**Billinge Chapel End Parish Council**

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

**on Monday 20th January 2025 at 7.30pm**

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

**Present:** Cllr F Gill (Chair), Cllr B Bates, Cllr B Bradbury, Cllr S Gardner, Cllr Frank Gill, Cllr M Webster

Gill Flynn – Clerk

One member of the public.

**1/25 Apologies.**

Cllr C Betts, Cllr J Barnes (Vice Chair) – reasons not provided.

**2/25 Declarations of interest and dispensations.**

None.

**3/25 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 16th December 2024.**

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

**4/25 Public Participation.**

The path from London Fields to Carr Mill Road is being used by horseriders. The clerk will check with PROW regarding the status of the path as a footpath or a bridleway and contact the stables.

**5/25 To consider received planning applications and reports.**

P/2024/0596/FUL Billinge and Seneley Green Ward Land at Smock Lane St Helens.

Proposed residential development of 17 dwellinghouses with associated landscaping and access from Smock Lane following removal of bowling green and allotments.

The parish council has no observations.

P/2024/0607/FUL Billinge And Seneley Green Ward Mount Pleasant Farm Wigan Road Billinge St Helens WN5 7XR. Creation of an outdoor menage for private use only. Change of use to agricultural buildings to equestrian use. External alterations to agricultural building (barn 1). Erection of new building (barn 2), following the demolition of existing building. Erection of dry store, new entrance.

The parish council has no observations.

**6/25 Finance.**

Expenditure

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 95 | C Betts | Key cutting reimbursement | £42.80 | BACS |
| 96 | BT | Invoice | £153.28 | DD |
| 97 | Local Life | January advert | £498.00 | BACS |
| 98 | EDF | Electricity Invoice | £31.84 | DD |
| 99 | EDF | Gas Invoice | £242.75 | DD |

It was resolved that the payments be made.

**7/25 To consider the reports from the parish council representatives on committees, working groups and outside bodies.**

The Resident’s Association has provided an explanation of its constitution and a diary of events for 2025.

The Book Cycle Group have been in contact with the Eddleston Charity and if they could use its facilities, they would donate a third of their profits to the charity.

**8/25 To consider and approve the proposals from the Estimates Committee for the budget and precept setting for 2025/2026.**

It was resolved that the precept be set at £57,557.72 (Band D £28.27 5% increase).

**9/25 To consider the proposal and costings of installing new outside lights on Billinge Public Hall.**

Item to be deferred to next meeting.

**10/25 To consider the approach to gaining better communication with the police and request regular information and reports.**

The clerk has contacted Seneley Green Parish Council to get PC Yvette Beardworth’s contact email but has not had a response. The clerk will call Merseyside Police and get the contact details and ask if the police can attend 3 meetings a year for updates and reports.

**11/25 To consider the update on the Dam Slack play area and the proposal of an orchard.**

The clerk will meet Sutcliffe Play at Dam Slacks to get a draft design and costings for the next meeting.

**12/25 To consider the purchase of new D locks for the Public Hall gates.**

It was resolved that one lock be purchased up to a cost of £30.00.

**13/25 To consider the proposal of a repair café for the community.**

The parish council do not wish to proceed with setting up a repair café due to the potential liability issues. The council are happy for someone to run the café and hire the hall or hold repair training workshops for the community.

**14/25 Report and correspondence (information only).**

Cllr Murphy resignation from the parish council – a note of thanks for services to the council and the community will be sent by the clerk on behalf of the parish council.

**15/25 Dates and time of the next meetings.**

Monday 17th February 2025 at 7.30pm.

Monday 17th March 2025 at 7.30pm.

Monday 14th April 2025 at 7.30pm.

Monday 19th May 2025 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm