



**Minutes of a meeting of the  
FINANCE, PLANNING & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE OF RAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL  
held in the Clerk's Office at Rainford Village Hall on Wednesday 10 August 2022 at 6.30pm**

**Present:** Councillors Bardsley (Chairman), Long, Reynolds

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

As Councillor Sterry was unable to attend, Councillor Long proposed that Councillor Bardsley chaired the meeting. This was agreed. Councillor Bardsley proposed that Councillor Reynolds become a member of the Finance, Planning & Administration Committee. Councillor Long seconded the proposal and it was agreed.

**1. Apologies:**

Councillor Griffiths (Away), Councillor Lee (Away), Councillor Sterry (Unwell)

**2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2022:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 08.06.2022 were agreed as a true and accurate record, proposed by Councillor Bardsley, seconded by Councillor Long and carried unanimously.

**Action: The Clerk**

**3. Plans:**

The following planning applications have been granted:

*P/2022/0314/S73 Variation of conditions 2 (approved plans) and 7 (junction improvement works) on approval P/2020/0854/FUL to substitute alternative access improvements for those already approved Gunsite Barracks, Crank Road, Crank*

*P/2022/0381/HHFP Single storey side and rear wraparound extension and a rear dormer 89 Old Lane, Rainford*

The following applications have been refused:

*P/2022/0295/TPO Works to trees covered by a Preservation Order  
7 Fir Tree Close, Kings Moss*

The Council's Trees and Woodlands Officer was not satisfied with the amount of detail supplied with the application so could not support the proposed works as they could not be considered to be fully in the best interests of the trees health contrary to policy ENV12A of the Unitary Development Plan.

New applications:

<i>P/2022/0416/HHFP</i>	<i>Single storey rear extension with rear dormer 13 Carter Avenue, Rainford</i>
<i>P/2022/0424/HHFP</i>	<i>Demolition of the existing conservatory and the erection of a two-storey rear extension, new porch and linked utility room to front 4 Hill Top Road, Rainford</i>
<i>P/2022/0436/LBC</i>	<i>Listed Building Consent for refurbishment of existing house/listed building to provide 4no bedrooms and open plan living area. Works to existing garage to provide parking Maddocks Farm, Pimbo Lane, Kings Moss</i>
<i>P/2022/0504/ADC</i>	<i>Consent to display 5no Heritage Boards and 4no Replica station signs at the sites of four former railway stations along the Rainford Linear Park and Crank recreation grounds at the following sites: (i) Crank Recreation Ground, (ii) Former Old Mill Halt, Mill Lane, (iii) Former Rookery Station, Rainford Linear Park, adjacent to Rookery Lane (iv) Site of former Rainford Station, Rainford Linear Park (v) Rainford Junction, Rainford Linear Park  Land in the area of Rainford Linear Park and Crank Recreation Ground</i>
<i>P/2022/0510/FUL</i>	<i>Temporary siting of marquee and 5no storage containers The Junction, News Lane, Rainford</i>
<i>P/2022/0530/FUL</i>	<i>Construction of 1no Bungalow Land adjacent to 162 Bushey Lane, Rainford</i>
<i>P/2022/0534/HHFP</i>	<i>Alterations to front porch and garage 40 Rookery Drive, Rainford</i>
<i>P/2022/0536/HHFP</i>	<i>Erection of a single storey side extension to be used as storage, and external alterations to the existing dwelling 18 Parklands, Rainford</i>
<i>P/2022/0538</i>	<i>Erection of detached outbuilding comprising of double garage and storage 10 Siding Lane, Rainford</i>
<i>P/2022/0548/FUL</i>	<i>Erection of 2no detached dwellings to facilitate the maintenance and preservation of existing reservoir and adjacent woodland (Resubmission) Rainford Reservoir, Higher Lane, Rainford</i>

There was a discussion about this application. Councillor Long will endeavour to undertake a site visit to gain further information, but an objection will be registered for this application.

There were no objections to any other applications.

**Action: Councillor Long/The Clerk**

#### 4. Clerk's Report:

The following report was circulated as part of the agenda. Additions are in italics.

