



Tel: 01744 892167
email: seneleygreenpc@gmail.com

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 9th DECEMBER 2021
IN THE COMMUNITY HALL, BILLINGE ROAD AT 7PM

**Present:
Cllrs**

J Pearson, Chairman
S Barton, Vice Chairman
Mrs B Ashcroft
Mrs E Murphy
Mrs S Murphy
B Pilkington
P Peers
J Stevenson

21/105 To pass as a true record the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Thursday 11th November 2021

Resolved: for the Chairman to sign the above Minutes as a true record.

21/106 To Note Apologies for Absence

All present – no apologies

Resolved: to note the above

21/107 Public Participation

See also Public Transport Working Group item for summary of this evening's session with Cllr Liam Robinson (Chair of Liverpool City Region Transport Committee). Seneley & Garswood Juniors FC – Tom Nugent reported the club recently attempted to open a development centre for 4,6,7 and up to under 8 year olds. The FA and Football Foundation was involved, but due to matters beyond their control it didn't go ahead. He asked if Parish Council would be interested in being involved in a feasibility study relating to creating a development centre on the Playing Fields to give a valuable facility for local children? Cllr Pearson commented Parish Council would be happy to liaise over the feasibility study

for information only: issues raised under this item and any that require further discussion will appear on the Agenda of a future meeting

21/108 To Receive Declarations of Interest from Members

Resolved: to note there were no Declarations of Interest

21/109 Policing of the Area

The Clerk presented the Crime Report from Merseyside Police for November to the meeting:

All Crime – 17; Burglary-2; Burglary (dwelling)-2; Criminal Damage-3; Theft from MV-2; Vehicle Crime-7; ASB- 1

for information only: issues raised under this item and any that require further discussion will appear on the Agenda of a future meeting

21/110 Chairman, Councillors and Clerk's Updates

Clerk's Update included items relating to Agenda items plus an update on the recent visit of the NHS Mobile Cancer Screening Unit.

Cllr Elaine Murphy reported that a donation of £165 (from former Billinge Christmas Dinner Appeal balance) had been secured and shared between the Dementia Café and Friends of Seneley Green – thanks were recorded to Mr Finney.

Resolved:

to receive and note the above updates

21/111 Ward Councillor Update

Cllr Sue Murphy reported on her Toy Appeal for the area which was (and in common with lots of charities) struggling to raise funds and she gave thanks to the football club for their support
for information only: issues raised under this item and any that require further discussion will appear on the Agenda of a future meeting

21/112 To Note the Decisions of the Planning Committee

Consultation had been received re the following. No comments have been submitted

APPLICATIONS

P/2021/1013/HHFP 20 School Lane: Extension to existing dropped kerb onto a classified road.

DECISIONS

P/2021/0886/HHFP 48 Poplar Avenue: Single storey rear extension for disabled use.
Granted

Resolved: to note the above applications/decisions and note no comments were submitted.

21/113 To Pass Accounts for Payment and Receive Financial Update

Please see the schedule in APPENDIX A. Members are asked to approve these accounts for payment of £4742.76 and to note there are £360 in S137 payments

There was no financial update this month but Members were asked to agree proposed payment dates for Precept from St Helens

Resolved:

to pass the schedule of accounts for payment totalling £4742.76 and to note £360 in S137 payments

to agree proposed payment for Precept 2022/23 of 50% on 14 April 2022 and 50% on 16 June 2022

21/114 Internal Audit Arrangements 2021/22

Members were requested to approve the appointment of the Bold Parish Council Clerk as Internal Auditor for 2021/22)

Resolved: for Bold Parish Council Clerk to be appointed as internal auditor for Seneley Green Parish Council for 2021/22

21/115 Christmas Event at the Bluebell

Cllr Elaine Murphy reported a volunteer group of residents are organising a Christmas event for children in the Bluebell (who have offered to supply food and drink).

Consideration of a donation of £200 towards the event was requested. Cllr Sue Murphy proposed for any Parish Council support to appear on publicity for the event.

Resolved: £200 approved to be donated and for Parish Council to be acknowledged on publicity for the event

21/116 Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee 2022

Cllr Sue Murphy proposed for Billinge and Seneley Green Parish Councils to do a joint celebration between *Thursday 2 to Sunday 5 June 2022* and proposed for the Clerk to write to Billinge Parish Council to ask if they are interested in doing so.

Resolved: for the Clerk to write to Billinge Parish Council re interest in a joint celebration for the above event

21/117 Simms Road Open Space Miners Memorial

There had been no progress on the draft plan due to time being diverted to Santa's Sleigh Event.

Resolved: to note the above update

21/118 Health & Wellbeing Working Group Update

Libraries: St Helens Council have extended their consultation period to facilitate further

discussion with Community Groups and Parish Councils. Cllr Pearson spoke briefly on reservations related to this proposal.

