



**Minutes of a meeting of
RAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL
on Monday 15 April 2019 at 7pm
in the Council Chamber at Rainford Village Hall**

Present: Councillors: Brown, Collins, Grice, P Jones, Long, Lee, Monk, Newton, R Nichols, Reynolds (Chairman), Wesley

Absent: Councillor Mussell

In Attendance: Sally Powell (Clerk)
Victoria Swainbank (Administration Assistant)

845. Apologies for Absence:

Councillors: Aspinall (Away), G Jones (Family), D Nichols (Business)

846. Declaration of Interest and Updating of the Register:

None

847. Formal announcements from the Chairman:

The Chairman informed the meeting that the employment terms of staff members needed to be discussed and this would have to be done as a Private Agenda item. Following a short discussion, this was deferred to the meeting on 20.05.19.

848. To hear and respond to any questions/deputations by Councillors or members of the public:

None

849. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Rainford Parish Council meeting held on Monday 25 MARCH 2019:

843: Geezer should be Geysler

With the above amendment the minutes of the meeting held on 25.03.19 were proposed as a true and accurate record by Councillor Reynolds. This was seconded by Councillor P Jones and carried unanimously

850 Matters arising from the minutes not itemised on the agenda:

843.vi Councillor Collins requested an update. Councillor Long informed the meeting that he had spoken to the resident concerned and been assured that the wall will be replaced

851. Accounts for Payment:

Receipts for March 2019 £13,702.90

Payments for March 2019 £25,195.26

Councillor Reynolds proposed that the figures for March 2019 be accepted. This was seconded by Councillor Grice and carried unanimously.

852. Correspondence:

The Clerk informed the meeting of the following correspondence:

1. Thank you card from residents for Anniversary flowers
2. Card from Betty Lowe MBE, Chairman of Rainford in Bloom, thanking the Council for allowing Rainford in Bloom to undertake work at the front of the Village Hall
3. Signed Licence agreement for offices 1 & 2
4. Letter from the Eagle & Child Bowling Club requesting Sports Club Funding
5. Estimate for extending the water supply into Offices 1 & 2
6. Letter from the Internal Auditor with a revised engagement and privacy notice
7. CVCA newsletter
8. Quotation for the cost of changing all the lightbulbs to LED (£942.10 ex VAT) Estimated saving in 12 months £907
9. Invoice from St Helens Council for Property insurance. This had already been paid and subsequently a credit note was issued
10. Letter from St Helens Council booking the hall as a polling station on 23.05.19 for European elections
11. Annual duty of care renewal notice from Greenhope Recycling Services
12. Letter from Virgin Business regarding changes to billing charges for paper invoices
13. Letter from the Internal Auditor with the summary of the results and recommendations for the Annual Review. All satisfactory; no recommendations.
14. Electrical installation condition report
15. Letter from the Chairman of Rainford Flower Club regarding the hiring costs for the hall (The fee has increased by £5 due to the length of time the hall is used)
16. Various notes of acceptance for the Chairman's evening
17. Correspondence regarding the renewal of the lease for the Village Hall as the renewal date has passed and St Helens Council have not issued a new lease.
18. An email from Martin Cox inviting all Councillors to the St George's Day Service at All Saints Church

Since the last Council Meeting on 25.03.19:

115 visitors to the Clerk's Office

95 Incoming Calls

853. Renewal of the lease for the Village Hall:

Councillor R Nichols explained to the meeting that as the previous lease for the Village Hall has now expired, the Parish Council is currently 'holding over' under the terms of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 and that until such time as St Helens Council revert to the Parish Council with its proposals for a new lease, the Parish Council can continue to occupy the property under the terms of the expired lease.

854. Review and Approval of the Annual Governance Statement for 2018/19:

The Annual Governance Statement for 2018/19 was reviewed.

Councillor Reynolds proposed that the Annual Governance Statement for 2018/19 be accepted. This was seconded by Councillor P Jones and carried unanimously

As Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Reynolds signed the Annual Governance Statement for 2018/19.

855. Approval of the Accounting Statement for 2018/19:

Following a discussion, it was agreed that this item should be carried forward to the next full Council meeting on 20.05.19

856. CPRE Bottle Deposit Campaign: Councillor Collins

There was a short discussion regarding this campaign.

