



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENELEY GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE PARISH HALL, MONTREY CRESCENT ON
THURSDAY 9th FEBRUARY 2023 AT 7.45 PM**

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

The Chairman shared sad news relating to a former Parish Councillor Mrs Sandra Cleary (the widow of former Parish & St Helens Councillor Ken Cleary who passed away in November 2020, during pandemic restrictions). Mrs Cleary's funeral is to be a small family affair. Councillors are hosting a small event at the Labour club in Billinge to honour their memory on Friday 17th February and residents were invited to attend.

2022/143	To pass as a true record the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 12th January 2023 Resolved: for the Chairman to sign the above Minutes as a true record
2022/144	Apologies for Absence Apologies had been received from Cllr Sue Houghton Resolved: To Note the above Apologies
2022/145	*Public Participation Among items raised this evening: new owners of the land to the rear of the sports and social club, Garswood Road were in attendance and reported generally on their plans to develop the land and asked for thoughts on this – they presented possibilities of 17 homes or possibly a care home. They were thanked for coming along to present initial ideas but Parish Council advised for them to perhaps gauge local response via social media. Once their planning application is submitted, Parish Council would be formally consulted and respond appropriately at that time. Query re rail station: Cllr Sue Murphy reported a recent meeting with our MP at the station; Cllr Stevenson was also in attendance. Our MP agreed re disabled access issue. Resident commented non-recorded footfall due to no machinery to record those with passes of any kind. Cllr Stevenson confirmed this is also an issue that was raised with the MP who reported that we will be pushing for new station plans at Carr Mill to be shelved with funding subsequently used for development at Garswood Station. Tom Nugent updated on the consumables for the defibrillator Seneley & Garswood Juniors FC have donated to Parish Council. He reported Oliver King Foundation have kindly supplied the consumables needed free of charge. He also updated on football club's defibrillator situation in general and their intention to replace them on a rolling programme. He also mentioned a defibrillator course also covering CPR to be held on 26 March – he offered consideration of joining this course for any members of the public wishing to attend to let him know and if places are available they will be offered. An external noticeboard at the Post Office on Hamilton Road was raised and the Clerk was requested to contact Manesh to discuss. Signage re parking on the grass in Darvel Avenue – sign has been damaged and removed. Cllr S Murphy commented the original sign was purchased by Councillor Improvement Fund but at the moment there is no chance of funding a replacement. for information only: issues raised under this item and any that require further discussion will appear on the Agenda of a future meeting

2022/164	<p>To Receive Declarations of Interest from Members There were no Declarations of interest Resolved: to note the above</p>
2022/147	<p>* Policing of the Area PC Beardsworth was unable to attend but provided the following report for January: Crime very low; Tfmv (number plates) 14/1/23 Elm Avenue; No ASB logs either Police surgery was done at the end of January by PCSO Jonathan Chard Mitchell – there was no update on this but nothing had been passed to PC Beardsworth’s attention for action Cllr S Murphy reported our PCSO is to be moved to another area – he is excellent and will be a great loss to our area. The Clerk was asked to write Chief Constable and Crime Commissioner to complain in relation to this. for information only: issues raised under this item and any that require further discussion will appear on the Agenda of a future meeting</p>
2022/148	<p>*Chairman, Councillors and Clerk’s Updates Clerk’s Update was all related to Agenda Items for information only: issues raised under this item and any that require further discussion will appear on the Agenda of a future meeting</p>
2022/149	<p>*Ward Councillor Update Cllr S Murphy had updated on the meeting at the Rail Station during Public Participation for information only: issues raised under this item and any that require further discussion will appear on the Agenda of a future meeting</p>
2022/150	<p>To Note the Decisions of the Planning Committee No applications or decisions had been received this month Resolved: to note the above</p>
2022/151	<p>To Pass Accounts for Payment Details of Accounts for Payment (see Appendix A) were circulated to Members in the Clerk’s Update totalling £5084.44 and £108.00 in S137 payments (First Aid cover for Tree Lighting) Resolved: To pass the above accounts for payment</p>
2022/152	<p>To Agree the Precept for 2023-24 and Payment Dates The Clerk had circulated documentation to Members to facilitate decision-making on the above including detail on the budget in general, current salaries details (NJC rates), expenses, hire charges proposed increase of 10%. . The Clerk explained to the meeting that extreme rises in utility costs and a proposed intention from St Helens Council to begin to charge Parish Council for the maintenance of the playing fields/pitches from April 2023, had placed significant pressure on budget planning. Liaison over the Leased Land Charges is ongoing with St Helens Council but at the current time there was no option other than to raise the Precept to cover the additional costs for 2023/24. This proposed rise (to £47.29) is a 31.8% rise on the current Precept of £35.88. A vote was taken – six Members approved the rise and there was one abstention. Approval for the rise of 10% on hire costs was proposed Approval of Precept payment dates of 13 April (50%) and 15 June (50%) was requested Resolved: To raise the Precept to £47.29 (based on this year’s 1381 per Band D Property) To raise hire charges by 10% To approve the above Precept payment dates</p>