Mental Health Initiative: Members were requested to consider free use of the Community Hall on 3rd February for a 'Time to Talk' event and to cover the cost of light refreshments. Members were also given a copy of a proposed article for Local Life (space permitting)

Resolved:

***to note the above update on Libraries
to agree free use of the hall on 3rd February and approve purchase of light refreshments***

21/119 Estates Working Group

There had been no meeting but the following update was given on the Clerk's Update: Parish Hall: Installation date for blinds over shutter area still awaited

Community Hall:

External lighting replacement bulbs has been put back to next week due to storms and weather forecast for this week; Shutters were fitted earlier this week; Floor sealing - completed this week.

There is an intermittent fault on one light in the hall which we are working to resolve but we are also awaiting a quote for replacement LED lighting to present to Working Group/Full Council).

Resolved: to receive and note the above

21/120 Public Transport Working Group

Cllr Robinson, Chairman of Liverpool City Region Transport Committee attended the meeting to do a presentation on transport issues. Amongst issues raised by Members and residents included: why other stations in the region had been made accessible ahead of our station; the urgent need for maintenance and repair work to both the bridge (concern was expressed re the 'life' left in the structure) and also the waiting room on the Liverpool-bound platform; the issue of new homes in Wigan on our border and the pressure this would create on transport infrastructure (both trains and buses); Liverpool bound platform being too low-Cllr Robinson replied all stations in LCR are fully staffed to ensure safe access and egress from trains for those who may struggle with this issue; local bus service – people having to use their cars because the service is so poor with timing of the service and difficulties returning to the area when buses can be filled with those taking lesser journeys that can be served by other bus services - Cllr Robinson asked for close liaison/survey with Parish Council and residents to identify resolution using newly- devolved powers so decisions based on how to serve communities (rather than profit-based) can be reached. Issues relating to bus timings were reported and taken away by Cllr Robinson so he can research and respond; The Equalities Act was raised in relation to those unable to access the station, Cllr Robinson reported stations can organise taxis free of charge to get passengers to an accessible station where they are able to use their original tickets to complete their journey; the reduction in train service to one per hour during the pandemic and that this has not yet returned to two per hour, there is also a gap in service early evening; query re the rail bridge/temporary fencing on Spindle Hillock; 360,000 is the latest annual figure given for journeys to or from Garswood Station, it was commented the true figure is probably at least 30% higher given the number of residents using travelcards which are not recorded; concern over any plans to remove staff from the station-Cllr Robinson said LCR is committed to retaining staffed stations and opposing any cuts. In summary Cllr Sue Murphy said it is not acceptable for those with disability and restricted mobility not to have access to the rail station. Comments re other stations getting funding gives the impression our station is being ignored or left behind. Cllr Robinson commented LCR hear our comments and will try to raise Garswood Station's position on the list of those needing work. She also said the people of this area have had enough after 26 years of campaigning, need to be listened to and served better. Cllr Pearson thanked Cllr Robinson for his attendance and for taking note of the issues raised and for responding in due course.

Resolved:
For Public Transport Working Party to continue to liaise with Cllr Robinson
For Cllr Sue Murphy to liaise with residents wishing to form a Garswood Station Action Group

21/121 Schools Update

It was reported the provision of selection packs had been gratefully received. Thanks to school staff for their continued hard work and commitment was formally recorded. It was also reported comments had been received re Seneley Green children who attend schools outside the Parish and about their exclusion from receipt of this gift. It was proposed to contact Our Lady's for the number of pupils attending from our Parish and to purchase and deliver this number of packs to the school.

Resolved;
For the Clerk to obtain number of Seneley Green pupils at Our Lady's, then to purchase and deliver selection packs.

21/122 Communications Working Group

Following resident request, Cllr Sue Murphy reported there was no funding available in Ward Councillors Improvement Fund to pay for the relocation of the St Helens Community noticeboard from Garswood Primary School to outside Hamilton Road shops.

Resolved: to receive and note above update

21/123 Events Working Group

An update on Santa's Sleigh visits to schools and also streets in the area was given.

Resolved: to receive and note above update

APPENDIX A

21/121	Masterprint - newsletter and distribution	567.50
21/122	FIS - cctv annual maintenance	103.20
21/123	Yates - installation of Christmas lights to halls	80.00
21/124	Smart Pension	154.17
21/125	Councillors Annual Allowance	120.00
21/126	Councillors Annual Allowance	120.00
21/127	Councillors Annual Allowance	120.00
21/128	Councillors Annual Allowance	120.00
21/129	Councillors Annual Allowance	120.00
21/130	Councillors Annual	120.00

	Allowance –	
21/131	Councillors Annual Allowance	120.00
21/132	Lynda B Design - ID badge (EM)	9.00
21/133	A.Boyle (expenditure reclaim)	30.94
21/134	Clerk December Salary	1,189.13
21/135	Sports Assistant Dec Salary	504.58
21/136	Caretaker Dec Salary	631.53
21/137	HMRC Period 8	192.71
21/138	Yates - window cleaning, both halls	80.00
21/139	Clerk – exp reclaim for selection packs (450 @80p)	360.00