

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY, 11 FEBRUARY, 2014, at 7.30 pm in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, Kiln Lane, Eccleston

PRESENT: Cllr Sims (Chair)
Cllrs Almond, Ashcroft, Broughton, Gray-Williams, Haw, C Pearl, G Pearl and Skepper
Janet Anderson – Clerk
Matthew Garlick, Police and Crime Commissioner’s Office

APOLOGIES

13.135 Cllrs Duncan, Maloney and Watmough

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

13.136 Councillors Ashcroft and G Pearl declared an interest in Item 13.143 – Planning Applications.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 14 JANUARY 2014

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

MATTERS ARISING

13.138 Guides confirmed delivery of annual magazine – Item 13.128

RESIDENTS’ ISSUES

13.139 None reported.

POLICE REPORT

13.140 Matthew Garlick, from the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Merseyside, explained the role of Jane Kennedy, Police and Crime Commissioner and also his role as Police Community Engagement Officer for St Helens. Matthew stated that he is part of the Community Safety Partnership in St Helens. He feeds information to the meeting and also reports back to the Commissioner’s office.

PCSO Kevin Green commented on the Crime Statistics compared to the same period last year. A discussion took place regarding youths around Walmesley Road shops and the work carried out by police to disperse the gangs including the police van that was recently patrolling the area.

BUDGET FOR 2014/15

13.141 **The budget was approved and it was resolved that a Precept of £53,823 for 2014/15 be requested which results in a cost to residents of £14.19 – an increase of £1.95 per year to cover essential maintenance work to the Village Hall recommended by a recent Condition Survey carried out by St Helens Council.**

REPORTS

13.142 **Resolved to note the following:**

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

- All Our Stories – Memories of Ecclestone – launch date set for 20 March 2014, 6.30pm
- Printing Press – possible demonstration during Heritage Open Day weekend
- Murder Mystery Evening – event date set for 28 June 2014. £15 per ticket
- Rainford Roots – Smithy to hold short term exhibition of items excavated in Rainford and Curators and Cllrs agreed to meet with the group to discuss experiences and implications of taking on a small museum

Hall and Personnel Sub – Cllrs Sims, Almond, Duncan, Haw, G Pearl, C Pearl and Skepper along with the Clerk met on Friday 17 January at 10am to discuss the recent condition survey carried out on the Village Hall and Smithy. The following points were discussed:

- * vertical cracks on external brick work on side walls – **Clerk to contact Structural Engineer**
- * essential maintenance – new boiler, redecoration and repairs to gutters
- * impact on budget and precept – to be discussed further at Finance Sub on Friday 24 January

Finance Sub – Cllrs Sims, Almond, Duncan, Haw, G Pearl and Skepper along with the Clerk met on Friday 24 January at 10am to discuss the budget and proposed precept (See Item 13.141).

Merseyside Playing Fields Association – Cllr Ashcroft attended the meeting on Thursday 16 January at Liverpool Cricket Club. Cllr Haw to attend these meetings in future.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

13.143 **Resolved to note the following:**

Delegated

Valencia Barn	Conversion of barn into a residential dwelling with new window openings, demolition of existing attached cowshed replaced with single storey side extension, along with detached double garage and store Ecclestone Parish Council would seek assurances that this barn conversion is restricted to the footprint of the existing barn and that there are no windows in the gable end overlooking the bungalows
Land adj 10 Burrows Lane	Construction of car park for 4no. cars WITHDRAWN
Woodland btn 32 & 48 Park Ave	Works to assorted trees covered by a tree preservation order Refer to the Parks & Woodlands Officer to ensure appropriate work carried out
7 The Scholes	Conversion of garage to habitable room N/O

ACCOUNTS

13.144

Received Village Hall Hire £387, RK PAYE £76.20, HMRC £291.35, Interest £3.79

Total Receipts

£758.34

Payments:

Crawford Heating and Plumbing Services – repair to toilet tap and boiler	140.00
BT – Smithy telephone	101.31
Total Gas and Power – Oct-Dec	302.74
B&M Office Machines – Copies Dec-Mar	39.52
St Helens Council – cleaning Nov and Dec	533.01
United Utilities – Water – Feb	24.38
United Utilities – Water – Feb	9.40
J Anderson – February – travel and £20 petty cash	1238.48
L Poole – February	407.50
V Griffiths – February	165.72
J Chamberlain – February	165.72
Paul Potter Garden Services – grounds maintenance	49.44
J Anderson – Postage stamps for Smithy, Memories of Eccleston project	30.00
Total Payments	£3207.22

RECONCILIATION - The Clerk reported that, as at 29 January 2014, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £21,295.32 and Capital Deposit Account £464.41.

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

PETTY CASH - Expenditure for the month of January 2014	£14.30
Approximate balance at the end of January 2014	£18.93

CORRESPONDENCE

13.145 **Resolved to note the following:**

- Email from plumber** – invoice for boiler repairs
- Email from Curators** requesting repairs to lights in office
- Email from Structural Engineer** – Engineer suspects ground movement of the Village Hall has ceased but will carry out tell tale measurements
- Tender** for Village Hall grounds maintenance – **Clerk to obtain a second quote**
- St Helens Council** – confirmation of tax base 3793 Band D equiv properties
- Email from St Helens Council** – meeting to update on work at Mill Wood and Mill Brow, 12 February 2pm, Town Hall. **Cllr Sims and Clerk to attend**

DATES OF MEETINGS

13.146 **Resolved to note the following:**

Tuesday 4 March 2014	7.00 pm	Ecclesfield	Village Hall
Tuesday 11 March 14	6.45 pm	Smithy Meeting	Our Lady H of C
	7.30 pm	Parish Council	Our Lady H of C

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

SIGNED

DATED