



# Billinge Chapel End Parish Council

The Public Hall, 216 Main Street, Billinge WN5 7PE

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14 March 2023

**Members are summoned to attend a Parish Council Meeting of the Billinge Chapel End Parish Council, on Monday 20 March 2023 at 7.30pm.**

**This will be held in The Public Hall, 216 Main Street, Billinge WN5 7PE.**

Hazel Broatch

Clerk to the Council

## **PUBLIC SESSION**

1. Statement (if any) from Merseyside Police
2. Statements (if any) from Borough Councillors Betts, Murphy and Peers
3. The public may speak of any matters of concern, but the Council may not make any lawful decision during the public session. The public cannot take part at any other time in the meeting.

***Please note that Council Meetings are filmed.***

***Please note that The Clerk is publishing any reports attached on the website along with Agenda unless they are of an exempt nature (Local Government Act 1972).***

## **AGENDA**

1. **To receive** any apologies for absence and approve reasons for absence.
2. **To note** that Parish Councillor A Armstrong has advised the Chair that she has resigned as a Parish Councillor. The Clerk/RFO has advised St Helens Council that there is a

casual vacancy on the Parish Council. She will start the process (as detailed in the Parish Council's Policy on Co-option) as soon as St Helens Council confirms that she can.

3. **To receive** any declarations of interests from Members.
4. **To approve** the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 February 2023 (attached) as correct record.  
**To note** the verbal report from the Clerk on progress with the Action Log.
5. **To resolve** whether, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 members of the public and press be excluded whilst Agenda Items 16 and 17 are discussed (likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Para 1 and 2 of Schedule 12A of the Act).
6. **To note** that a member of the public has raised concerns about crossing near the top of Main Street. He is visually impaired. When he goes to the doctors surgery and pharmacy (for example) he finds crossing Main Street can be very dangerous because of the volume and sometimes speed of traffic.

**To resolve** what action, if any, the Parish Council can take. The member of the public understands that Highways is a St Helens Borough Council responsibility but would welcome any help the Parish Council could offer.

## 7. Flooding

**To note** update from The Chair.

## 8. Carr Mill Road Car Parking

**To note** update from The Chair.

## 9. Community Led Library Service

**To note** a further meeting of community volunteers was held on Monday 13 March 2023. The sub-group of volunteers who had been looking into locally run community led library services reported on their findings. It was agreed the next step was to go back to the Eddleston Trust and advise them that Book Cycle (a registered Charity) had been asked to provide a book service run by community volunteers. They have experience of doing this in Wigan; elsewhere in UK; and abroad. Ideally the group would want Book Cycle to do this in the Eddleston Centre. The Clerk was asked to make the contact initially with the Eddleston

Trust with the aim that Book Cycle would then take over and be responsible for any lease agreement etc.

## **10. Events**

**10.1 To note** update from the Clerk about the Billinge Walking Day and **resolve** next steps.

**10.2 To note** update from Cllr Fiona Gill and Cllr Frank Gill on idea for setting up a Big Help Out Day on 8 May 2023 in celebration of Kings Coronation and **to resolve** next steps.

**11. Review of Policies for 2023/24 - to note** update from Cllrs Gardner and Barnes.

## **12. Appointments**

**12.1 To note** Cllr C Betts has advised the Clerk that he wishes to resign as representative of the Parish Council on The Eddleston Trust. **To resolve** an appointment to replace Cllr C Betts on The Eddleston Trust.

**12.2 To note** that Cllr C Betts has advised that he would like to join Cllr S Murphy on the Food Bank/Pantry Working Group and **to resolve** whether to approve this appointment.

## **13. Dam Slacks Play Area**

**13.1 To note** that the repairs to the swing frame are due to start on 3 April 2023 and that the Clerk has got the swing seats back from St Helens Council. To note that repairing the swing frame has saved around 80% on the cost quoted for replacing the swing frame.

**13.2 To note** that the play area inspectors have advised that the safety matting under the slide needs to be repaired and the Clerk has asked the company who are doing the repairs for the swing frame (and who installed the equipment originally) for a quote and will report to the meeting. The aim is for this work to be done when they are on-site doing the swing frame repairs.

**13.3 To note** that the play area inspectors have also advised that the stone wall at the entrance to the play area is loose and the Clerk is seeking a quote for repairs and will report progress to the meeting.

## **14. Millennium Garden**

**To resolve** to thank specialist contractor who cleaned the granite bench free of charge and to thank Cllr C Betts for organising the works in consultation with the Clerk/RFO. Graffiti on the bench prompted the need for this work.

## **15. Financial Matters**

**To resolve** whether to authorise the payments listed on the attached Schedule of Payments for March 2023 (attached VN 125-138 totalling £5,580.48).

**Members of the Public and Press may be asked to leave the meeting (see Agenda item 4 above) for the following agenda items. Please notes that reports are attached For Members Only.**

## **16. Clerk/RFO Appraisal 2023**

**To resolve** whether to approve the attached appraisal (For Members Only) undertaken by the Chair (in consultation with Parish Councillors).

## **17. Award of Contracts**

**17.1 To note** attached report (For Members Only) on responses to invitation to quote for grounds maintenance works in 2023/24 at The Millennium Garden and Dam Slacks Play Area and **to resolve** whether to approve the Clerk/RFOs recommendation.

**17.2 To note** attached report (For Members Only) on responses to invitation to quote for Hall Repairs and Maintenance Works. Quotes are still coming in so the Clerk/RFO will continue to update Members up to the meeting. **To resolve** who to appoint to do the works detailed in the attached report.