2022/153	<p>Health & Wellbeing Working Group There have been no meetings of the group: the defibrillator was mentioned during Public Participation Resolved: to note the above</p>
2022/154	<p>Estates Working Group There has been one meeting to discuss the proposed Leased Land Charges and a meeting with St Helens officers is arranged for 15 February. The defibrillator cabinet will be fitted externally to the Community Hall next week and will be live by the end of next week and an update will be given on our website and Facebook page. An external socket will be fitted at the same time. Water Tanks: the Clerk reported speaking with the contractor who is confident the changing rooms can be served by one water tank. He confirmed there is no reason to expect the water tank being taken out of commission could not be brought back into service if needed but obviously this was not a guarantee. Cllr E Murphy reported re the kitchen – she is awaiting quotes and also awaiting update from the Clerk/St Helens Council re approval for the works. Parish Hall: Estates Working Group have been notified of the cracks in the internal wall and decision on whether to obtain surveyor or contractor advice on this is awaited by the Clerk. Resolved: To note the updates given To agree for one water tank to be taken out of commission at Community Hall (cost approx. £300). To have the cracks in the wall at Parish Hall surveyed.</p>
2022/155	<p>Public Transport Working Group The meeting at the Rail Station was updated under Public Participation Resolved: to note the above</p>
2022/156	<p>Communications Working Group The Group has consulted with each other since the last meeting. Further information from Local Life confirmed they do not distribute throughout our area so we will not be pursuing the option to take space in this publication rather than print/distribute our own. It was proposed that we do not in the future undertake the distribution of 2000+ copies and instead have a number of hard copies to leave in shops/surgery, etc. for those not online and request residents to take a copy for anyone they know who is housebound or alternatively let us know and we will post one out to them. Our website and Facebook would be the primary method of circulation. This would save approx.. £1100 per year. Members decision will be requested at the meeting. Updating of Facebook, website and noticeboards continues to be carried out by the Clerk Resolved: to agree to trying our website and social media as our primary method to circulate our newsletters with hard copies available for those not online.</p>
2022/157	<p>Events Working Group There had been no meetings of the group. Councillor Sue Murphy mentioned she is hoping to organise a carnival type event possibly in June and requested the Clerk to send her details of the Carnival Committee. Resolved: to note the above</p>
2022/158	<p>Miners Memorial Cllr Shawcross updated: the volunteer kindly undertaking the work will be back on site with the advent of longer daylight hours. Cllr Sue Murphy requested the Clerk to remind the schools about the time capsule. Resolved: to note the above</p>

APPENDIX A

22175	PWLB repayment - 10th Feb	1604.47
22176	BT - alarm line, wifi	174.36
22177	02 - mobile phone - Jan	26.81
22178	Water Plus	80.75
22179	SMART PENSION	490.5
22180	Water Plus	39.00
22181	UCNW - first aid cover for tree lighting	108.00
22182	Clerk - Feb Salary	1280.81
22183	Caretaker - Feb Salary	842.54
22184	Sports Attendance - Feb Salary	437.200
	TOTAL	<u>5084.44</u>