

Rainford Parish Council

**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 22 JANUARY 2018 COMMENCING AT 7pm
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT RAINFORD VILLAGE HALL**

Present: **Councillors:** Aspinall, Brown, Collins, Grice (Chairman), G Jones, Long,
Monk, D Mussell, L Mussell, Reynolds, Wesley
In attendance: Sally Powell (Clerk)
Victoria Swainbank (Administrative Assistant)
Absent: **None**

- 661. APOLOGIES:** Councillors: P Jones (Family), Lee, (Holiday), D Nichols (Business),
R Nichols (Business)
- 662. DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND UPDATING OF THE REGISTER:**
None.
- 663. FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN:**
The Chairman recorded the condolences of the Council to Councillor P Jones on the death of his brother.
- 664. TO HEAR AND RESPOND TO ANY QUESTIONS/DEPUTATIONS BY COUNCILLORS OR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:**
None.
- 665. TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 12 DECEMBER 2017**
RESOLVED: Councillor G Jones proposed the minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record. This was seconded by Councillor Wesley and carried unanimously.
- 666. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**
None.
- 667. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**
(See Appendix 1 for the Income & Expenditure figures for December 2017)
Councillor Long asked for an explanation of the figures in relation to the Senior Road Users event held at the Village Hall on 07.12.17. The Clerk explained that monies paid out had been reclaimed from St Helens Council.
Councillor Wesley requested a breakdown of income and expenditure for events held at the Village Hall. This will be included in Accounts for Payment in future.
RESOLVED: Councillor Grice proposed that the Income and Expenditure Figures for December 2017 be accepted. This was seconded by Councillor Wesley and carried unanimously.
- 668. CORRESPONDENCE**
The Clerk summarised the following correspondence:
1. BACS remittance advice from HMRC for VAT refund
 2. Job report from NW Electrical & Combustion for Boiler repair

3. Letter from Electoral Services at St Helens Council requesting use of the Village Hall as a Polling Station on 03.05.18
4. Letter from St Helens Council re the proposed Council Tax Base for 2018/19 and the date for payment of the precept:
2912 Band D equivalent
50% 19.04.18
50% 21.06.18
5. Letter from HMRC re changes to VAT claims
6. Letter from St Helens Council confirming the Council Tax Base at 2912 for 2018/19
7. Copy of The Clerk magazine
8. Leaflet re Practitioner's conference 2018
9. Copy of Clerk and Councils Direct magazine
10. Estimate for various works to the Village Hall
11. Letter from RABI thanking the Parish Council for its support with the Houghton Weavers event
12. Directive Waste Transfer Note from B & M Waste Services (to comply with the Environmental Protection Act 1990 section 34)
13. Breakdown of costings for the Sound system and projection screen from Kevin Tinney
14. Email from Paul Kelly, Rainford Eagles JFC regarding a new padlock that has been put on the gate at the Pavilion *There was a short discussion regarding who should pay the expenses for the Pavilion (currently the Parish Council). Councillor D Mussell stated he would make enquiries about the new padlock and inform the Clerk.*
In December the Clerk's office responded to 90 telephone calls and 82 visitors
To date in January, the Clerk's office has responded to 115 Telephone Calls and 69 visitors

RESOLVED: That the Correspondence be accepted

669. SETTING OF THE PRECEPT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2018/19

670. PARISH COUNCIL DRAFT INCOME & EXPENDITURE BUDGET FOR 2018/19

671. SOUND & PROJECTION SYSTEM FOR THE MAIN HALL

These 3 agenda items were considered together.

See Appendix 2 for the document relating to the precept circulated with the agenda.

See Appendix 3 for a copy of the draft budget circulated with the agenda.

At the request of the Chairman, the Clerk went through the draft budget for 2018/19. As the Parish Council is currently in a stronger financial position than in recent years, £20,000 has been allocated for projects for improving the Village Hall. Suggestions for schemes included:

- The implementation of a LOOP system within the Main Hall possibly as part of the replacement of the sound system
- Construction of a conservatory type structure at the rear of the Main Hall as an improved disabled access. The Chairman passed around photographs showing the current rear access in the Main Hall and explained what the new structure would entail
- Providing ramps at the front of the building
- Decoration of the entrance hall, stairs and landing and replacement of the carpet
- Redecorating and upgrading of the Reception Room including the replacement of the cupboards and opening up of the fireplace
- Replacement and enhancement of the sound system within the Main Hall and the installation of a projection screen fixed to one of the beams which would expand and contract mechanically

