



## Billinge Chapel End Parish Council

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11 July 2023

**Members are summoned to attend a Parish Council Meeting of the Billinge Chapel End Parish Council, on Monday 17 July 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**

4. **To receive** any apologies for absence and approve reasons for absence.
5. **To receive** any declarations of interests from Members.

**6. To approve** the Minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2023 (attached) as correct record.

**To note** the verbal report from the Clerk on progress with the Action Log.

## **7. Flooding 8 July 2023**

**To note** that properties on Brownheath Avenue were impacted in their gardens by flooding on 8 July 2023 (the water did not enter any homes).

**To resolve** whether to write to St Helens Council (copying in the Borough Councillors) on behalf of the local residents affected and asking them to fulfil their responsibilities as the Lead Local Flood Authority. The Lead Local Flood Authority is responsible for managing the risk of flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses and for leading on community recovery.

**To resolve** that a Working Group (including representatives of at-risk households, the Parish Council, and the Borough Council) be set up to look at how to improve flood resilience at individual homes and any other flood related matters. The representatives from the Parish and the Borough would report back to their Councils as appropriate. If agreed, the Clerk would seek proposals for representatives and set up the first Working Group Meeting as soon as possible.

## **8. Community Improvements 2023/24**

**8.1 To note** that a poster listing the community improvement aims and objectives for 2023/24 agreed at the last meeting is being displayed on noticeboards and the website.

### **8.2 Dam Slacks**

**To note** that a Working Group has been set up to identify a range of options and assess them for further development of the land currently not used at Dam Slacks for the benefit of the community. The Group will report back to the Parish Council.

### **8.3 Flagpole**

**To note** that there has been a request that the Parish Council consider installing a flagpole in the piece of ground to the right of the gates (as you look from The Hall towards Main Street). The Clerk has been advised that planning permission would be required if the Parish Council wanted to fly flags other than the Union Jack.

**To note** indicative costings for flagpole of between £150-200; flags £20 each; and planning fee of £134 plus any cost incurred in producing associated paperwork.

**To note** that arrangements would need to be put in place so that the Parish Council could respond in a timely way to any times when it needed to lower the flag etc.

**To resolve** whether the Parish Council wants to support this proposal and if so, does it want to fly flags other than The Union Jack. The Clerk will bring a report to next meeting on actual costs and budget implications.

#### **8.4 Planters on Stone Walls in Front of Bottom Car Park at The Public Hall**

**To note** that Billinge in Bloom has requested that the Parish Council give them permission to install planters on top of the stone walls at the front of The Public Hall. Billinge in Bloom would provide, plant and maintain the planters.

**To resolve** to approve subject to Billinge in Bloom checking if they need approval from St Helens Council as the wall is adjacent to the pavement; next to a vehicle access area; and on the current exit route in the event of a fire at The Public Hall and if they do, then providing evidence of approval to the Parish Council and if not, confirming that approval is not required.

#### **8.5 Community Police Officer**

**To note** that a Member of the Public has asked if the Parish Council could look into why the presence of the Community Police Officer in the village has reduced significantly over the past months and **to resolve** whether to take any further action.

### **9. Implications for the Parish Council of Withdrawal of St Helens Council Community Improvement Fund (CIF) 2023/24**

**To note** attached report and **to resolve** next steps.

### **10. Parish Council Surgeries**

**To note** that no members of the public came to the Surgery held on Monday 26 June.

**To resolve** whether to continue with the Surgeries planned for 29<sup>th</sup> July, 26<sup>th</sup> August and 30<sup>th</sup> September or not.

### **11. Planning**

#### **11.1 Neighbourhood Planning**

**To note** the verbal report from Parish Councillor M Webster (the slides etc have already been circulated to all Parish Councillors) and **to resolve** whether to take any further action.

#### **11.2 Planning Application**

To be advised by the Planning Advisory Group and **to resolve** whether to submit any observations on the following application:

P/2023/0402/FUL Land at Sefton Fold Gardens, Billinge

Erection of 1 No Bedroom Bungalow with associated garden, parking, means of enclosure and landscaping.

#### **11.3 Planning Decision**

**To note** P/2023/0291/HHFP 62 Royden Road Granted Approval

### **12. Financial Matters**

**12.1 To resolve** whether to authorise the payments listed on the attached Schedule of Payments VN35-45 totalling £4,927.26 for July 23 and VN46-48 totalling £1944.68 for August 23.

**To note** that salary payments for August 2023 are included as the Parish Council does not meet in August. These payments will be authorised for payment on 21 August 2023.

**12.2 To note** the budget monitoring report for the first quarter (April-June 2023).

**12.3 To note** that Waterplus have advised why the payment (that was authorised by the Parish Council as VN3 for £234.40 on 17 April 2023) has not been taken by Direct Debit. As of 27/6/23 Waterplus advise that the account is in credit and therefore the invoice dated 29/3/23 was issued in error. This is why they have not actioned the Direct Debit. The Clerk/RFO will credit this payment on the Receipt and Payments Spreadsheet and keep copies of the supporting documents on file.

### **13. Health and Safety**

**13.1 To note** the Clerk is still trying to get definitive expert guidance on the best route (for those evacuating the building in the event of a fire) to get to the assembly point in the Millennium Garden. In the meantime, she has been assured by the Parish Council's Health and Safety Advisor, that the existing route is satisfactory.

**13.2 To resolve** that the Chair sign the attached Statement of Intent as advised in the Health and Safety Report 2022/23 and **to note** that the majority of the actions following the Workplace Safety Inspection have now been completed. The Clerk will bring a further report on the remaining matters as soon as possible.