

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY, 10 FEBRUARY, 2015, at 7.30 pm in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, Kiln Lane, Ecclestone**

PRESENT: Cllr Sims (Chair)  
Cllrs Almond, Ashcroft, Broughton, Duncan, Gray-Williams, Haw, C Pearl,  
G Pearl and Skepper  
Janet Anderson – Clerk  
18 residents

APOLOGIES

14.113 Cllr Watmough

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

14.114 Cllr G Pearl declared an interest in Item 14.121 – Planning Applications.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 14 JANUARY 2014

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

MATTERS ARISING

14.116 None

RESIDENTS' ISSUES

14.117 A resident asked a question of the future of the Carmelite Monastery/land in Green Lane and a lengthy discussion took place. Cllr Sims reported that the Parish Council had not been informed of any developments. She reported that the nuns would leave by the end of the month and trees in the grounds should be protected by the following day. There should also be a management plan developed with the protection of the trees which would include a survey. Cllr Sims reassured residents that if any planning applications were received by the Parish Council that would affect residents, they would be informed immediately by the Parish Council.

A resident raised a question of the future of land along Ecclesfield Road. Cllr Sims replied that the land was green belt. Although there was some interest shown in the land by developers at present, the green belt status had not been relaxed.

A resident raised concerns over the amount of litter accumulating around the shops on Walmesley Road and overflowing bins. Cllr Sims replied that the bins were on a 3 weekly schedule to be emptied. Cllrs would ask if the schedule could be improved.

All residents left the meeting.

POLICE REPORT

14.118 No one from the police was able to attend. PCSO McManus sent a report with the Crime Statistics compared to the same period last year. A discussion took place regarding the increase in burglaries this year. Cllr Sims reported that the Councillor Improvement Fund was paying for a metal fence to be installed at Foxwoods after a resident's rear fence panels were removed and set on fire.

BUDGET FOR 2014/15

14.119 **The budget was approved and it was resolved that a precept of £53,936 for 2015/16 be requested which results in a cost to residents of £14.19 – same as last year.**

## REPORTS

### 14.120 **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:

- Vintage Valentine's – Victorian cards on loan from The Atkinson now on display in Smithy along with cards from the Smithy's collection. St Helens Star were interested in the exhibition and took photographs which should feature in the next issue.
- Murder Mystery Evening – all tickets were sold for the event on 14 February 2015. An event licence had been purchased
- Smithy building – Vicky reported that the doors to the Smithy were becoming increasingly difficult to align with the bolt holes to keep them open. Clerk to contact Metalcraft to update the quote for a metal frame to hang the doors
- Man's Best Friend – Curators had been identifying items for display along with publicising the event through contacts

Finance Sub – Cllrs Sims, Almond, Duncan, G Pearl and Skepper along with the Clerk met on Monday 26 January at 10am to discuss the budget and proposed precept (See Item 14.119).

Ecclesfield – Cllrs Sims and Haw along with the Clerk attended a site visit to Ecclesfield with John Boden, St Helens Council on Tuesday 27 January at 10am to discuss the request from Bleak Hill Rovers for a new mini pitch behind houses on Broadway. After looking at the site and considering measurements, John advised that this would be too close to houses on Broadway. Also the condition of the ground was unsuitable and liable to flooding. He did not recommend the pitch be marked out.

Lester Drive – Cllr Skepper attended a meeting of Lester Drive Centre

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

### 14.121 **Resolved to note the following:**

#### Delegated

<b>60 Fairholme Ave</b>	Erection of single storey side, and rear extension <b>N/O</b>
<b>2 Inglehome Gdns</b>	Works to trees covered by a tree preservation order, to fell 5no hollies and crown lift (from ground level) and cut branches of remaining 8no hollies <b>Refer to trees and woodlands officer</b>
<b>Bank of Mill Brook</b>	Construction of retaining wall using gabion baskets <b>N/O</b>
<b>166 Kiln Lane</b>	Demolition of existing garage and erection of attached garage <b>N/O</b>
<b>7 Ledbury Close</b>	Erection of two storey/first floor side extension <b>N/O</b>

#### Approvals

<b>Mayfield Home</b>	Granted 14/1/15
<b>5 Millfields</b>	Granted 12/1/15
<b>15 Swisspine Gdns</b>	Granted 29/1/15
<b>15 Barrowfield Rd</b>	Granted 28/1/15

## ACCOUNTS

14.122

Received Village Hall Hire £409, RK PAYE £76.20, Windle PC copier/phone £51.57 HMRC £753.84, Interest £0.02 and £1.16

**Total Receipts**

**£1291.79**

**Payments:**

Tommy Poole Electrical – VH toilet lights – replace fuse	63.00
GPS Telecoms – Clerk’s telephone Dec	32.40
BT – Smithy telephone	111.39
Total Gas and Power – Oct-Dec	653.51
B&M Office Machines – photocopier plus annual service charge	51.28
J Chamberlain – February plus expenses	187.52
L Poole – February plus expenses	421.10
V Griffiths – February	165.72
J Anderson – February inc web hosting renewal and land registry plus £20 petty cash	1408.40
Mark Harris – Murder Mystery Productions – Smithy event	350.00
St Helens Council – cleaning Dec and Jan	558.60
United Utilities – water – Feb	21.02
United Utilities – water – Feb	9.69
Paul Potter Garden Services – grounds maintenance including gravel infill	72.72
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£4106.35</b>

**RECONCILIATION** - The Clerk reported that, as at 30 January 2015, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £19,269.53 and Capital Deposit Account £464.65.

**INTERNAL AUDIT** – Accounts for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter have been examined with nothing to report.

<b>PETTY CASH</b> - Expenditure for the month of January 2015	£12.07
<b>Approximate</b> balance at the end of January 2015	£9.96

CORRESPONDENCE

14.123 **Resolved to note the following:**

- Windle Parish Council** – letter of condolence regarding Cllr Rita Maloney
- St Helens Council** – treatment of Japanese Knotweed April-Oct 15 – year 5
- Email from Best Security** – reprogramming digital keys
- Willow Printing** – confirming cost of printing 200 more magazines

DATES OF MEETINGS

14.124 **Resolved to note the following:**

Tuesday 3 March 2015	7.00 pm	Ecclesfield	Village Hall
Tuesday 10 March 15	6.45 pm	Smithy Meeting	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	Parish Council	Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

SIGNED .....

DATED .....