Councillors D & L Mussell left the meeting at 7.50pm

- Taking over the area at the rear of the Village Hall previously used as a waste disposal site and using it as a car park for the hall

- Replacement of the single glazed windows in the front of the building, in the Clerk's office and in the Chamber

Following a discussion, it was agreed that further dialogue should be had with St Helens Council with regard to the land at the back of the Village Hall, and the possibility of it being included when the lease for the Village Hall is renewed in 2019. Additionally, the following proposals were made:

RESOLVED: Councillor Reynolds proposed that decoration of the hall, stairs and landing and the refurbishment of the Reception Room should go ahead as soon as possible and in the current financial year, with delegated responsibility for commissioning the works granted to Councillor P Jones (as Chairman of the FPA committee) and the Clerk. This was seconded by Councillor Long and carried unanimously

RESOLVED: Councillor Reynolds proposed that funds for the replacement of the sound system and the addition of a projection system should be earmarked in the financial year 2018/19. This was seconded by Councillor Wesley and carried unanimously

The precept for 2017/18 was set at £25 for Band D equivalent properties. A debate about whether the precept should be increased took place.

RESOLVED: Councillor Monk proposed that the precept be increased to £26 per Band D equivalent for the financial year 2018/19. This was seconded by Councillor Wesley and carried by a majority of 9 votes for and 3 against the proposal

672. COMMITTEE & COUNCILLOR REPORTS

- **Audit** – The committee had not met since the last full Council meeting.
- **Borough Council** – This report was given before Councillor L Mussell left the meeting

Councillors L Mussell and Reynolds reported the following:

- It had been agreed to increase Council Tax payments by 5.9%
- Discussions had taken place regarding the possibility of merging Health and Social Care. Councillor L Mussell voiced her concerns apropos contractual differences between employees
- New data protection regulations would be in force from May 2018. As a tier 3 organisation, Councillors cannot continue to use private email addresses for Council business. Following a discussion, it was agreed that all Councillors must use their Parish Council email address for Council business from 01.03.18. Additionally, each Council must have a Data Protection Officer who would have responsibility for ensuring that the Data Protection legislation is being adhered to. As she has expertise in this area, Councillor L Mussell offered to become the Data Protection Officer for Rainford Parish Council

RESOLVED: Councillor D Mussell proposed that Councillor L Mussell is the designated Data Protection Officer for Rainford Parish Council. This was seconded by Councillor Brown and carried unanimously

- **Community Development** – (See Appendix 4 for minutes of the last meeting) As Councillor Lee was unable to attend the meeting, Councillor Reynolds reported the following:
 - The First Responders have offered to hold free training sessions in the use of a defibrillator and basic life-saving techniques. It was agreed that a room should be provided free of charge for this training.
- **Finance, Planning & Administration** – The committee had not met since the last full Council meeting. In the absence of the Councillor P Jones, the Chairman led the proceedings:

PLANNING - 2 sets of plans were considered, for which no objections were raised.

RESOLVED: Councillor Grice proposed that the plans be agreed en bloc. Councillor Aspinall seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

FINANCE – This had been dealt with under agenda items 670 & 671

ADMINISTRATION – This had been dealt with under agenda items 670 & 671

Health & Safety - No meeting had taken place since the last Full Council Meeting.

673. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- i. Councillor Long requested an update regarding the establishment of the Community Police Station within the Village Hall. The Clerk informed the meeting that there had been a recent flurry of activity in the room and the main refurbishment work was expected to begin shortly.
- ii. Councillor Reynolds informed the meeting that he had met with the Conservation Officer regarding disabled access at the front of the building. As the Village Hall is in the Conservation area, it is unlikely that any changes to the front door and steps would be allowed as it would be difficult to justify spoiling the façade for the amount of use the ramps would get.
- iii. Councillor Reynolds stated that support for the last showing at the Community Cinema had been extremely disappointing. A programme of events for the year will be decided on to help with marketing.

