

## **Billinge Chapel End Parish Council**

### **Minutes of Council Meeting held on 21 March 2022**

Present: Councillors D McDonnell (Chair) D Clift (Vice Chair)  
Councillors B Bradbury, H Craig, S Gardner, T McEvoy, P Peers  
H Broatch (Clerk to the Council and Responsible Financial Officer)

#### **PUBLIC SESSION**

*The Clerk/RFO advised that the Police were having a drop-in session at Billinge Police Station on Friday, 8 April 2022 from 1600 to 1900. She also advised that the Community Support Officer was about to complete his speed training and would soon be able to do speed checks and train volunteers to do speed checks.*

*17 Members of the Public were present. The majority had come to raise their concerns/make comments on progress regarding the flooding. One member of the public wanted to ask about the Library Service.*

*The Chair decided to share his reports for Agenda Items 4 and 5 with the public.*

Members of the Public left at 8.20pm

The Chairman called a recess to enable them to leave safely.

#### **No 103**

##### **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs S Murphy and S Rahman and reasons for absence approved.

#### **No 104**

##### **Declarations of Interest**

Noted: Cllr D McDonnell declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 6 as a Member of St Helens Borough Council's Planning Committee.

#### **No 105**

##### **Minutes of Last Meeting**

Resolved: The Minutes of the last meeting of the Council, held on 21 February 2022, were confirmed as a true record. The Minutes were signed by the Chair.

## **No 106**

### **Flooding**

Noted: The Chair's Report. He advised that meetings had been held between representatives of Nugent School and affected local residents. The Chair advised that Nugent House School were now organising an open meeting about the matter. Any interested party would be able to attend.

The Chair recognised that it was becoming increasingly clear that a number of different organisations were/could be involved. He had, therefore, asked the Principal Flooding Engineer for St Helens Borough Council to investigate the matter and to report back to him.

The Clerk/RFO was asked to follow up the Parish Council's letter to the MP.

## **No 107**

### **Library Service**

Noted: St Helens Borough Council Library Service had explored options with representatives of the Parish Council for the future of a library service in Billinge. The Library Service would come back to the Parish Council after they had reported to St Helens Borough Council in June 2022. The additional complication in Billinge was the poor state of the library building. It had been clearly re-stated to the Officers from the Library Service that Billinge Parish Council were committed to ensuring that Billinge continued to have a library service.

Resolved: The Clerk/RFO (in consultation with the Chair) be asked to explore options with architects for the potential for/implications of building a library on-site at The Public Hall and the experience elsewhere of volunteer staffed libraries and report back.

## **No 108**

### **Planning**

Resolved:

To submit no observations on the following applications-

P/2022/0134/HHFP

P/2022/0135/HHFP

P/2022/0158/HHFP

P/2022/0161/HHFP

P/2022/0173/HHFP

P/2022/0175/HHFP

**No 109****Financial Matters**

1. Noted that Employers and Trade Unions had reached an Agreement for 2021/22 on pay increase for Clerks.
2. Resolved to pay the accounts payable in March 2022 (numbers 110 – 124 totalling £7196.10)
3. Noted that the Clerk had identified a photographer to take photos of new Council and Cllr S Murphy (in her capacity as Chair in 2020/21) on 16 May 2022 at a cost of £70.00 plus any printing at cost.

**No 110****Clerks Report**

Noted the Report.

The meeting closed at 9pm.