

Billinge Chapel End Parish Council Minutes of Council Meeting held on 17 February 2014

Present; Councillor B Bradbury (Chairman)
Councillors K Cleary, D Clift, H Craig, and D McDonnell.
T Kelly (Clerk to the Council)

Before the meeting, a resident asked a question about possible double yellow lines on Garswood Road/ Ashfield Crescent. This will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

No 115

Apologies

Apologies for absence were submitted and accepted on behalf of Councillors B Finnigan T McEvoy, P Murphy and P Roberts.

No 116

Declaration of interest from Members

No declarations were made.

No 117

Minutes of last meeting

Resolved: The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13 January 2014 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

No 118

Planning Applications

Resolved: The Clerk should inform St. Helens Council that the Council raises no objection to the following applications:

Reference	Address
P2014/0016	Former Beacon Colliery, Red Bank Road
P2014/0026	3 School Drive
P2014/0079	9 Danesbury Close
P2014/0081	18 Ashfield Crescent

No 119

Financial Matters - Accounts for Payment

Resolved: The Council authorise the payment of accounts numbered 108 to 120 for the sum of £2,943.17 (attached).

No 120

Budget and Precept 2014/15

The Council noted continuing concerns that St Helens Council has not passed on the parishes grant to parish councils. It was noted the Parish Council needs to monitor the level of balances it holds and, once utilised, may need to consider increasing the precept in future years.

Resolved: The Council approves budgeted net expenditure of £42,106 in 2014/15 (copy of budget attached).

Resolved: The Council precept the sum of £46,577 (£23.50 per council tax bill) on St Helens Council for the 2014/14 financial year, for expenditure to be incurred.

Resolved: Charges for the use of the Public Hall will remain unchanged in 2014/15.

Resolved: In making grants under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 to local groups, the Council will consider the size of the group requesting funding and consider awarding larger grants for bigger groups. It is also expected that groups will raise other funds themselves.

Resolved: The Council will establish two earmarked reserves at 31 March 2014 and transfer sums from general reserves:

- Election Reserve £3,600
- Orchard and allotments Reserve £20,000

All other funds will be held in a general reserve.

Resolved: £4,471 will be transferred to the Orchard and Allotments Reserve during 2014/15.

Resolved: The Council confirms that Clerk's salary will move to scale point 32 from 1 April 2014.

No 121

Zero hours contract

The Council notes the responses it has received from Dave Watts MP and Councillor Grunewald.

Resolved: The Clerk should write to Councillor Grunewald thanking him for his positive response and stressing the importance of this issue.

No 122

Clerk's report

Resolved: The Clerk's report for January is received and noted.

Progress was noted on the new one-way system and other traffic improvements. This will be monitored as the new arrangements are embedded.

Chairman

**BILLINGE CHAPEL END PARISH COUNCIL
BUDGETED EXPENDITURE 2014/15**

	Budget 2013/14	Year-end forecast 2013/14	Estimate 2014/15
Staff Costs			
Clerk	12,911	12,913	13,425
Clerk's superannuation	4,276	4,121	2,739
Cleaner	3,391	3,391	3,455
Employer's national insurance	762	474	493
Employee expenses	200	291	200
	21,539	21,190	20,312
Administration			
Stationery, postage	330	449	458
Audit	300	300	300
Subscriptions	548	629	642
Chairman's Allowance	600	600	600
Members expenses	87	20	80
Periodicals	108	108	110
Miscellaneous	704	432	441
Telephone and internet	700	461	320
Insurance	2,028	1,025	1,025
SLCC	149	147	150
Conferences/training	169	363	500
Elections	1,200	0	1,200
Photocopying	121	76	77
Publications (Beacon)	1,764	1,226	1,251
Information Technology	2,100	1,500	200
	10,909	7,336	7,354
Public hall			
Repairs and maintenance	1,449	1,586	1,618
Cleaning materials	70	101	103
Water	383	391	399
Electricity and gas	1,088	1,380	1,491
General improvements/major repairs	1,000	0	1,000
	3,990	3,458	4,610
Less public hall income	(700)	(1,108)	(1,700)
Other expenditure			
Dam Slacks - maintenance/Health and Safety	1,272	1,176	1,200
Millennium Gardens - maintenance/Health and Safety	1,500	1,504	570
Millennium Garden - PWLB loan	4,026	4,026	4,026
Barrier Baskets	1,653	1,653	1,675
Improvements in the parish	0	0	1,600
	8,451	8,359	9,071

	Budget 2013/14	Year-end forecast 2013/14	Estimate 2014/15
Section 137 expenditure			
Grants and other payments	2,216	1,252	2,000
School visits	380	350	350
School poster competition	210	210	210
	2,806	1,812	2,560
Other income	(260)	(179)	(100)
Net expenditure	46,735	40,866	42,106

PRECEPT 2014/15

The Parish Council will maintain the existing charge of £23.50 per property and will set a precept of £46,577.

CHARGES FOR THE PUBLIC HALL

Charges for hiring the Hall will be unchanged from April 2014.

	Public Hall – cost per session (up to 3 hours)
Community groups	No charge
Not-for-profit users	£20.00
Occasional users	£20.00
Commercial users	£48.00
Children's parties	£30.00

RESERVES

The Council will establish two earmarked reserves at 31 March 2014 and transfer sums from general reserves:

- Election Reserve £3,600
- Orchard and allotments Reserve £20,000

All other funds will be held in a general reserve.

The excess over budgeted expenditure (£4,471) in 2014/15 will be transferred to Orchard and allotments Reserve.

**PARISH COUNCIL OF BILLINGE CHAPEL END
ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

February 2014

No.	Name	Purpose	Amount
108	P. Kelly	Monthly Wage	274.26
109	T. Kelly	Monthly Wage	761.62
110	HMRC	Income tax and national insurance	289.67
111	Merseyside Pension Fund	Employer and employee contributions	230.24
112	British Telecom	Internet services (DD)	8.85
113	Contract Natural Gas Ltd	Gas supply – December (DD)	113.11
114	Arena Group Limited	Photocopying charges	18.05
115	Lancashire Association of Local Councils	Annual subscription to NALC and LALC	589.27
116	Cannon (OCS Group Ltd)	Sanitary disposal	83.45
117	United Utilities	Waste and wastewater	34.62
118	Contract Natural Gas Ltd	Gas supply – January (DD)	27.15
119	e-on	Electricity supply (DD)	128.88
120	St Helens Council	Barrier baskets	384.00
		TOTAL	£2,943.17