674. DIARY DATES

The Chairman highlighted important dates in the diary:

26.01.18	7pm	Burns Night – Chairman’s Fundraiser
03.02.18	11am – 11.30am	Borough Councillors’ surgery
07.02.17	7pm	Community Development Committee Meeting
09/10/11.02.18		Beer Festival
21.02.18	6.30pm	Finance, Planning & Administration Committee Meeting
23.02.18	7pm	Quiz – Chairman’s Fundraiser
26.02.18	7pm	Full Council Meeting
03.03.18	11am – 11.30am	Borough Councillors’ surgery
03.03.18	7.30pm	Remember Delilah? – An evening with Barry Mason Chairman’s Fundraiser
07.03.18	7pm	Community Development Committee Meeting
18.03.18	2.30pm – 4.30pm	Afternoon Tea – Chairman’s Fundraiser
21.03.18	6.30pm	Finance, Planning & Administration Committee Meeting
24.03.18	2pm & 4.30pm	Community Cinema: Willie Wonker & the Chocolate Factory/Pirates of the Caribbean
26.03.18	From 1.30pm	Blood Donor Sessions
26.03.18	7pm	Full Council Meeting

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.25pm

Councillor David Grice
Chairman 2017/2018

APPENDIX 1

ITEM 667 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL				
Income & Expenditure 2017 - 2018				
Month ended 31 December 2017				
EXPENDITURE				
Date	Company	Detail	Total	Claimable VAT
04.12.17	Barclays Bank	Bank Charges	£ 71.92	
08.12.17	Virgin Media	Broadband/Telephone/IT	£ 60.00	£ 10.00
08.12.17	David Grice/Screwfix	Anti-Climb paint/Razorwire warning sign	£ 80.92	£ 13.48
10.12.17	Barclaycard	Merchant Services	£ 40.96	£ 5.16
08.12.17	Ale & Beer Supplies Ltd	Bar Stock	£ 82.75	
13.12.17	Opus Energy	Electricity	£ 311.21	£ 51.87
08.12.17	Richard Grice	Removal of Kings Moss Noticeboard	£ 50.00	
08.12.17	Richard Grice	Moving Razorwire on to roof	£ 150.00	
08.12.17	Bridge Farm Landscapes	Christmas Tree	£ 80.00	
08.12.17	Scottish Power	Electricity - Pavillion	£ 25.80	£ 1.23
08.12.17	B & M Waste Services	Waste Removal	£ 87.70	£ 14.62
08.12.17	Kevin Tinney	Training and Support	£ 140.00	
08.12.17	Kevin Tinney	Training and Support	£ 280.00	
12.12.17	Daily Poppins	Cleaning	£ 653.94	£ 108.99
12.12.17	Ale & Beer Supplies Ltd	Bar Stock	£ 363.66	
12.12.17	Richard Grice	Removal of Crank Noticeboard/Application of anti-climb paint	£ 50.00	
12.12.17	Wendys Flowers	Anniversary Flowers	£ 20.00	£ 3.33
12.12.17	Darlington Outside Caterers	Coffee/Lunch for Senior Road Users Event	£ 1,530.00	
12.12.17	Next	Bar staff uniforms	£ 36.00	£ 6.00
15.12.17	Greenhope Recycling & Waste Services	Glass Recycling	£ 13.50	£ 2.25
08.12.17	Stacy Bilous	Bar Services	£ 30.00	
08.12.17	Booker	S137/Bar stock/Cleaning Materials/Card machine rolls/Glass renovator/Glass cloths	£ 179.88	£ 13.60
08.12.17	Ellamora	Handwash	£ 29.97	
15.12.17	Electrical & Combustion NW	Boiler Service	£ 205.20	£ 34.20
19.12.17	Edmundsons Electrical Ltd	Lightbulbs for exterior lights	£ 91.20	£ 15.20
19.12.17	Filmbank Media	The Polar Express	£ 490.00	£ 81.67
19.12.17	Filmbank Media	Home Alone	£ 99.60	£ 16.60
19.12.17	Balloon Boutique	Balloons for Christmas Party	£ 150.00	
19.12.17	Waterplus	Water & Wastewater bill	£ 378.70	
19.12.17	Ale & Beer Supplies Ltd	Bar Stock	£ 207.70	
19.12.17	Marks & Spencer	Bar staff uniforms	£ 123.99	£ 20.66
19.12.17	Coop	Decorations for Christmas Party	£ 8.00	£ 1.33
19.12.17	Tesco	Refreshments for Christmas Reception	£ 11.00	£ 1.83
19.12.17	Cheapest Fancy Dress	Bar staff uniforms	£ 66.55	£ 11.09
19.12.17	Darlington Outside Caterers	Meal for Christmas Party	£ 2,376.00	
19.12.17	St Helens Council	Salaries/NI/Pension/Fees	£ 6,677.55	
28.12.17	St Helens Council	Rates	£ 1,142.00	
19.12.17	Rainford News	Stamps & Paper	£ 13.79	
20.12.17	Eckersall	Cylinder Key (Spare stockroom key)	£ 10.80	£ 1.80
18.12.17	Angharad Powell	Bar Services	£ 96.32	
21.12.17	Barclaycard	Refund	£ 215.90	
27.12.17	British Gas	Gas	£ 161.42	£ 7.68
05.12.17	Transfer to Community Account	pdq payments for Event Tickets	£ 160.00	
			£ 17,053.93	£ 422.59

