



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENELEY GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL, BILLINGE ROAD ON
THURSDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2022 AT 7.45 PM**

Present: Cllrs: **S Murphy, Chairman
B Ashcroft
E Murphy
J Pearson
B Pilkington
J Shawcross
J Stevenson**

2022/96 To pass as a true record the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 13th October 2022.

Cllr Stevenson was added to the attendance list.

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

2022/97 To Note Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Sue Houghton

Resolved: to note the above apologies

2022/98 *Public Participation

Among items raised this evening: Land at Arch Lane Garswood, a resident queried current developments and possible Planning Enforcement issues were described.

The Clerk reported previous queries to St Helens had confirmed there was no breach of planning control but said she would query again with them.

Trains – a resident happily reported that the new timetables (from 11th December) include a return to two trains per hour (in each direction). However Cllr Stevenson reported six trains out of ten in one day was cancelled recently along with a few days where the station was unmanned. The footbridge was again raised as a concern.

A report of good uptake on the recent defibrillator course organised by FOSG created a potential thirty new lifesavers was given and the timescale for the new defibrillator and external cabinet was queried (the Clerk reported delivery will be within the next month). Tom Nugent talked briefly about the defibrillator being donated by Seneley & Garswood Juniors FC and about their own defibrillators in general.

Planters – a query about when the local planters are being planted up (via Ward Councillors CIF) – the clerk was asked to chase up with Grounds Maintenance

A request for CIF to provide bookmarks for children at the schools to celebrate the library's 50th anniversary at an approximate cost of £8 for 60 plus cost of personalisation was requested. Cllr S Murphy said this did not meet the criteria for CIF funding but asked the Clerk to investigate the cost for consideration by Parish Council.

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

2022/99 To Receive Declarations of Interest from Members

There were no Declarations made.

Resolved: to note the above

2022/100

*** Policing of the Area**

PC Yvette Beardsworth was in attendance. Crime update 1 Oct to 9 Nov was given. One burglary Garswood Road, one theft from MV (reg Plates), ASB – one call in five weeks – she commented figures are really good in comparison to other areas in St Helens. She further reported a spate of theft of motor vehicle and liaison with GMP Police had identified a Wigan gang responsible but no-one apprehended yet. Keyless entry cars – PC Beardsworth commented on special wallets that can be obtained to prevent thieves ‘access’ – but warned to keep checking that it still works. Wrapping in tin foil has the same effect.

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2022/101

***Chairman, Councillors and Clerk’s Updates**

The Chairman gave thanks to Friends of Seneley Green for the defibrillator training, and also for the recent children’s Halloween event; further thanks for the decoration during Remembrance – in particular Knit and Natter, Cllr Shawcross, Cllr Stevenson and his wife plus Andrew Boyle.

Cllr E Murphy reported on FOSG activity: Birch Grove wildflower planting is underway. Christmas Fayre on 11th December – 23 stalls now booked (£5 per stall is being charged and this money will go back into FOSG funds), £300 donation received from Garswood Sports and Social Club .

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2022/102

***Ward Councillor Update**

Cllr S Murphy updated: there is ‘rumblings’ about Persimmon re their proposed development (off Billinge Road) and said the promised public meeting relating to this will be held once planning permission has been submitted. She commented on the Toy Appeal, recently launched to support our local families – toys and donations are greatly needed. Cllr Murphy also updated on a briefing by Chief Executive at St Helens earlier that day and outline the serious challenges being faced not only by St Helens Council but by all councils all over the country. She also commented that the Foodbank (via Trussell Trust) in St Helens has been running ten years and so great is the demand that they are running out of donated food to distribute.

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2022/103

To Note the Decisions of the Planning Committee

During the past month, notification of Applications/Decisions (below) have been received. Planning Committee had previously submitted objection on the newly granted P/2022/0346/FULnocomments. No comments in relation to the rest of them have been submitted.

Applications.

P/2022/0725/HHFP 23 Forres Grove First floor front extension and dormer to rear

Decisions

P/2022/0587/ 61 Hamilton Road Certificate of lawfulness for a proposed single storey rear extension. Granted

P/2022/0346/FUL Land To The South Of Leyland Green Road Conversion of agricultural buildings to form dwellinghouse with parking and landscaping, including partial demolition and associated engineering and building work Granted

P/2022/0604/HHFP 4 Kelvin Close Single storey rear extension Granted

Resolved: to note the above decisions/information

2022/104

To Pass Accounts for Payment

The schedule of accounts (see Appendix A) was given in the Clerk’s Update. Total: £5080.30 and £63.73 in S137 payments (Remembrance Wreaths)

Resolved: to pass the accounts for payment totalling £5080.30 and to approve £63.73 in S137 payments.

2022/105

Health & Wellbeing Working Group

There had been no meetings of the group. The Clerk updated that following a further email to Kathryn Boothroyd asking if there are now any plans for 50th Anniversary celebration of the Library (in light of the recent decision for a review of closure decision) a response had been received that there are no plans for St Helens Council to undertake any celebrations.

