

HIGHTOWN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 21ST SEPTEMBER 2015

Before the meeting Sergeant Allum (Merseyside Police) gave an update of policing in the area. He states that there is a positive picture for Hightown with a very small number of crimes in Hightown.

Crime prevention advice will be offered re the problem with vandalism at the Boatyard. There has been a decrease in anti-social behavior. One pedal bike theft and one handbag theft had been reported. Security of houses and cars is paramount - residents should make sure these are locked.

There will still be a police presence in the village, but as crime is low in the area, this has been scaled down slightly. The current objective is bonfire night, which needs a number of police to be available.

A resident asked how the police will monitor the new 20mph speed limit, which is being introduced. Sgt. Allum stated that educating people to keep to the limit is the main thought at present. Speed cameras are not an option at the moment.

MAIN AGENDA

27. Attendance
Cllrs. Warren (Chairman), Walker (Vice Chairman), Asbury, Triggs, Brennan and Kennan.
Sgt. Allum, J. Croasdell (Clerk), several members of the public
28. Apologies
Sefton Cllrs. McGinnity, Jones and Carragher, Cllr. J. Drake
29. Members and Officers Declarations of Interest
None
30. Remembrance Day
The services will be attended by members of the Parish Council. The residents who work on the Memorial were thanked.
31. Solar Farm
Cllr. Asbury had spoken with to directors of Hive Energy. If their application is overturned, they will appeal, and re-submit the original application. Cllr. Warren had spoken with Margaret Carney, who stated that if an appeal was made, it would not be challenged.

Cllr. Warren also stated that 106 money is being used for road maintenance.

32. Fracking

Cllr. Warren would like to find out the pros and cons before deciding which avenue the Parish Council should take on this.

33. 20mph speed limit

This was discussed with Sgt. Allum before the main meeting.

34. Christmas Arrangements

The cost last year of tree, lights, electricity was £1471.25. Parish council contributed £500, with the rest coming from Capital Priorities Fund. Sefton Cllr. John J. Kelly agreed that Hightown should make their own arrangements this year.

The options re the tree are as follows:

1. Buy a living tree and plant on village Green, which would mean digging a large hole and possibly sinking a power cable underground to reach the power point.
2. Buy a living tree and put on village green where it has always been before. The power point is only 6 ft. away.

LED lights will be purchased, the best voltage to be decided on. Tree should cost in the region of £100. Alternative power supply could come from one of the shops in the area. A resident thought that a live tree would kill the flowers on the green, and thought that a new tree each year was the best solution.

Exact place for tree has not yet been decided.

Date for lights switch on has not yet been decided, but 3rd December is the target.

35. Open Forum

A resident asked about the coastline - Cllr. Warren will ask Graham Lynbery to come to The next meeting to give an update.

Questions sent in by residents.

1. See above.
2. See above 7
3. Microlights:
Cllr. Warren will talk to Gordon Black at the range to see if he can exert influence on these flights
4. Parking
Cllr. Asbury has tried for residents parking, but Sefton has stated that this is too expensive. A car park near to the station is the answer. Merseytravel has been contacted and it is hoped that this will eventually be resolved.
Merseytravel will tidy up the area under the pedestrian bridge.

The question of green bins was discussed. These are only collected every three weeks, which is not acceptable, especially in the summer months. The Parish Council will look into this problem.

36. Minutes of Previous Meeting
Having previously been circulated, these were agreed.
37. Matters of Report from the Minutes
None
38. Matters of Report from Committees attended by Councillors
Cllrs. Warren and Asbury had attended the 10 Parishes meeting.
SSP has had their right to practice withdrawn from February 2016.
Formby surgeries have shown an interest in Hightown, but a clause in the tender sent out would have to be withdrawn, as it would mean the “unfair dismissals” would have to be covered by incoming surgeries.
39. Planning Applications
7 North Dunes - Erection of a single storey extension to side and rear of property.
40. Correspondence
Clerks and Councils Direct Magazine
DBO Notice re Accounts
41. Finances
- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| A | Balances | Current Account | 3850.98 |
| | | Deposit Account | <u>3233.45</u> |
| | | | <u>7084.43</u> |
| B | Bills for Payment | | |
| | J. Croasdell - Salary | | 500.00 |
| | BDO | | 36.00 |
42. Matters of Further Report
A Highways Licence - permit to work has to be obtained to continue working in the village. Clerk to deal with this.
43. Date of Next Meeting - Monday 19th October at 7.45pm