INCOME	
Bank Loyalty Award	£ 10.79
Bar Sales	£ 2,224.60
Community Cinema	£ -
Invoices	£ 3,777.75
Other	£ -
Transfers from HI Account	£ 10,000.00
For transfer to Community Account	£ -
VAT Refunds	
Total	£ 16,013.14
CURRENT ACCOUNT	
As at 31.12.17	Bank
Balance Brought Forward	£ 6,782.62
Total Income	£ 6,013.14
Expenses	-£ 16,893.93
Transfers in	£ 10,000.00
Transfers Out	-£ 160.00
Closing Balance	£ 5,741.83

APPENDIX 2

ITEM 669

Setting the Precept for the Financial Year 2018/19

The Council's Tax Base was due to be considered by cabinet at St Helens Council on 10.01.18 and, subject to approval, the proposed Council Tax Base for Rainford Parish is **2,912** (Band D equivalent properties). The figure for the current year is **2889** and the precept was £25 (Band D equivalent)

Figures in the Budget for 2018/19 have assumed no increase in the precept for 2018/19

Precept for 2017/18 2889 x £25 = £72,225

Precept for 2018/19 2912 x £25 = £72800

APPENDIX 3

ITEM 670

Budget 2018/19

Income	176002	Expenditure	171195
Reserves	20793	Earmarked	25600
	196795		196795

INCOME BUDGET 18/19								
	Budget 2017/18	Actual to 31.12.17	Prediction to 31.03.18	% ↑↓ over Budget 2017/18	BUDGET 2018/19	% ↑↓ over 2017/18 Prediction	% ↑↓ over 2017/18 Budget	Notes
Bar	34628	29432	36112	4	40445	12	17	
Main Hall	14873	15075	20100	35	22512	12	51	
Other	6629	9586	10573	59	13745	30	107	
Precept	72225	72225	72225	0	72800	1	1	
Reception Room	2825	2863	3583	27	4300	20	52	
Rent	22630	14623	20173	-11	22200	10	-2	
TOTAL	153810	143804	162766	6	176002	8	14	

EXPENDITURE BUDGET 2018/19								
	Budget 2017/18	Actual to 31.12.17	Prediction to 31.03.18	% ↑↓ over Budget	BUDGET 2018/19	% ↑↓ over 2017/18 prediction	% ↑↓ over 2017/18 Budget	Notes
General admin	63247	46532	64578	2	66654	3	5	
PWLB	1888	950	1888	0	1880	0	0	
Pavillion	155	97	155	0	171	10	10	
Publicity	550	0	200	-64	200	0	-64	15
Rent	1934	1934	1934	0	1934	0	0	
S137	1200	878	1200	0	1500	25	25	16
National Insurance	2044	1648	2465	21	3300	34	61	17
Pensions	10727	7812	10243	-5	11720	14	9	18
Salaries	43380	35177	51829	19	62880	21	45	19
Bar	23085	15014	19959	-14	20957	5	-9	20
Earmarked Expenditure	6050	450	450	-93	25600	5589	323	21
TOTAL	154260	110491	154901	0	196795	27	28	

