

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY, 9 FEBRUARY, 2016, at 7.30 pm in OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH HALL, Portico Lane, Eccleston Park**

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

**APOLOGIES**

15.121 Cllrs Broughton and Dawson

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

15.122 Cllr G Pearl declared an interest in Item 15.131 – Planning Applications.

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 15 JANUARY 2015**

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

**MATTERS ARISING**

15.124 Item 15.117 Planning – Chapel Lane application would be going to Planning Committee at St Helens Council.

**RESIDENTS' ISSUES**

15.125 It was reported by a resident that the camber at the bus stop at Walmesley Road was cracked. The Clerk would report this to St Helens Council.

A resident had been in contact with Cllr Gray-Williams requesting Albany Avenue be a 20mph zone because of the school. Cllr Skepper also raised the speed of traffic on Bleak Hill Road and residents present at the meeting reported the issue of speeding traffic on Walmesley Road. **The Clerk would contact Highways at St Helens Council about the 3 roads.**

**POLICE REPORT**

15.126 No one from the police was able to attend. PCSO Green sent a report with crime statistics compared to the same period last year. A discussion took place regarding the increase in burglaries this year. The report also indicated that police would be monitoring the speed of traffic along St Helens Road as a result of concerns reported at the last Parish Council meeting by a resident.

**MILL BROW NATURE RESERVE**

15.127 A document had been received from St Helens Council declaring the land at Mill Brow to be a local nature reserve along with a management agreement between Eccleston Parish Council and St Helens Council. **It was resolved not to sign the document as the signage at the entrance to the Parish Council owned land had not been completed. The document would be signed when all the signage was complete. The Clerk would inform St Helens Council.**

## KEYS FOR ECCLESFIELD CAR PARK

15.128 After a lengthy discussion regarding issuing keys to Walmesley Road shop keepers and possible costs involved **it was resolved not to issue any further keys at present and to request the key back from the one shop keeper that has one. The Clerk would contact the shop keeper.**

## BUDGET FOR 2015/15

15.129 **The budget was approved and it was resolved that a precept of £54,078.09 for 2016/17 be requested which results in a cost to residents of £14.19 – the same as last year.**

## REPORTS

15.130 **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:

- Shakespeare at the Smithy – cheese and wine evening was being held with an admission charge of £5 on 17 March at 7pm. Talk from Rosemary Tyler.
- Plague and Prose – this year's exhibition would be a broad view of how life changed through the medieval period through to Shakespeare's day
- New windows – Smithy windows have been fitted. Vicky reported they had made an improvement to the look of the exterior of the building and had brightened up inside. New roller blinds would be required.
- Outer door/CCTV – further works to take place this month: CCTV Monday 15 Feb; pathway would be in March.
- Damp – more damp had been discovered in the Smithy office and also in the corridor of the Village Hall. The Clerk would contact a roofing company to take a look.
- Music of Shakespeare – Vicky reported that Tom Hughes had offered to hold a music day on 2 July 2016 1-4pm which would be a family day including the music of Shakespeare's day
- A list of proposed events for March-September was given to Cllrs.
- Cllr Sims asked had the Curators had much contact with schools during the Smithy's closed season. Vicky replied that they had had contact with some schools but it was mainly loan boxes that had been requested
- Safeguarding – Cllr Sims recommended that a safeguarding policy be put in place for all staff and Smithy volunteers. The Clerk was asked to investigate a model safeguarding policy for discussion

Finance Sub – Cllrs Ashcroft, Sims, Duncan and Skepper along with the Clerk met on Wednesday 20 January at 10am to discuss the budget and proposed precept (See Item 15.129).

Lester Drive – Cllrs Duncan and Skepper attended a meeting of Lester Drive Centre on 29 January 2016. Cllr Duncan reported: progress was ongoing for the change to charitable status; the groups continue to do well; various events had been profitable; a new fire door had been installed; news of the activities held at Lester Drive Centre had been omitted from the Diocesan Report for the new incumbent at Christ Church – details had now been sent; Andrew Martlew had done excellent work sorting out gas and electricity, telephone and broadband and also repairing the notice board. The next meeting would be Friday 4 March 2016.

Holocaust Memorial Day – Cllr G Pearl had attended Eccleston Library after being invited to light a candle and read prayers in Hebrew.

Merseyside Playing Fields Association – Cllr Haw reported that Eccleston Park Tennis Club were to receive £150 worth of tennis balls after being successful with an application.

