



SENELEY GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 10th December 2020 at 7pm via Zoom

**Present:
Cllrs**

**J Pearson, Chairman
Mrs B Ashcroft
Mrs SE Murphy
P Peers
J Stevenson**

2020/67 To pass as a true record the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Thursday 12th November 2020 via Zoom
Resolved: to agree the Minutes of the above meeting as a true record and for the Chairman to sign as soon as it is possible to do so.

2020/68 To Note Apologies for Absence
Apologies had been received from Cllrs B Pilkington and S Barton
Resolved: to note the above Apologies

2020/69 Public Participation
Among items raised this evening:
Parish Hall: It was commented that little had happened in the Parish Hall in particular since November 2018 and residents want to use and help improve the building. There is a loss of faith amongst residents that refurbishment will be carried out as there is no information going out to confirm this.
A user of the hall commented concerns re the future of her business if the future of the hall cannot be confirmed.
Volunteer assistance in undertaking the work was offered and another resident gave credence to this proposal given the successful volunteer-led work done in both Downall Green and Garswood.
Cllr Pearson commented there had been rumour and flyposting which had given rise to these concerns but the best way forward is for residents to come along to meetings and express their views.
Other residents commented on the cost of the repairs and how small this would be per head of Parish population; a positive, solid response is needed to quell rumour and untruths.
Cllr Murphy assured that residents' views do not 'fall on deaf ears' and confirmed work is being done behind the scenes. Parish Council wish to retain facilities and there had been no talk of getting rid of Parish Hall. She accepted there had been delays but asked for thought prior to flyposting the kind of notices seen in the area recently, apart from anything else, it is likely to cause those using the hall additional concern and anxiety.
An ex-councillor of the Parish Council confirmed the history of the purchase of the building and the intention to be used within the community – she pleaded clemency to retain hall and was happy to hear Parish Council are proposing to take the refurbishment forward
Other matters: it was asked if Youth Council was still active – Cllr Murphy commented even though they cannot meet physically, it was expected they would take part in the upcoming Santa event and confirmed Parish Council feel it is valuable to have a Youth Council. A slippy path was mentioned and advice was given to report direct to St Helens Council.

This Agenda item is for information only, issues that require further discussion will appear on the Agenda of a future meeting

2020/70 To Receive Declarations of Interest from Members
There were no Declarations of Interest

Resolved: to note the above

2020/71 Policing of the Area

No report had been received

This Agenda item is for information only, issues that require further discussion will appear on the Agenda of a future meeting

2020/72 Chairman, Councillors and Clerk's Updates

There were no non-Agenda related items included on the Clerk's Update.

This Agenda item is for information only, issues that require further discussion will appear on the Agenda of a future meeting

2020/73 To Note the Decisions of the Planning Committee

No comment have been submitted in relation to applications below:

APPLICATIONS

P/2020/0840/HHFP Proposal: Erection of two storey side extension and single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory. For: Householder Planning Application Location: 15 Stirling Drive,
P/2020/0881/HHFP Proposal: Single storey rear extension. 4 The Brambles

The decision below had been taken at a virtual St Helens Council planning meeting on 8 December and it was been attended by Cllr Stevenson, Cllr McDonnell and local resident Alex Finney. Cllr Stevenson commented Mr Finney had given a fantastic presentation relating to objections to the application and Cllr McDonnell had spoken very well in support of these objections. Cllr McDonnell also raising the issue of planning decisions being taken by Wigan needing to be taken into account when considering applications: granting of applications over the border would in fact address housing need in the area, retention of existing green belt would also be affected. However this particular piece of land had been given over for development in 1998 and had been subjected to several applications over the years.

DECISIONS

P/2020/0478/FUL - Leyland Green Road (8 home development) – Granted

A vacancy on the Planning Committee was raised and Cllr Pearson volunteered to join this committee.

Resolved:

To received and note Planning Committee update above

To approve Cllr Pearson becoming a member of the Planning Committee meeting

2020/74 To Pass Accounts for Payment/Receive Financial Update

Members were requested to approve accounts for payment (see Appendix 1) totalling £7479.50 and S137 payments of £952.80

Financial update and Bank Reconciliation had also been circulated with the Agenda and will be signed by Chairman when possible.

The Clerk had recently taken part in the first of two internal audits for the current year and it was recommended that Parish Council formally acknowledge national pay award for 2020/21 (finally agreed in August 2020).

It was also recommended by internal audit to approve the amended total of Precept expected for 2020/21 to £49,729.68.

Resolved:

To pass accounts for payment totalling £7479.50 and S137 payments of £952.80

To receive and note financial update and Bank Reconciliation

To formally acknowledge national pay award for 2020/21

To approve amended total of Precept expected for 2020/21 to £49,729.68

2020/75 To Appoint Internal Auditor

Members were requested to approve the appointment of internal auditor (copy of letter circulated with Agenda)

Resolved: to approve and note contents of letter to appoint the Clerk.RFO of Rainhill Parish Council as Internal Auditor for 2020/21

2020/76 To Review Business Risk Assessment and Financial Regulations 2020-21
Copies of the proposed Business Risk Assessment and Financial Regulations for 2020/21 were circulated with the Agenda(proposed amendments were given in red)

Resolved:

**To approve the reviewed proposed Business Risk Assessment 2020.21
To approve the reviewed proposed Financial Regulations 2020/21**

2020/77 Estates Working Party Report

At the meeting held just prior to the Parish Council meeting the Clerk had given an update to current work/issues at the halls. Further work had been discussed and the following proposed for approval:

Panelling, decoration, new blinds, disabled wc and kitchen

Cllr Murphy had commented two quotes currently received for panelling appeared to differ in content and proposed having a specification drawn up and requotes obtained to make it easier to compare.