EXPENDITURE BUDGET - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION								
General Admin Expenditure	Budget 2017/18	Actual to 31.12.17	Prediction to 31.03.18	% ↑↓ over Budget	BUDGET 2018/19	% ↑↓ over 2017/18 prediction	% ↑↓ over 2017/18 Budget	Notes
Building								
Bank charges	845	1354	1567	85	1645	5	95	1
Insurance	3690	1148	3690	0	3875	5	5	
Maintenance	13087	8024	13087	0	13087	0	0	2
Rates	12542	10275	12542	0	12918	3	3	3
Repairs & Renewals	6758	3485	5500	-19	11000	100	63	4
SUB-TOTAL	36922	24286	36386	-1	42525	17	15	
Communications								
Phone, Broadband, website	2000	5450	5800	190	2000	63	0	5
Postage & stationery	600	474	600	0	1200	100	100	6
SUB-TOTAL	2600	5924	6400	146	3200	-50	23	
Fees								
Audit	1502	1000	1500	0	1577	5	5	
PRS Music Licence	900	739	739	-18	813	10	-10	
St Helens Council	440	336	468	6	480	3	9	
Subscriptions	250	71	256	2	256	0	2	
Tenant Finding	395	0	0	-100	0	0	-100	7
SUB-TOTAL	3487	2146	2963	-15	3126	6	-10	
Other								
Art Exhibition	500	300	300	-40	300	0	-40	8
Chairmans evening	1650	1374	1374	-17	1400	2	-15	
Christmas light & tree	900	80	630	-30	680	8	-24	9
Miscellaneous	1000	1712	1712	71	650	-62	-35	10
Chargeable function expenses	3000	4640	5000	67	5000	0	67	11
Training	1000	1020	1220	22	750	-39	-25	
SUB-TOTAL	8050	8852	10236	27	8780	-14	9	
Utilities								
Electricity	3106	1845	3345	8	3512	5	13	12
Gas	7533	2498	3898	-48	4093	5	-46	13
Water	1549	982	1350	-13	1418	5	-8	
SUB-TOTAL	12188	5325	8593	-29	9023	5	-26	
TOTAL	63247	46532	64578	2	66654	3	5	
Earmarked expenditure								
Election Expenses	5600	0	0	-100	5600	0	0	
Village Hall	450	450	450	0	20000	4344	4344	14

NOTES

1. Bank charges include the charges for the card machine
2. Although maintenance costs are well below budget for 2017/18, the budget has remained the same for 2018/19 to provide a contingency for unexpected costs and to allow the decoration of the hall, stairs and landing and/or the Chamber

3. Any increase in rates was not known at the time of setting the budget, so an arbitrary increase of 3% has been made
4. The major increase in this budget head is to allow for the cost of replacing the boiler or for major repairs as necessary
5. The discrepancy in the budget for 2017/18 was caused by the need to update the IT system. The budget for 2018/19 should allow some minor updating of the website
6. The increase in this budget allows for the purchasing of paper to produce newsletters
7. It is not anticipated that there will be any change in tenants in the financial year 2018/19
8. This figure covers the prize money and any other associated expenditure
9. The cost of storing and having the lights put on and taken off the tree at the front of the Village Hall in 2017/18 was significantly below the cost for 2016/17
10. The figure for 2017/18 includes a substantial card refund and the signage on the Village Hall. (The refund was due as a customer made a payment to cover bar costs for a party and the actual bill was less than he paid)
11. This includes the laundering of table cloths, purchase of balloons, wage costs for staff to wait on/clear up etc
12. Electricity costs have been kept down by changing supplier
13. Gas costs have been kept down by renegotiating the contract. Additionally, a problem with the new meter meant that the gas usage was not being monitored for a period of time.
14. £20,000 has been included in the earmarked funds for projects such as improving the disabled access to the building
15. As at 31.12.17 no funds had been spent on publicity. A nominal sum has been included for the remainder of 2017/18 and for 2018/19
16. An increase of 25% has been included as a greater number of organisations applied for a donation in 2017/18
17. This has increased due to increased number of staff and hours
18. The 2017/18 budget figure was higher than required as not all eligible staff members joined the pension fund. The figure is higher for 2018/19 due to the increase in hours for the Clerk and the Administrator/Bar Manager
19. As above + this figure includes all the bar staff wages
20. The budget for 2017/18 was overestimated and a tight system of stock control is maintained
21. This includes the £5600 requirement for election expenses + a £20000 fund for projects

APPENDIX 4

ITEM 672 Community Development

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
OF RAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 03 JANUARY 2018 AT 7pm
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT RAINFORD VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors: Grice, G Jones, Lee (Chairman), Reynolds,

Members: Alice Bradley, Mike Olley

In Attendance: S Powell (Clerk)

Absent: None

1. **Apologies:** Councillors: Nichols (Business), Wesley (Ill)

2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 01.11.17**

The minutes of the meeting of 01.11.17 were approved and signed as a correct record, proposed by Councillor Grice and seconded by Councillor G Jones, when the following corrections had been made:

- i. 8.i Should read: The initiative is now in its tenth year and the on-call hours are between October and March. As many as 8 calls may be received in a day and 1960 calls have been dealt with in the last 9 years. Last year 370 calls were responded to. The next training course will take place at the end of November and MO is now training candidates as well.
- ii. 8.iv Should read: Councillor Lee informed the meeting that the next meeting would take place on 03.01.18 at 7pm.