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

15.131 **Resolved to note the following:**

### Delegated

#### **1 Chapel Lane**

Construction of two storey vicarage, within curtilage of existing vicarage

**1. The existing access to the rear of the current vicarage is tight – the hammer head would need to be extended considerably, and the plans illustrate suggested parking just where there are very, very mature feature trees – ANY PARKING AREA CREATED must have root protection guaranteed, before any permission is given. All the trees on that boundary to Church Lane MUST be safeguarded.**

**2. The proposed new domestic dwelling would sit in a prominent position and appears to be sited very close to the brook.**

**3. Questions have been asked about the effect on any of the UU work undertaken in the last couple of years – which caused significant disruption to Church Lane and its surrounds.**

**Church Lane is the very heart of Eccleston and any developments within the land owned by the Diocese, must not have a detrimental effect on its street setting – no trees must be lost, if the Council’s trees and woodlands officer feels any are Diseased/Dead/Dangerous, then replacement ones of the same species MUST be conditioned.**

**The whole of the boundary from Chapel Lane/Church Lane means a great deal to all residents – there is a great deal of worry/concern with these proposals.**

#### **The Vicarage Chapel Lane**

Creation of new vehicular driveway access, with alterations to brick boundary wall

**1. Any additional vehicular access at the point identified within the plans is not acceptable because of the very close proximity to the mini-roundabout, and the existing vehicular access to the land adjacent (which the portacabins are on and the old church halls).**

**Part of the wall is sandstone (a feature throughout Eccleston) and MUST NOT be damaged in any way (if permission is granted).**

**2. Chapel Lane bends at the point just before the access (coming from the direction of Millbrook Lane) and any additional access would create a hazard – the sight splays are questionable.**

**3. If any access was created – TOTAL ROOT PROTECTION of the TPO'd trees must be conditioned – a full tree survey to be undertaken by St. Helens Council, before any permissions are given.**

#### **Black Horse Hotel**

Consent to display assorted illuminated and non illuminated signs to front and side elevation

**Eccleston Parish Council object to additional signage (illuminated or not) and feel that it would be a distraction/hazard for motorists at this very busy point on Rainhill Road.**

**The public house itself is right on the signalled junction and is certainly visible to all at this time. Indeed the access is only metres from the traffic lights.**

**Illuminated signage would also have a negative impact on the residential properties living just across the road from the public house, and properties in Ellerslie Avenue, which runs adjacent to the car park of**

**the public house.**

**Any form of signage must be low key (not illuminated) – the prominence of the public house building itself should suffice.**

<b>154 Broadway</b>	Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a two storey side extension along with a single storey rear extension <b>N/O</b>
<b>20 Ansdell Drive</b>	Two storey side extension with single storey rear extension along with front porch <b>N/O</b>
<b>80 Ecclesfield Rd</b>	Single storey pitched roof wrap around extension to side and rear <b>N/O</b>
<b>Land</b>	Erection of 1no dwelling <b>N/O</b>
<b>7 Greenough Ave</b>	
<b>3 Crocketts Walk</b>	Single storey wraparound extension to the side and rear <b>N/O</b>

## ACCOUNTS

15.132

**Receipts:** Village Hall Hire £357, RK PAYE £77.80, Windle Copier/phone £8.97, Interest £0.02 and £1.55

**Total Receipts** **£445.34**

### **Payments:**

St Helens Council – cleaning Dec	298.60
St Helens Council – knotweed treatment Apr-Dec 15	61.64
GPS Telecoms – Clerk’s telephone Dec	32.29
BT – Smithy telephone	114.27
B&M Office Machines – photocopier + annual service charge	59.57
United Utilities – water	9.86
United Utilities – water	18.68
Total Gas and Power – Oct-Dec	291.63
St Helens Windows – Smithy windows (grant money)	2090.00
J Chamberlain – February + expenses	181.88
V Griffiths – February	175.06
L Poole – February	415.65
J Anderson – February	1264.79
Paul Potter Garden Services – grounds maintenance – Feb	18.75
Our Lady Help of Christians	20.00
St Helens Council – cleaning January	298.60
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£5351.27</b>

**RECONCILIATION** - The Clerk reported that, as at 28 January 2016, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £29,971.98 and Capital Deposit Account £464.89.

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

<b>PETTY CASH</b> - Expenditure for the month of January 2016	£13.05
<b>Approximate</b> balance at the end of January 2016	£20.04

## CORRESPONDENCE

15.133 **Resolved to note the following:**

**Email from caretaker** – new group wishing to use the Village Hall on Thursday evening for line dancing. Lisa had met with them and they use soft bottomed shoes. She explained to them about

any damage to the floor. About a dozen people in the class. They have classes in other places and have public liability insurance.

**Costco** – membership renewal £20 – in budget

DATES OF MEETINGS

15.134 **Resolved to note the following:**

Tuesday 1 March 2016	7.00 pm	Ecclesfield	Village Hall
Tuesday 8 March 2016	6.45 pm	Smithy Meeting	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	Parish Council	Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

SIGNED .....

DATED .....