Resolved:

To receive and note above update

2022/106

Estates Working Group

There had been no meetings of the group. The Clerk reported on recent concerns relating to gas usage (and related costs) at the Community Hall; following the reduction in heating hours which didn't significantly reduce usage, the contractor was called to return to check the heaters (no problems) and also to checks for leaks (there were none). The contractor recommended taking one of the heaters out of commission as it is felt the one remaining heater would be sufficient to serve the building/changing rooms. The heaters are aged and there was a warning that the one taken out of commission may never be able to be brought back into use. It was proposed for this issue to be delegated to the Working Group for further detail and decision-making. The Clerk also reported a recent credit note from E-on resulting in a £21 credit on our gas account.

The Clerk reported the living Christmas tree agreed at last meeting had now been planted outside the Community Hall. A generous offer had been received from Seneley & Garswood Juniors FC to purchase the tree and following liaison with the Chairman this had been gratefully accepted.

The Clerk had updated during Public Participation that the planned defibrillator (to be located external to the Community Hall) had been ordered and a delivery date is awaited.

Cllr E Murphy was invited to update on the plans for the kitchen. She reported that the work to replace the kitchen (funded by FOSG via Lottery Grant) will be progressed after Christmas. The Clerk also reported that formal approval from St Helens Council (as landlord) to undertake the improvement is awaited.

Resolved:

to receive and note the above

To delegate decision-making/instruction on the water heaters to the Estates Working Group

2022/107

Public Transport Working Group

There had been no meetings of the Group but the Clerk reported the contents of the communication with Cllr Liam Robinson expressing the views of Members and residents following last meeting when his response to earlier correspondence had been reported. There was brief discussion following comments in Public Participation relating to the train service/station. Current issues also include recent cancellations (six out of ten trains cancelled); problems with wheelchair ramps; unstaffed station for several days; and the continuing deterioration of the footbridge. Cllr S Murphy urged anyone experiencing accessibility issues to ask for the station to give the assistance available (taxi to/from nearest accessible station). Cllr Murphy also proposed to invite LCR Mayor Steve Rotheram to attend one of our meetings if the response to the state of the footbridge in unsatisfactory. for the prescribed assistance.

Resolved:

To receive and note the above

For the Clerk to write further to Cllr Robinson in relation to wheelchair ramps and to query non-staffing of the station.

2022/108

Communications Working Group

There had been no meetings of the Group; the Clerk reported the website, Facebook and noticeboards continue to be updated. The next newsletter is due to

go to print next week and distributed the week after.

Resolved:

To receive and note the above

For the Clerk to circulate the draft newsletter for checking/proof reading by Members

2022/109

Events Working Group

There had been no meetings of the Group and planning for Village in Bloom 2023 has not yet commenced. The Clerk reported she had been liaising with the Chairman over plans for Christmas Event and outlined these to the meeting. Expenditure of up to £800 was proposed for approval.

Resolved:

To hold the tree lighting ceremony on Friday 25th November beginning at 6.30 pm including the schools and Trinity Girls Brass Band. After the ceremony – families are invited to come into the hall for children’s refreshments and entertainment plus a visit from Santa.

To approve up to £800 expenditure on the above event

To note no planning had commenced for Village in Bloom 2023

2022/110

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES PAY AGREEMENT 2022-23

Members had received details of the above and a proposal for the back pay element of this to be paid from December (from April 2022)

Resolved: to receive and note all the details of the pay agreement and to agree for this to be paid from December (including back pay from April 2022).

2022/111

Miners Memorial – Cllr Shawcross updated on the memorial – the edgings need putting in place, Astley Museum has donated lines, Garswood Gates are to weld the tub to the track – the progress is slow and steady but also dependent on the weather and the volunteer time available. Cllr Murphy updated that the schools are to liaise with each other over the time capsules.

Resolved: to receive and note the above update

APPENDIX A

SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENTS

22113	British Gas - PH elec	56.04
22114	Smartest Energy - PH gas	123.02
22115	Masterprint - website annual hosting fee	120.00
22116	Electrical&Combustion: adjusting timer on water tanks	54.00
22117	FIS - CCTV maintenance charge	103.20
22118	HMRC PERIOD 7	181.38
22119	Sports Attendant - Nov salary	450.50
22120	Caretaker - Nov Salary	513.40
22121	Clerk - Nov ~Salary	1,219.05
22123	Trinity Girls Brass BAnd - tree lighting deposit	50.00
22124	O2 October	26.81
22125	BT – alarm line, broadband	151.02
22126	Clerk - exp. Reclaim: tables/paper/cableties/keys/wreaths/lights/credit note	572.70
22127	E-on PH electricity	110.08
22128	St Helens MBC - grounds lawn edgins	43.92
22129	Rates CH	636.00
22130	Rates PH	580.00
22131	Clerk exp reclaim: Queens flowers,trimmer, padlocks, new hose for Henry Hoover, green cable ties.	88.91