

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY, 12 FEBRUARY, 2013, at 7.30 pm in OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH HALL, Portico Lane, Eccleston Park

PRESENT: Cllr C Pearl (Chair)
Cllrs Ashcroft, Broughton, Duncan, G Pearl, Skepper & Watmough
Vicky Finch – St Helens Council
Janet Anderson – Clerk
Joanne Chamberlain & Vicky Griffiths – Curators
Const D Brown

APOLOGIES

12.137 Cllrs Almond, Haw & Sims

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

12.138 Councillor G Pearl declared an interest in Item 12.147 – Planning Applications.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 8 JANUARY 2013

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

MATTERS ARISING

12.140 None

RESIDENTS' ISSUES

12.141 A resident contacted Cllr Almond regarding the Dickensian Christmas notice that is still displayed outside the Village Hall. The Curators will be taking it down shortly. Leaving it up prevents anyone else putting notices on the board.

POLICE REPORT

12.142 Constable Brown commented on the Crime Statistics sent to the Clerk which were given to all Councillors during the meeting. He stated that anti-social behaviour had increased because of the snow: youths throwing snowballs and causing a nuisance.

EMERGENCY PLAN

12.143 Vicky Finch, Emergency Planning Officer, St Helens Council gave a short presentation introducing and explaining the emergency plan. All Councillors present signed to accept their paper copy.

FUNDING APPLICATION

12.144 Quotes and references for 2 companies were discussed for re-grouting work on the Smithy as part of a funding application. **Resolved that the quotes be submitted with the application.**

SMITHY ALARM

- 12.145 **Resolved to pay for a new piece of alarm equipment, Call Free Digi Plus, to be added to the intruder alarm system on the Smithy that uses Free Call Monitoring. This will save the cost of calls made for monitoring the alarm system.**

REPORTS

- 12.146 **Resolved to note the following:**

Smithy Working Party – all Councillors were given a copy of the Curators' Report for February 2013. The following points were discussed:

- All Our Stories – Memories of Eccleston
- Skills for the Future
- PRISM funding
- Crack/leak in Smithy office
- St Helens Community Empowerment Network
- Budget

Smithy Heritage Sub Cllrs Ashcroft and Sims along with Clerk and Curators met on Friday 1 February 2013 at 10am to inform Curators of Smithy budget for 2013/14.

Smithy Heritage Sub – Cllrs Ashcroft, Sims and Skepper along with Clerk and Curators met on Saturday 9 February 2013 at 10am. The following points were discussed:

1. All Our Stories – on track with meetings arranged
2. Skills for the Future – bid been sent to HLF approx £230 thousand. Result known in May
3. PRISM bid – quotes in for mortar replacement. Decision needed at Parish Council. Quote expected for doors
4. Impact of budget cuts – will have an impact on the activities as majority of budget goes on International Blacksmith's Day
5. Proposed charges – suggestion that nominal fees charged for craft activities
6. Proposed changes for school/group sessions/visits – suggestion of the introduction of a charging structure – Clerk to investigate other organisations' charges
7. AOB
 - Roof in Smithy Office appears to be damp suggesting a leak in the roof. – **Clerk to get quotes**
 - A request that the Acquisitions and Disposals Policy be ratified at Parish Council – **Resolved that the policy be approved and adopted.**
 - Clerk to contact the alarm company as the Broadband at the Smithy has not been working since the alarm company carried out some work on the alarm.

Lester Drive Centre – Cllrs Duncan and Skepper attended. Prescott Rotary presented a cheque for £1,000 to Lester Drive Centre.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

12.147 **Resolved to note the following:**

Delegated

69 Clarkes Cresc	Single storey extension to the side and rear Ensure sufficient off-street parking
2 Millbrow Ctgs	Two storey side extension and a single storey addition to the rear A 2 story side extension at this location would surely create an architectural imbalance and detract from the character of the existing properties
Land adj 11 Albany - appeal	erection of detached dwellinghouse - EPC's original response was – concern at the creation of additional vehicular access onto Albany Avenue. Also, there appears to be an "architectural imbalance" in design of the proposed property. The Parish Council would want assurances that the Tree Preservation Ordered tree in the corner of the front garden of No.9 was safeguarded appropriately
18 Pinfold Dr	Single storey side and rear extension N/O

ACCOUNTS

12.148 Received Village Hall Hire £293, RK PAYE £172.40 (Dec and Jan), HMRC £443.52, Interest £3.66, Windle and Eccleston Ladies Guild Smithy donation £50

Total Receipts **£962.58**

Payments:

Paul Potter Garden Services – grounds maintenance	70.00
CF ASSET – photocopier lease	102.00
GPS Telecom – clerk's phone/internet – Dec	30.52
JG Eckersall – lock to Smithy office door	88.48
Total Gas and Power – Oct-Dec	216.32
Easily Ltd – Web hosting	29.99
United Utilities – January	8.45
United Utilities – January	25.96
B&M Office Machines – Copies Dec-Mar	35.93
Ash Tree Care Ltd – tree work at Village Hall	480.00
BT – Smithy telephone	140.11
J Anderson – January + travel, expenses and £20 petty cash	1234.93
J Chamberlain – January	165.72
V Griffiths – January plus web name and hosting	238.27
L Poole – January plus cleaner bags	414.70
Our Lady Help of Christians – Hall use	20.00

Total Payments **£3301.38**

RECONCILIATION - The Clerk reported that, as at 30 January 2013, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £22,549.15 and Capital Deposit Account £464.18.

INTERNAL AUDIT – Accounts for the 3rd quarter have been examined with nothing to report.

PETTY CASH - Expenditure for the month of January 2013	£14.00
Approximate balance at the end of January 2013	£7.35

CORRESPONDENCE

12.149 **Resolved to note the following:**

Email from Angela Sanderson, St Helens Council and letter from Dept for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) – regarding not having to declare an interest when setting precept – noted

St Helens Council – rate relief announcement. Further 12 months relief. – Clerk to complete St Helens Council’s Rate Relief Review form

St Helens Council – confirmation of tax base (Band D equiv properties) – noted

St Helens Council – Draft Sustainable Development Plan document – consultation period 17 January to 28 February 2013 – noted

Acquisitions policy – Following advice from personnel carrying out Museum Accreditation, the policy has been amended (9c) and requires ratification by Parish Council – approved and adopted

Email from Planning Aid England – holding a neighbourhood planning training session as an opportunity to guide what types of development should take place in order to produce a neighbourhood plan – noted

Merseytravel – Transport Customer Forum, Friday 15 Feb, 1pm, St Helens Parish Church – passed to Cllr Watmough

Email from curators – mattress dumped in the bushes of Village Hall. Clerk reported fly-tipping to St Helens Council for removal

DATES OF MEETINGS

12.150 **Resolved to note the following:**

Tuesday 5 March 13	7.00 pm	Ecclesfield	Village Hall
Tuesday 12 March 13	6.45 pm	Smithy Meeting	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	Parish Council	Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

SIGNED

DATED