

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY, 9 DECEMBER 2014, at 7.30 pm in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, Kiln Lane, Eccleston**

PRESENT: Cllr Sims (Chair)  
Cllrs Almond, Ashcroft, Duncan, Gray-Williams and Skepper  
Janet Anderson (Clerk)  
One Resident

**APOLOGIES**

14.87 Cllrs Broughton, Haw, C Pearl, G Pearl, Maloney and Watmough

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

14.88 None declared.

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD**

14.89 **Resolved that the Minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.**

**MATTERS ARISING**

14.90 There were no matters arising.

**RESIDENTS' ISSUES**

14.91 A resident asked if there had been any update on the sale of Eccleston Mere. Cllr Sims confirmed that it had been sold along with Mill Dam. Cllr Sims reported that she had met with the owners who confirmed they would set up a working group to liaise with the users of the Mere in order to enhance the provision and maximise usage. They reported they would meet with anglers and the sailing club after Christmas.

Cllr Sims added that as the area was green belt any changes they intended to make would have to have planning permission.

The resident also raised the issue of crossing Millbrook Lane and enquired if a crossing could be installed. Cllr Sims and Cllr Almond informed the resident that several meetings had taken place with the Head of Highways at St Helens Council and all possibilities had been investigated but there appeared to be no suitable solution to aid crossing and traffic calming at the busy junction.

**POLICE REPORT**

14.92 PCSO Kevin Green could not attend. He sent a report comparing the crime figures for 5 November to 5 December 2014 with the same period last year. Several categories were reported as increased this year. Cllrs were concerned and Cllr Sims reported that she had a meeting planned with the Area Commander regarding the level of policing currently in Eccleston/Eccleston Park as there were only 2 PCSOs in the area.

**REPORTS**

14.93 **Resolved to note the following:**

Ecclesfield – Councillors Ashcroft and Broughton along with the Clerk attended a meeting of Ecclesfield Management Committee on Tuesday 2 December 2014 at 7pm in the Village Hall. The following items were discussed:

- Caretaker reported there were no issues with the changing facilities. He was concerned at the amount of litter he was discovering particularly on Sunday morning – empty alcohol drinks cans and remains of drugs packets. Clerk reported to Police Inspector Elaine Collins

- John Monsvoll, Bleak Hill Rovers, requested the marking of a mini pitch behind houses on Broadway. This would be 30x40 yards for under 7s. Clerk contacted St Helens Council, Parks Dept for their advice on the position of the pitch. **Resolved a site visit would be made by Cllrs to look at the position of the pitch.**
- John also reported that he had been contacted by St Helens Council, who were commissioning a survey of sports teams and facilities in the borough. The company carrying out the survey were meeting John on Tuesday 16 December 2014 at Ecclesfield to look at facilities.
- Budget for 2015/16 presented to Councillors – in summary: no increase in Parish contributions; pitch fees – no increase for seniors £440, juniors £85 or under 10's £25. **Resolved to discuss at Parish Council's Finance Sub Cttee meeting in January.**

Smithy 6.45pm 9 December 2014 Village Hall – all Councillors were given a copy of the Curators' Report. The following points were discussed:

- Corridor – as no items could be attached to the walls in the Village Hall the Curators had looked at the cost of frames that could be permanently attached to the walls displaying prints of the Smithy and Eccleston area. It was agreed that large A3 size frames would be best rather than smaller A4 frames. **Resolved at Parish Council that Curators should go ahead and purchase enough frames for the corridor area before more were purchased to decorate the Hall.**
- Valentine's Exhibition – short exhibition of Valentine's cards would be held during the weekends of 7 and 8 February and 14 and 15 February 2015
- Murder Mystery Night – would be held on the evening of Valentine's Day – 14 February 2015
- Man's Best Friend – the 2015 dog themed exhibition. A request for the loan of any related objects was made
- International Blacksmith's Day, 23 May 2015 – all craftspeople and caterers booked along with George Wrights who will brew a special beer to mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Smithy. The shoeing of a horse, Puzzle, will form the centrepiece of the event. It was also suggested that Puzzle pull a miniature dray carrying barrels of beer around the local area. Curators would like to invite those who had been involved in the development of the Smithy over the years. A list will be compiled so that invitations can be sent out from the Parish Council. **Resolved that a meeting would take place late in January**
- Training – Vicky was undertaking training on Accreditation Standards to ensure the Smithy is up to date with the process
- Cllr Sims on behalf of all Councillors thanked Vicky and Joanne for all their hard work