Councillor Reynolds proposed that Rainford Parish Council supported the CPRE Bottle Deposit campaign. This was seconded by Councillor Wesley and carried unanimously.

857. Committee Reports:

- **Bar Refurbishment Committee:** Councillor Long informed the meeting that the committee had not met since the last full Council meeting, but that he had met with someone who could draw up plans. There may be some upfront expenses and it was agreed that it would be appropriate to pay these. There was a discussion with various opinions expressed of how the bar should look. Councillor Reynolds asked if it would be possible for the committee to present the Council with more than one option.
- **Borough Council:** In Councillor Mussell's absence, Councillor Reynolds stated that there was nothing to report.
- **Community Development Committee:** Councillor Lee conveyed the following:
 - i. Regarding moving the defibrillator to the outside of the building, the Clerk had not yet had a reply from the Conservation Officer regarding planning permission. However, it had been established that a yellow box on the front of the building would not be acceptable. A discussion ensued.
 - ii. £437 had been raised for the Community 1st Responders at a recent coffee morning organised by Councillor Grice
- **Finance, Planning & Administration Committee:** Councillor P Jones informed the meeting that 3 sets of plans had been considered at the FPA meeting. Objections from officers at St Helens Council had been raised to application P/2019/0234/HHFP and the FPA supported these objections. Councillor Long stated that with regard to application P/2019/0238/HHFP, it appeared that more work was being carried out at the site than the application allowed for. The Clerk was asked to contact the planning department regarding this application. 2 further sets of plans were considered. There was a discussion concerning the role of the Parish Council in planning applications. During this, Councillor Nichols suggested that criteria which are applied to each set of plans should be established and that site visits are made. The Chairman requested that the Clerk approach St Helens Council for guidance so that a further discussion could take place.

Councillor Reynolds proposed that P/2019/0238/HHFP was accepted, but that concerns were raised with St Helens Council. Councillor P Jones seconded this and the proposal was carried unanimously

Councillor P Jones proposed that all the other sets of plans except P/2019/0234/HHFP be accepted. Councillor Long seconded this proposal which was carried unanimously
- **Personnel Committee:** Councillor Reynolds stated that the Personnel committee had not met since the last full Council meeting

858. Any Other Business:

1. Councillor Long informed the meeting that the refurbishment of the old Cobblers included UPVC doors and windows. As this property falls within the Conservation area, there was concern that this should not have been allowed.
2. Councillor Grice informed the meeting that he had been approached by a resident regarding purchasing the land at the rear of the Village Hall which was within the expired lease. Councillor R Nichols explained that the land does not belong to the Parish Council. The resident would need to contact St Helens Council. Councillor Lee reminded the meeting that discussions were underway regarding the possibility of using the land for allotments. Councillor Reynolds stated that he would like the land to remain as part of the lease.
3. Councillor Newton informed the meeting that farm lorries have been travelling at speed along Rookery Lane. The meeting was not able to establish which farm the lorries were coming from.
4. Councillor Long informed the meeting that, observationally, part of the wall on Muncaster Drive appears to be subsiding.
5. Councillor Wesley asked when the white lines on the steps leading to the Village Hall would be repainted. The Clerk explained that this had to be done on a fine day when there were not going to be a lot of visitors to the hall. The caretakers were aware that the lines need repainting and would do it as soon as possible.

859. Diary Dates

15.05.19	6.30pm	Finance, Planning & Administration Committee
17.05.19	6pm	Annual Meeting of the Parish Council followed by The Chairman's Evening
20.05.19	7pm	Full Council Meeting
02.06.19	10am	Civic Sunday service at All Saints Church followed by refreshments at the Village Hall
05.06.19	7pm	Community Development Committee Meeting
15.06.19	1.45pm	Walking Day
19.06.19	6.30pm	Finance, Planning & Administration Committee meeting
24.06.19	7pm	Full Council Meeting
03.07.19	7pm	Community Development Committee Meeting
17.07.19	6.30pm	Finance, Planning & Administration Committee meeting
22.07.19	7pm	Full Council Meeting
23.08.19	TBC	Chairman's Fundraiser – BBQ

There being no other business the meeting closed at 19.46

Councillor David Monk
Chairman, Rainford Parish Council
2019/20