1. The survey commissioned by Steve Littler took place on 07.04.2022. The report has not yet been received. Steve Littler has the report and will be reviewing it before sending a copy to the Parish Council. A meeting to discuss the contents has been requested. This is a separate agenda item.
2. The payroll documentation for April, May, June and July 2022 has now been received. All payroll payments are currently up to date. Outstanding furlough monies meant that there was no payment for Village Hall Salaries for April, May and June and they were reduced for July.
3. The Bar Supervisor's post remains empty, but the applicant who could not start until October is still interested. Over the next few months, experienced and previous bar staff will be supervising some of the shifts, so that the Event Co-ordinator does not have to work every time the bar is open.
4. The Internal Auditor signed off the 2021/22 accounts on 22.06.22. The Internal Audit report is a separate agenda item.
5. The Annual Governance and Return documents were submitted to the external auditor on 29.06.2022.
6. Bookings continue to be made regularly for the hall for events and functions. 2 Wedding Receptions have been booked for 2024.
7. The pilot project with Rainford High School using the Reception Room went well and the school will be returning in September.
8. Miller Homes have lodged a planning application to build 368 houses on the Rookery Lane/Higher Lane site. Public comments can be made until 18.08.2022. The Parish Council's response was submitted on 29.07.2022. Drop-in sessions were held at the Village Hall on 02.08.2022 to assist residents with the process. These were well attended.
9. The Notice of Making an Order, Order and Plan pertaining to the Rainford Bypass 50mph speed limit. Has been issued. The Traffic Regulation Order is operational from 25.05.2022 however this cannot be enforced until such time that the relevant signing has been installed, which will be undertaken as soon as resources permit. This has not yet taken place. Information on when this will take place has been requested. No reply as yet
10. A summer cycle event hosted by the Road Safety Team at St Helens Council took place outside the Village Hall on 04.08.2022.
11. The Christmas parties have been advertised and tickets have already been sold. There are only 30 tickets left for Saturday Night.
12. The Firm Alarm system was be serviced in July 2022.
13. The Planning Application for the Heritage Boards has been submitted.
14. The Kitchen was inspected by an EHO on 05.07.2022 and has received a Food Hygiene Rating of 5. The improvements required have been implemented.
15. A speed indicator sign will be put on Higher Lane during August. A request has been made for it to return during term time. Additionally, Paul Mountford has asked PCSO Harrison to do more frequent operations with the volunteers in Rainford. A further meeting with Paul took place on 25.07.2022. PCSO Harrison was out with the speed detector with Councillor Case on 08.08.2022
16. Two of the weekly classes will not be returning in the Autumn.
17. Further Code of Conduct training will take place for Parish Councillors and Clerks on 26.09.2022 at 5.30pm for any Councillors unable to attend the previous sessions.
18. A new double litter bin has been installed outside REDS
19. A Summer report has been received from Conor McGinn MP and circulated
20. Quotes for loft insulation in the Village Hall are being sought.
21. A complaint was received from a resident about live music at the Golden Lion. The management team responded when information was requested and this was relayed to the resident. The resident was not satisfied with the response.

22. *The register of interests is being updated for the website. Councillors are asked to confirm the details sent to them*
23. *The Speed Indication Device has been put up on Higher Lane today. Councillor Long expressed his disagreement with the positioning of the device.*

**Action: All Members/The Clerk**

**5. Income & Expenditure for July 2022:**

*See separate documents for the Income forecast and details of the receipts and payments for July 2022*

Income £17,097

This includes salaries for April, May, June & July 2022

Bank balances @ 31.07.2022:

Current Account: £12,013    Business Account: £77,237    Christmas Fayre Account: £2,483

Liabilities: £4,246

Debtors £2,616

**6. Village Hall repairs:**

The Condition report on the Village Hall commissioned by Steve Littler has not yet been received.

Councillor Reynolds initiated a discussion about maintenance that could be undertaken on the Village Hall that would assist with sustainability:

- Solar panels on the rear of the building
- Replace the boiler with an air source heating system
- Insulation in the roof space
- New doors at the rear of the Main Hall
- Timers/sensors for the lights in communal areas
- Water butts at the rear of the building

It was agreed that quotes would be obtained and a grant applied for.

**Action: The Clerk**

**7. Terms for the New Lease:**

Steve Littler had asked for a meeting to discuss the condition report on the Village Hall. Dates and times have been requested, along with a copy of the report, but no reply had been received. A further email will be sent suggesting 10am on 16.08.2022.

**Action: The Clerk**

**8. Improvement of the offer and the profitability of the Village Hall:**

- The Event Co-ordinator has suggested applying for a licence so that wedding ceremonies could take place at the Village Hall. The cost of the licence would be around £900 and it would last for 3 years. The charge for holding a ceremony would probably be around £300, so at least 3 weddings would need to take place to break even. There would be an additional cost of training and licensing a celebrant. The Event Co-ordinator would be prepared to do this.  
It was agreed that this would be deferred until the next meeting so that further research could be undertaken.
- Fuel costings with alternate providers to be obtained

**Action: The Clerk**

**9. Internal Auditor's Report:**

It was agreed that the report was good, with only minor items needing to be addressed.

**Action: The Clerk**

## **10. Requests for funding:**

1. A resident has recently set up a walking football group who train at Rainford High School every week. He is asking for funding for a set of bibs costing £35 and some footballs costing £25 each.

**Councillor Long proposed that funding is provided for 2 footballs and a set of bibs. This was seconded by Councillor Bardsley and carried unanimously.**

**Action: The Clerk**

2. Additional funding, if required for the Heritage Boards and memorial on the Linear Way. This project is on budget at the moment, with £1300 available for the memorial for those killed in industrial accidents in Rainford. An additional Heritage Board with the memorial would give it impact and give information about those who had died. Following a discussion, it was agreed that quotes should be obtained and the matter will be revisited at the next FPA meeting.

**Action: The Clerk**

3. Knifesavers packs for 12 sites around Rainford identified by Councillor Reynolds and the founder of Knifesavers at a cost of £98 per pack. There is also a possibility that packs could be mounted on lampposts. Knifesavers would provide training free of charge. It was agreed that the Village Hall could be used free of charge for this training. It was suggested that an application for a grant to fund the kits should be made to the Rainford Trust.

**Action: The Clerk**

4. Councillor Grice would like sponsorship for the Parkinson's Group Christmas Party at a cost of £280. It was agreed that a decision on this should be deferred to the next meeting.

**Action: The Clerk**

The Chairman requested that an item is discussed under Private Agenda at the next Full Council meeting on 26.09.2022.

**Action: The Clerk**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.20pm

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**Councillor Christine Sterry**  
**Chairman, Finance, Planning & Administration Committee**  
**Rainford Parish Council 2022/23**