Cllr Stevenson proposed researching funding for the work: Coalfields Regeneration Trust and PWLB

Resolved:

**To approve proposed work to Parish Hall
Specification to be prepared for replacement panelling and requotes obtained.**

2020/78 Events Working Party Report

Cllr Murphy updated on the good work being done at the moment with volunteers going above and beyond: the District Councillors' Toy Appeal had received an overwhelming response and present receivers had been identified within this community .

Santa Sleigh visit: the sleigh/transport is being provided by Jason Shawcross, no money is to be collected, elves (marshalls) will be in attendance during the visit to as many streets as possible in Downall Green and Garswood. Santa and sleigh will also visit Garswood and Rectory CofE primary schools and Parish Council supplied selection boxes will be given out the same day.

Christmas Concert by Tom Loughlin will be streamed from Holy Trinity CofE Church for residents of Seneley Green and Billinge – this event will be funded by Seneley Green and Billinge Parish Councils.

Christmas Dinner Project will again be undertaken by Amanda of Amanda's Sandwich Shop; meals will be free of charge and delivered on Christmas Day by volunteers who are key to this project and Cllr Murphy formally thanked all of them for making Christmas better for not only individuals but some families in this Parish.

Resolved: to receive and note above report

2020/79 Public Transport Working Party Update

The Clerk reported a recent response from Liam Robinson to say he had passed the request for updating and repairs at the rail station to Northern Rail and is awaiting a response from them.

Resolved:

**To receive and note above update
For the Clerk to chase a further response for next meeting**

2020/80 COVID19 update

Cllr Murphy reported there are now testing stations around St Helens for non-symptomatic testing, on request following the success in Liverpool. Numbers of COVID infections (at the time of the meeting) are currently dropping but the need to keep following guidelines was reiterated

Resolved: to receive and note above update.

- 2020/81 Schools Update**
Cllr Murphy commented school staff are going above and beyond in their efforts to support all pupils in maintaining a safe and secure learning/caring environment and proposed conveying the appreciation of the Parish Council to Garswood, Rectory CofE and Our Lady's RC primary schools.
Resolved:
To receive and note above update
For the Chairman to convey Parish Council appreciation to all schools as above.
- 2020/82 Communications Working Party Update**
The Clerk reported 2nd newsletter this year is currently being delivered in the area and copies displayed in noticeboards at Community Hall, Parish Hall and Rectory Road
Resolved: to receive and note above update
- 2020/83 To Consider Grant Applications from Rainbows, Brownies and Guides**
The following is a summary of the application forms submitted and circulated to Members with the Agenda:
£140 - 50% towards Rainbows membership (paid to Guides Association)-£27.40 each current balances £75..22
£10/£12 per Brownie for virtual sleepover costs (up to 24 Brownies in a Pack so between £240-£288. Bank Bal looks healthy() but £660 is due for membership fees. £1612.01 balance
£250 towards fees for Zoom, weekly activities, resources plus postage -
£1447.40 current balance
The applications were discussed and it was proposed to grant £500 between the three applications (for guiding units to decide on amounts given to each application)
Resolved:
To approve a grant of £500 between the three guiding units
- 2020/84 To Consider Proposal for Memorials to Cllr Ken Cleary and Mr David Bentham**
Cllr Murphy proposed (in view of the severely restricted attendance at their funerals) to hold Memorial Services for them once restrictions are lifted, but to do this in consultation with their families. If this is not appropriate then she further proposed to erect plaques in the halls-Cllr Stevenson proposed we do this anyway.
Resolved:
To defer any Memorial service until after all restrictions are lifted
To delegate installation of plaques to Events Working Party
- 2020/85 Signage for 'Welcome to Downall Green'**
Following request by resident at last meeting the item was added to this Agenda: Cllr Murphy commented that it is important to continue to recognise the Downall Green and Garswood communities who work together in supporting Seneley Green Parish and further commented another line could be added to the St Helens Council 'Welcome to' sign.
Resolved: to explore possibility of adding to St Helens Council sign
- 2020/86 Grant to FOSG**
A grant of £200 to Friends of Seneley Green for craft materials was proposed and agreed in principle at last meeting but formal approval is still needed.
Resolved: to approve grant of £200 to FOSG

Cllr Joe Pearson, Chairman closed the meeting by wishing a Merry Christmas and a happier New Year for everyone

**APPENDIX 1
SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

103	<i>Crown gas & power</i>	33.47
104	<i>Craig Construction - sec lights, twin ext. socket, n.boards installation</i>	996.00
105	<i>Office Furniture</i>	406.80
106	<i>cheque 202741 from 2019/20 cancelled 21.60</i>	
107	<i>Amanda Ryder - Toy Appeal Grant</i>	300.00*
108	<i>Amanda Ryder - Christmas Dinner Grant</i>	300.00*
109	<i>Amanda Ryder - reimburse for school Selection Packs</i>	352.80*
110	<i>NW Building & Construction - front doors</i>	1428.00
111	<i>E-on Community Hall Electricity</i>	275.86
112	<i>Clerk December Salary</i>	1184.49
113	<i>Caretaker CH and PH December Salary</i>	746.35
114	<i>Sports Attendant</i>	241.11
115	<i>HMRC</i>	228.64
116	<i>Masterprint - newsletters print and distr</i>	532.60
117	<i>Masterprint - website hosting</i>	120.00
118	<i>Crown - gas PH</i>	44.81
119	<i>see trans 69 and 70 GMS - bal outstanding 89.10 x 2</i>	178.20
120	<i>Waterplus</i>	110.37