ 118.80	£ 19.80
18.02.16	Wendys Flowers	Anniversary Flowers	£ 13.50	£ 2.25
18.02.16	Avalan Cleaning Services	Window Cleaning	£ 100.00	
22.02.16	Asdda/V Nelson	Cleaning Materials	£ 12.22	£ 2.04
24.02.16	Titan Telecom	Telephone & Broadband	£ 87.73	£ 14.62
26.02.16	British Gas	Gas Bill	£ 3,127.20	£ 521.20
26.02.16	Carol Wilson	Christmas Tree	£ 105.00	
			<b>£ 8,948.44</b>	<b>£ 767.65</b>
<b>Income</b>	Bar Sales	£ 1,781.15		
	Main Hall	£ 1,467.00		
	Reception Room	£ 155.00		
	Rent	£ 1,293.25		
	Other			
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 4,696.40</b>		
	<b>Current Account</b>	February	Ledger	Bank
				£ 2,075.82
		Total Income		£ 2,726.25
		Expenses		-£ 8,948.44
		Transfers in		£ 5,326.54
		Transfers Out		-£ 75.00
		Closing Balance		<b>£ 1,105.17</b>
		Bank Balances @ 29.02.16		
		Bar	£ 16,595.16	
		Current	£ 1,105.17	
		High Interest	£ 10,103.81	
			£ 27,804.14	
		Debtors @ 29.02.16	£ 11,733.75	
		Bank Balances + Debtors	<b>£ 39,537.89</b>	
Chairman				

## APPENDIX 2

To: [info@rainfordparishcouncil.com](mailto:info@rainfordparishcouncil.com)

Subject: Rainford Parish Council: Website Enquiry Form

### Message

Name: Sharon Nixon

Tel: 0300 300 0103 and 07879488017

Email: [sharonnixon@sthelens.gov.uk](mailto:sharonnixon@sthelens.gov.uk)

Enquiry: Hello\r\n\r\nMay I take this opportunity to introduce myself, my name is Sharon Nixon and I am a Health Trainer for the Healthy Living Team within Public Health, St Helens Council.\r\n\r\nI have been allocated the Eccleston, Rainford and Thatto Heath areas to work with the over 16's of these communities to help to make positive lifestyle changes to their lives. I can also supply Health Checks consisting of height, weight, blood pressure, cholesterol and diabetes testing and am currently doing clinics in these localities. I wonder if there is an opportunity to advertise this on your newsletter, or to come into a meeting to tell your colleagues about this service?\r\n\r\nThank you\r\n\r\nSharon\r\n

Enquiry: Hi, I'd like to comment about the lighting in the village centre near the co-op and main shops. The street lighting is completely inadequate and actually quite dangerous at night. As a driver it is very hard to see pedestrians as they often cross the road without using the crossing. As a pedestrian it is difficult to see where the pavement and obstacles are. Tonight I saw a young girl fall full length due to not being able to see the pavement near the chemist. There only appears to be one street light in that area and since it was changed to LED it doesn't throw enough light to be useful.