#### PLANNING APPLICATIONS

14.94 **Resolved to note the following:**

#### Delegated

<b>37 Mosslands</b>	Works to trees covered by a tree preservation order to fell 1no elm (T2) and crown lift 1no ash.(T1) <b>Refer to trees and woodlands officer</b>
<b>Mayfield Nursing Home</b>	Two storey side extension. (Re-submission of P/2014/0230) <b>Eccleston Parish Council is concerned that the proposals may reduce the capacity of the car park which would mean that vehicles would be forced to park on Central Avenue.</b>
<b>Holmewood</b>	<b>Also such proposals may be out of keeping with the existing street scene</b> Erection of 1no dwelling <b>Please ensure that the existing trees which carry a TPO are fully protected during development</b>
<b>5 Millfields</b>	Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of a new 2 storey dwelling N/O

#### ANNUAL MAGAZINE

- 14.95 The Clerk requested articles to be sent in by the end of January 2015. A quote had been obtained which is the same cost as last year for 4,500 magazines. **Resolved to use the same printers as last year.**

COUNCILLOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

14.96 **Resolved that 6 months leave of absence be granted for Cllr Margaretta Maloney due to ill health.**

ACCOUNTS

14.97 Received Village Hall Hire £464.00; R Kelsey PAYE £76.20; HM Rev & Cust 2<sup>nd</sup> ¼ payment £415.83; Ecclesfield FC paid to EPC in error £161.34 (EPC paid to Ecclesfield Project); Interest £1.45 and 0.02 **Total Receipts** **£1118.84**

**Payments**

Ecclesfield Project – fees paid to EPC in error by Ecclesfield FC	161.34
St Helens Council – repairs to Mill Brow Nature Reserve	154.73
PHS Group – hygiene services	108.90
GPS Telecoms – Clerk’s telephone - Oct	33.40
B&M Office Machines – photocopier rental	102.00
<del>United Utilities – December</del>	<del>21.02*</del>
United Utilities – December	9.69
J Anderson – December, plus petty cash	1247.52
J Chamberlain – December including bonus	225.72
V Griffiths – December including bonus	225.72
L Poole – December	407.50
Paul Potter Garden Services – grounds maintenance (Nov and Dec visits)	49.44
Southern Electric – electricity Aug-Oct	554.17
J Anderson – items for Christmas Parish meeting	19.50
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£3299.63</b>

\* United Utilities did not take payment. Had problems with their direct debits – will take in February along with Feb payment (£42.04). See letter in Accounts file.

**RECONCILIATION** - The Clerk reported that, as at 28 November 2014, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £26,710.88 and Capital Deposit Account £464.61.

<b>PETTY CASH</b> - Expenditure for the month of November 2014	£6.36
<b>Approximate</b> balance at the end of November 2014	£5.53

CORRESPONDENCE

14.98 **Resolved to note the following:**

- **Windle Parish Council** – Invitation to Chair and guest to pre-Christmas event on 16 December at 8.30pm in Village Hall
- **St Helens Council** – invitation to comment on Draft Bold Forest Park Area Action Plan
- **Quotes** for hygiene services
- **Village Hall Grounds Maintenance Tender**

DATES OF MEETINGS

14.99 **Resolved to note the following:**

Tuesday 13 January 2015	6.45 pm	Smithy Meeting	Our Lady’s
	7.30 pm	Parish Council	Our Lady’s

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.

SIGNED .....

DATED .....