

Billinge Chapel End Parish Council Minutes of Council Meeting held on 16 June 2014

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

Before the meeting, residents asked questions about traffic signs and parking.

No 20

Apologies

Apologies for absence were submitted and accepted on behalf of Councillors B Finnigan, D Clift and P Roberts.

No 21

Declaration of interest from Members

Councillor Murphy declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 23 (St Aidan's C of E Community School) and will not take part in the decision on this item.

No 22

Minutes of last meeting

Resolved: The minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 19 May 2014 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

No 23

Planning Applications

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

Reference	Address
P2014/0415	St Aidan's C of E Community School
P2014/0428	4 Alder Avenue
P2014/0434	37 Beacon Road
P2014/0462	12 Brownheath Avenue

The Clerk will inform members of the reasons for felling the tree in application P2014/0448 (17B St Marys Avenue) and will then ask members for views on this matter.

No 24

Financial Matters

Resolved: The Council authorise the payment of accounts numbered 25 to 33 for the sum of £2,125.65 (attached). It was noted that account 30 is expenditure under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

No 25

Orchard and Allotments Project

Councillor McDonnell noted the Parish Council is waiting for the John Eddleston Trust to complete items 1 – 5 from the work schedule. It cannot implement its own tasks until the Trust has completed theirs,

Resolved: The Clerk should write to the secretary of the John Eddleston Trust asking when their tasks will be completed.

Resolved: In view of his regular attendance and involvement in the project, it was agreed that Tom Murphy should be awarded an allotment plot on merit.

No 26

Policies on Statutory Pension Disclosures

Resolved: Following changes in the Local Government Pension Scheme, the Council agrees the following policies on their Employers' Pension Discretions.

Existing policies for members, who left prior to April 2014

Regulation 30 - Early Payment of Pension

As no qualifying employee left employment prior to April 2014, the Council will not grant any application for early payment of deferred benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60.

The Council will not waive, on compassionate grounds, the actuarial reduction applied to deferred benefits paid early under Regulation 30(2).

Early Payment of Pension (Tier 3 ill health)

As no qualifying employee left employment prior to April 2014, the Council will not grant application for early payment of a suspended tier 3 ill health pension on or after age 55 and before age 60.

The Council will not waive, on compassionate grounds, the actuarial reduction applied to benefits paid early under Regulation 30A [B].

Compulsory employer discretions from April 2014

Funding of Additional Pension

As a general rule, the Council will not fund a member's additional pension contract. However, it will consider this on a case-by-case basis.

Awarding Additional Pension

As a general rule, the Council will not increase a member's benefits by awarding additional pension up to the maximum from April 2014. However, it will consider this on a case-by-case basis.

Flexible Retirement

As a general rule, the Council will not give consent for a member, aged 55 or more, who reduces their grade or hours of work (or both) to receive all or part of their LGPS benefits immediately even though they haven't left their employment. However, it will consider this on a case-by-case basis.

Waiving of Actuarial Reduction

As a general rule, the Council will not waive, in whole or in part, actuarial reduction on benefits which a member voluntarily draws before normal pension age. However, it will consider this on a case-by-case basis.

85 Year Rule

As a general rule, the Council will not allow an employee to "switch on" the 85 Year

Rule and voluntarily draw benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60. However, it will consider this on a case-by-case basis.

As a general rule, the Council will not waive, on compassionate grounds, the actuarial reduction applied to benefits from pre 01/04/2014 membership where the employer has "switched on" the 85 Year Rule for a member voluntarily drawing benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60. However, it will consider this on a case-by-case basis.

Optional employer discretions

Optional discretions will be established if and when required.

The Clerk will forward a copy of the agreed policies to Merseyside Pension Fund.

No 27

Internal Audit 2013/14

Resolved: The Council notes the results of the 2013/14 internal audit and that there are no concerns arising from this.

No 28

Purchase of "Local Councils Explained"

Resolved: The Council agreed to purchase the NALC publication "Local Councils Explained" at a cost of £49.99 plus postage. The Clerk will place an order for this.

No 29

Arrangements for Painting the Public Hall

Resolved: The Council agreed to ask Graham Morris to paint the Public Hall. Similar colours will be used, after consultation with Graham.

No 30

Temporary Location for Local Chemist

Councillor McDonnell reported that the Parks Manager has agreed the grassed area parallel to the car park can be used as a temporary location for the chemist. The Co-Op Estates Manager will now liaise with Planning and other Council departments.

No 31

Future of Local Post Office

Resolved: The Clerk will write to the Post Office requesting they keep the Parish Council informed of developments relating to the local post office.

No 32

Clerk's report

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

PARISH COUNCIL OF BILLINGE CHAPEL END
ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT
 June 2014

No.	Name	Purpose	Amount
25	P. Kelly	Monthly Wage	224.06
26	T. Kelly	Monthly Wage	792.78
27	HMRC	Income tax and national insurance	350.05
28	Merseyside Pension Fund	Employer and employee contributions	286.89
29	British Telecom	Internet services (DD)	12.00
30	David Ogden Coaches	Fire station visit for St Aidan's (Payment under s137 of Local Government Act 1972)	100.00
31	Society of Local Council Clerks	Regional Conference	41.10
32	St Helens Council	Trade waste service	277.23
33	Contract Natural Gas Ltd	Gas supply (DD)	41.54
		TOTAL	£2,125.65