**Billinge Chapel End Parish Council**

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

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**Minutes of the Billinge Chapel End Parish Council full council meeting**

**on Monday 17th March 2025 at 7.30pm**

**at The Public Hall, 216 Main Street, Billinge, WN5 7PE.**

**Present:** Cllr F Gill (Chair), Cllr J Barnes (Vice Chair), Cllr B Bates, Cllr B Bradbury, Cllr C Betts, Cllr F Gill, Cllr S Gardner Cllr M Webster.

Gill Flynn – Clerk

2 members of the public.

Cllr P Peers (St Helen’s Borough Councillor)

**31/25 Apologies.**

None.

**32/25 Declarations of interest and dispensations.**

None.

**33/25 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 17th February 2025.**

It was resolved that the minutes be approved and signed by the chair.

Proposed by Cllr Webster.

**34/25 Public participation.**

A resident present at the meeting, questioned when a library service / book cycle would be available in Billinge.

The book box at Rainford Road playpark has been vandalised and could be moved to another site.

The flag paving on Rainford Road is uneven and needs maintenance – St Helen’s BC to be contacted.

Cllr Peers reported that following Cllr Betts email to St Helen’s Borough Council, there will be no funding for a library for Billinge from the sale of the old library site. There are grants that can be applied for through the Community Library Fund and St Helen’s Planning Department for Section 106 monies.

Cllr Peers will be creating a small community group to be able to look at issues that effect Billinge.

Cllr Bates expressed his disappointment that there would be no funding for a new library, when the parish council had been told from St Helen’s Borough Council that there would be monies available.

Cllr Betts reported that he will keep pushing for funds from the sale of the library and will be meeting with a St Helen’s Borough Council representative to discuss this. An open letter from the parish council should be sent regarding facilities being taken away from the ward and not reinstated.

A resident present at the meeting asked for an update on The Stork pub. The roof is to be repaired to help make the building waterproof. The update is the building will not be knocked down but cannot be registered with Historic England.

**35/25 To consider received planning applications and reports.**

P/2025/0045/HHFP Billinge And Seneley Green 37 Birchley Road, Billinge. Demolition of existing garden room and erection of detached garage/garden room.

The parish council has no observations.

**36/25 Finance.**

Expenditure

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| EDF | Electric | £32.80 | BACS |
| Bibby Hygiene | Waste removal | £289.40 | DD |
| CFS Systems | Fire Logbook | £12.48 | BACS |
| BT | Phone charges | £20.96 | DD |
| EDF | Gas | £190.45 | DD |
| HMRC | PAYE and NI | £452.66 | BACS |

It was resolved that the payments be made.

**37/25 To consider the reports from the parish council representatives on committees, working groups and outside bodies.**

Resident’s Association report – St Helen’s BC events representatives attended the association’s meeting and explained that any event with under 1,000 attendees needs an application submitting 3 months before the event and for over 1,000 attendees 9 months is required. The association have asked for the parish council to order and pay for the toilets for the VE celebrations. This will be placed on the April agenda for resolution.

The parish council resolved that until the Public Hall has material changes a fire risk assessment is not needed at this time.

**38/25 To consider the update on the Public Hall extension.**

The clerk presented a draft ‘reading room’ design to the full council to consider. Three quotes are required from the specification to fulfil the financial regulations. The clerk will ask two more contractors to quote on the extension. Planning permission will be needed as the Public Hall does not have permitted development.

It was resolved that the rotten kitchen window in the Public Hall be replaced at a cost of £560.

**39/25 To consider the update of the website and email accounts.**

It was resolved to transfer the website and email accounts to EasyWebsite hosts. This will also make a saving of £100 per annum on the current host fees.

**40/25 To consider and adopt the grant awarding policy and the grant application form.**

It was resolved to adopt the policy and application form.

**41/25 To consider the update on the Billinge Public Hall gates, lights and CCTV.**

It was resolved to not remove the gates for Public Hall security. The gates are not inviting to users and visitors, the clerk will get costs for flower baskets to be attached to the gates and planted. CCTV will not be needed.

Cllr Betts reported that an outside light has been donated and he can get the light fitted for no charge from a certified / registered electrician.

**42/25 Report and correspondence (information only).**

None.

**43/25 Date and time of the next meetings.**

Monday 14th April 2025 at 7.30pm.

Monday 19th May 2025 at 7.30pm.

Monday 16th June 2025 at 7.30pm.

Monday 21st July 2025 at 7.30pm.

Monday 15th September at 7.30pm.

Monday 20th October at 7.30pm.

Monday 17th November at 7.30pm.

Monday 15th December at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm