

HIGHTOWN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 18TH JANUARY 2016

64. Attendance
Cllrs. D. Warren (Chairman), T. Asbury, E. Triggs, M. Kennan, J. Croasdell (Clerk)
4 members of the public
65. Apologies
Cllrs. P. Walker, K. Brennan, J, Drake
66. Members and Officers Declarations of Interest
None
67. Minutes of Previous Meeting
Having previously been circulated, these were agreed
68. Matters of Report from the Minutes
None
69. Matters of Report from Committees attended by Councillors
Cllr. Warren reported on the Area Committee.
The main topic was Sefton's strategy for alternatives to the present system. A member of their legal department would be consulting with the public, local organisations and ward councillors. It was pointed out that the other groups that must be included, were the parish/ton councils, as they were elected to represent the views of over 30% of Sefton's electorate.
He also reported on the Ten Parishes meeting, where the Village Surgery was discussed. The Local Plan was also discussed, with special interest shown re Elmcroft Lane Development. A resident asked if the Pump House at Crossens would be closed. Cllr. Warren denied this. The more likely outcome was their aim to transfer the costs of the smaller pumping units to the adjacent land owners. Cllr. Asbury asked if it became too expensive to maintain the Chutchtown Pump House, would the area return to flood plains. Graham Lymbery to be asked the question.
70. Local Plan Update
It is expected that the Plan will be available to the public in August. A meeting with the government inspector is planned within days.
71. Wind Farm, Fracking, Solar Farm and Solar Panels on Range
Objections have been made to Sefton Council re The Wind Farm. This is being led by Ince Blundell.

Cllr. Karl Brennan has completed a Report on Fracking. This will be used as a basis for consideration of this topic at the Ten Parishes Meeting.

There is no further information on the Solar Farm, but the RFCA will ask the ward councillors to their opening (Col. Black)

72. 20 Mile per Hour Speed Limit

Posts for the signs have been erected in the areas designated to become 20 miles per hour. Bridge Road does not have any posts erected at present. The Parish Council is not happy with the sites for the speed limit, and thinks that all of Hightown should be restricted.

73. Future Christmas Arrangements

No arrangements for this year have yet been made. It is thought that a living tree might be purchased. Sefton is to contribute £330.00 to the new power supply to the Village green. The old system was condemned by the new contractor. Thanks were given to all residents who had helped during the festivities, and for the donations made of £193.43. Beryl Howard also thanked the Parish Council for their contributions.

74. Surgery

A meeting is to take place on Wednesday 20th January 2016 in the church Hall. Representatives from the Village Surgery in Formby will be present. The present arrangements will end on 28th February 2016.

75. War Memorial Maintenance

Malcolm Walker advised the Parish Council that the War Memorial should be registered with The War Memorials Trust. A grant towards maintenance could be available.

76. Open Forum

A resident mentioned the trains not stopping at Hightown on Boxing Day. It is hoped that this will be changed in 2016. Thanks were given to the resident who ran a service between Hightown and Formby.

77. Planning Applications

44 Riverside - single storey extension.

78. Correspondence

78.1 Clerks & Councils Direct Magazine

78.2 Sefton Council re Budget and Precept.

The Parish Council will ask for a 3% increase in the Precept.

79. Finances

A	Balances	Current Account	2311.67
		Deposit Account	<u>3233.45</u>
			<u>5545.12</u>
B	Payments to be advised		

80. Matters of Further Report

It was suggested that a bench be purchased for the village green in memory of Michael Williams. This is to be discussed at the next meeting, along with the problem of the bench which has been destroyed on the banks of the river.
It was agreed to Opt Out of the new audit system from 2017.

81. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 21st March 2016 in St. Stephens Church Hall at 7.45.