



**Date: 21.09.2022**

**To: Members of Rainford Parish Council**

**You are summoned to attend a meeting of  
RAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL  
on 26 September 2022 commencing at 7pm in the Council Chamber at Rainford Village Hall**

**The Press & Public are invited to attend**

#### **AGENDA**

- 1. Apologies for Absence**  
*Councillors are reminded that they must contact the Clerk in writing, prior to the meeting, to give a valid reason for their absence*
- 2. Formal announcements from the Chairman**
- 3. Co-option of Councillors**  
*Prospective members will address the Council for a maximum of 3 minutes. Councillors will then have the opportunity to ask questions. This will be followed by a vote.*
- 4. Declaration of Acceptance of Office, of Interest, and Updating of the Register**  
*Councillors are reminded to make any new Declarations of Interest*
- 5. To hear and respond to any questions/deputations by members of the public**  
*Kerry Kirkham: a local resident who has been leading the opposition to the proposed incinerator in neighbouring Bickerstaffe. Kerry would like to give the Parish Council an important update on the plans which are still under consideration, but have now changed and are likely to have more risk of impacting Rainford, due to higher stacks being proposed.*
- 6. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Rainford Parish Council meeting held on Monday 26 July 2022**  
*See separate document*

## 7. Receipts and Payments for July & August & September 2022

*See FPA draft minutes for August & September 2022 for full details*

Receipts for July 2022	£ 17,097
Payments for July 2022	£ 33,316
This includes staff costs for April, May, June & July 2022	
Amount invoiced in July 2022	£13,445
Bank Balances @ 31.07.2022: Current A/C	£12,013
Business A/C	£ 77,237
Christmas Fayre A/C	£2,483
Provision for liabilities	£ 4,471
Debtors	£ 2562
Receipts for August 2022	£ 12,697
Payments for August 2022	£ 18,434
Amount invoiced in August 2022	£ 4,260
Bank Balances @ 31.08.2022: Current A/C	£7,008
Business A/C	£77,237
Rainford Christmas Fayre A/C	£2554
Provision for liabilities	£646
Debtors	£3281

## 8. Clerk's Report

1. The survey commissioned by Steve Littler took place on 07.04.2022. The report has not yet been received. The Clerk met with Paula Bllock who is the Interim Senior Surveyor for the Estates Department of St Helens Council on 30.08.2022. She looked around the Village Hall and will be involved in the discussions regarding the lease. A date is still awaited for the meeting for formal discussions.
2. The Energy Performance Certificate for the Village Hall needs renewing. The survey will take place on 22.09.2022.
3. All payroll payments are currently up to date. Overtime payments have been made to the Clerk and Event Co-ordinator as the Bar Supervisor's position has not yet been filled. However, the applicant who could not start until October is still interested. In the meantime, the Event Co-ordinator has been covering most of the functions.
4. Bookings continue to be made regularly for the hall for events and functions. However, there are very few bookings for November, but a Life celebration and a Wedding Reception have been booked between Christmas and New Year, when the Hall is normally closed. 2 Wedding Receptions have already been booked for 2024.
5. One of the Registrars from St Helens Council visited the Village Hall with a member of the licencing team and agreed that a licence to hold marriage ceremonies could be applied for.
6. The on-going project with Rainford High School using the Reception Room continues to go well and the High School are pleased with the number of students attending at the Village Hall.
7. There is no further development on the Miller Homes Planning Application for the Rookery Lane/Higher Lane site. The decision will be made by the planning committee due to the number of objections that were received.
8. The Planning Application for the Heritage Boards has been granted.
9. Quotes for loft insulation in the Village Hall and other building upgrades are being sought.
10. The latest Parish Council newsletter has been published in Local Life.
11. Scout Leader Martin Cox has revived the suggestion of putting speed humps on the car park opposite the Village Hall. This was a pre-covid project which the Parish Council had agreed to contribute to. Borough Councillor John Case was following it up with St Helens Council. There is currently no further information on this project.
12. The bibs and footballs sponsored by the Parish Council for the walking football group have been delivered to the organiser. Formal thanks have been received from the organiser of the group.
13. The artwork for the school banners has gone missing. The manufacturers thought that they had been collected but this was not the case. Letters from the Chairman will be sent to the schools.

14. The pubs in Rainford had been contacted about the Knife Savers Scheme to see if they would be interested in having a KnifeSavers Pack. Sadly, there has been little response. However, the Event Co-ordinator and Councillor Roberts will be visiting the pubs personally to talk about the scheme and hopefully initiate some interest.
15. Quotations are being gathered for the various sustainability suggestions and the improvement of the Village Hall.
16. Following the death of HM Queen Elizabeth 11, all protocols were followed. The Union flag was at half mast within 10 minutes of the announcement and then raised and lowered as required. Books of condolence were made available to residents and these will be sent to the St Helens Council Archive.

**9. Committee Reports & Working Party Reports**

- **Borough Council**
- **Community Liaison Committee:** *Councillor Lamb*
- **Finance, Planning & Administration Committee:** *Councillor Bardsley*
- **Health & Safety Committee:** *Councillor Reynolds*
- **Rainford Christmas Fayre Working Party**
- **Village Hall Improvements Working Party**

**10. Road Safety in Rainford**

*For information and discussion*

*A speed indicator sign was put on Higher Lane during August. Paul Mountford has been back to collect the data and will be in touch when it has been processed. PCSO Harrison has given dates over the next 2 months when he can be available for speed watch sessions.*

**11. The Future of the Library Service in Rainford**

*For information and discussion*

*Rainford Library will close on 31.10.2022. The Borough Councillors are setting up a Community Library Trust*

**12. Community Governance Review**

*For discussion and decision*

*Please see separate document for the suggested changes to the wards of Rainford Parish Council.*

*This does not take account of the possible Miller Homes development.*

*Additionally, members may wish to consider whether the existing number of Councillors is appropriate.*

*Following the Local Government Boundary Review of St Helens' electoral wards, St Helens Council are conducting a Community Governance Review (CGR) that will review and make changes to governance arrangements for parish councils across St Helens Borough. Currently, St Helens has seven parish councils in the borough.*

*The purpose of the review is to consider what, if any, changes are needed to parish council arrangements, taking into consideration the new warding patterns while ensuring that the parish councils continue to reflect the identity and interests of local communities.*

*Please see separate document for a map showing the area covered by each of the existing parish councils.*

*The review will consider whether the community governance arrangements across the borough are fit for purpose. It will also take account of areas of new or proposed housing and determine whether changes to existing boundaries are required because of these developments.*

*The review will also consider:*

*Changes to parish areas - this includes changes to parish boundaries, the merging of two or more parishes, creating a new parish out of part of one or more existing parishes.*

*Changes to electoral arrangements - this includes changing the number of parish councillors and introducing or changing parish warding arrangements.*

**13. Art Exhibition 2023**

*For discussion and decision*

**14. Dementia Hub: Councillor Denton**

*For information*

**15. Private Agenda: Councillor Bardsley**

*The Press, public and Parish Council staff are excluded from the meeting for items discussed under private agenda.*

*For discussion and decision: Staff remuneration*



**Clerk & RFO to Rainford Parish Council**