3. **Matters arising from the minutes**

3.8 AB informed the meeting that the cut through between Croxteth Drive and Cross Pit Lane is a bridleway and therefore horses and riders are allowed to use it. St Helens Council have indicated that warning signs would be erected.

8.i MO informed the meeting that the training course for new First Responders did not take place.

4. **Railway signs/Heritage Boards update.**

Councillor Reynolds had visited the old railway site in Crank with Ray Waring (Chairman of Rainford Heritage Society). A local resident has the original signage and will allow it to be photographed so replicas can be made.

5. **Art exhibition 2018**

This will take place from Thursday 04.10.18 to Sunday 07.10.18. Photographs will be exhibited again. £100 was donated to the Chairman's fund from the sale of Bernard Bibby's photographs at the exhibition last year. AB and ML both informed the meeting that they knew of artists who

would be interested in exhibiting. ML also suggested exhibiting work from the St Helens Asylum seekers group.

The Clerk will circulate the dates to all schools in the Village.

6. Community cinema

The screenings of Polar Express were a great success and were income generating. It is hoped that a new sound system will be installed in the Main Hall with a permanent screen at the kitchen end of the hall that will extend and retract electronically. The controls for the new system will not be generally accessible. The installation of the screen and sound system would also be an income generating opportunity and has huge potential for both the Council and the public. As the cost of this initiative would be met by the Parish Council, Councillor Reynolds stated that if elected as Chairman of the Parish Council for 2018/19, he would be raising funds for another cause.

7. Litter project

The Clerk informed the meeting that despite numerous attempts to contact Keep Britain Tidy, to date there had been no response. Further attempts will be made.

8. Community First Aid (Mike Olley/Councillor Reynolds)

MO/RR suggested that First Aid courses could be run at the Village Hall for residents to attend free of charge to learn basic first aid skills. The St Johns Ambulance make a charge to run courses. MO suggested that training people to be 'Cardiac Smart' would be most useful. This would train people how to do basic life support and use a defibrillator. 8 – 10 people could attend a course which would run for 2 hours. It was suggested that the leaders of local organisations and clubs and societies could be approached for candidates. There was a short discussion regarding the content of the course, which may incorporate what to do if someone is choking.

Councillor Reynolds will request free use of the Reception Room at the next full Council meeting.

The Clerk was asked to liaise with MO regarding dates and times.

9. Any Other Business

- i. AB informed the meeting that St Helens Council had video footage of one of the recent 'hunts' going along Higher Lane. The group did not have permission to be on the highway and there were too many dogs off leads. Organisers had been approaching farmers for permission to go across their land. Farmers had also been receiving complaints about horses using and churning up the footpaths. Arable land is not suitable for hunts and much of the land surrounding Rainford is arable land. There is no local contact for the NW Bloodhounds. Councillor Lee informed the meeting that complaints have been made regarding manure in the road.
- ii. Councillor Grice outlined a scheme to create an additional entrance to the Village Hall at the back. This would give better disabled access and would be a conservatory like construction. He also stated that he thought the Parish Council should take over the

land at the back of the Village Hall as part of the lease. Councillor Reynolds suggested a ramp at the front of the building and a short discussion ensued.

- iii. Councillor Lee asked if there were CCTV cameras in the Village: there are at least 3 on Church Road.
- iv. Councillor Reynolds suggested investigating the possibility of creating an electric car charge point within the Village. Grants are available for up to 75% of the installation costs, which can be as low as £200 - £500. A fee for using the point would cover the running costs. A demand has to be demonstrated. There was general agreement that this would be a good addition to the Village. Councillor Reynolds will put together a proposal to go before Full Council.
- v. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 07 February at 7pm. AB offered her apologies.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Councillor M Lee
Chairman of the Community Development Committee
Rainford Parish Council 2017/18