

HIGHTOWN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 19TH SEPTEMBER 2016

Before the meeting began, there were two presentations.

1. **Inspector Atherton (Merseyside Police) introduced Sergeant Neil Blanchard, and gave an update on policing in the area. Crime is fairly low; most being committed by people from other areas. A new Home Watch is being formed in Hightown. Beachsafe has now finished after the summer. Most burglaries occur when windows are left open, residents to be more vigilant. Surgeries are not well attended. Major changes will be happening from January 2017. Patrol officers will come from Copy Lane. Inspector Atherton is leaving the Formby Area. The new inspector will be Graham Fisher. A resident stated that bicycles are being ridden on the cycle path without lights or bells. Can the police do something about this. Not at present but it will be looked into.**

2. **Ellis Hall-Lyon, the pharmacist, gave a talk on the surgery. He owns the building, but has had a lot of problems with rent payments. Ellis has offered the NHS a 10-year lease but has not had a reply at present. It is very difficult to stabilize the situation for patients. The Parish Council must make a strong case for the surgery. Bill Esterson MP also supports Hightown Surgery and has written to HHS England.**

MAIN MEETING

19 Attendance

Cllr. K. Brennan (Chairman), Cllrs. M. Kennan, E. Triggs, Mrs. J. Croasdell (Clerk), 15 members of the public. Three prospective new Councillors: C. Farquhar, J. Longfellow and M. Jarrett

20 Apologies

Cllr. Drake

21 Members and Officers Declarations of Interest

None

22 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Agreed except for item 10. Cllr. Kennan was not to arrange for letter to be sent re footbridge, as stated in the minutes.

The bridge is owned by Sefton, and pressure should be kept up by the Parish Council to make sure that repairs are carried out.

23 Matters of Report from the Minutes

Covered by No. 4.

24 Matters of Report from Committees attended by Councillors

Cllr. Brennan had attended the Area Committee, but Hightown was not on the Agenda.

The Range has an Open Day on 1st October 2016

25 Open Forum.

Cllr. Brennan thanked Cllrs. Warren and Asbury for their hard work over the past few years. He also thanked Malcolm Walker and the volunteers for all the work they have done.

Remembrance Day is to be arranged by Cllr. Brennan.

Malcolm Walker reported that it would cost about £800 to upgrade the electricity points for loudspeakers on the roundabout.

The question was also asked about changing the day and times of the PC meetings. No decision was made.

New houses will be built on land adjacent to Elmcroft Lane and Sandy Lane, though no timescales are available at this time. Cllr. Brennan mentioned that the new builds should now be looked at as an opportunity to develop new infrastructure around the village, and as a mean to promote support for retaining the surgery. It was thought that a suggestion box could be put in the newsagents, chemist or post office for members of the community to use who were unable to attend the Parish Council Meetings. The Parish Council Website needs to be updated.

The trees in Moss Lane are dangerous and need cutting down. They are owned by the farmers, but Sefton Council are to be contacted.

The bench in memory of Michael Williams is now in place.

The hole in Thornbeck Avenue has not been filled in, but Cllr. Brennan has been assured that it will be looked at.

The Alt Centre was mentioned and Cllr. Brennan will try and find out what is happening regarding the future use of the building.

The question of why the flower beds had been filled in on the roundabout was asked, but with only three people to maintain this it was necessary. The volunteers meet at the War Memorial roundabout, weather permitting, on the first Thursday of every month at 9.00am. Any volunteers who wish to help will be most welcome.

26 Planning Applications

4 Thistledown Drive – Erection of two storey house

10 Sandhills – Extension

Land to rear of 24 Blundell Road – Erection of detached house

10 Sandhills – Extension

144 Blundell Grove – Extension

1 Emerson Close – Extension

1 Moorhouses – Extension

27 Correspondence

Local Plan – Noted

Santander – Reduction of Interest – Noted

Request for Funding from Scout Group – Noted

Payments to Sefton to be made by BACS if possible – Noted

Clerks and Councils Direct Magazines – to Councillors

28 Finance

A	Current Account	4941.00
	Deposit Account	<u>3233.45</u>
		<u>8174.45</u>

B	Bills for Payment	
	J. Croasdell – Salary	500.00

29 Matters of Further Report

The Clerk was asked to telephone Sefton re grass cutting on the roundabout.

30 Date of Next Meeting

Monday 21st November 2016, 7.45 pm in St. Stevens Hall