

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

PRESENT: Cllr G Pearl (Chair of Meeting)
Cllrs Almond, Broughton, Duncan, Haw, C Pearl & Skepper
Janet Anderson – Clerk
3 Residents

APOLOGIES

13.120 Cllrs Ashcroft and Sims

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

13.121 Cllr G Pearl declared an interest in Item 13.131 – Planning Applications.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD

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

MATTERS ARISING

13.123 Item 13.107 – Cllr Haw reported that meetings were taking place between St Helens Council Highways and Cllrs Sims and Haw. Various proposals were being discussed.

RESIDENTS' ISSUES

13.124 None reported

POLICE REPORT

13.125 No-one was available to attend from the Police. A report was given to all Councillors comparing crime statistics for the period 12 November 2013 to 12 January 2014 with the same period last year. Discussion took place regarding the high number of burglaries taken place in dwellings (8).

REPORTS

13.126 **Resolved to note the following:**

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

- Smithy Office/Store – replacing items after plastering work
- All Our Stories – Memories of Eccleston – work continuing on project
- Murder Mystery Event – to complement Crime and Punishment theme
- Traditional Printing – curators meeting with Ken Burnley to discuss demonstrations
- International Blacksmith's Day – 24 May 2014

PERMISSION FOR A GEOCACHE ON MILL BROW NATURE RESERVE

13.127 Clerk read out an email received requesting to place a small plastic container within Mill Brow Nature Reserve. The email explained that geocaching is where participants use GPS equipment such as a smart phone to seek hidden containers. This is sometimes known as a global treasure hunt. St Helens Council's Urban Regeneration department replied favourably to the container being placed. Discussion took place with concerns regarding large groups of people attending, parking issues that may arise and any damage to the grounds. **Resolved that permission be given to place the container close to a footpath as a trial and if problems are reported the container must be removed. Clerk to respond to email.**

ANNUAL MAGAZINE

13.128 The Chair requested articles from Councillors for the next magazine to be sent to the Clerk by 14 February 2014. Clerk awaiting confirmation from the Guides that they can deliver the magazine this year.

RISK ASSESSMENT

13.129 Annual risk assessment carried out by Councillors and Clerk. **Resolved to approve and sign.**

CONTRACTS OF EMPLOYMENT

13.130 **Resolved to approve contracts of employment and issue to staff.**

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

13.131 **Resolved to note the following:**

Delegated

6 Chapel Lane	Proposed remodelling of south elevation to existing house N/O
39 Ansdell Dr	Demolition of attached garage; rear and side single storey extension. Widen vehicular access to front boundary wall to allow 2 car spaces within the curtilage of the site N/O
10 Tamarisk Gds	Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension N/O
67 Gillars Grn Dr	Temporary change of use for 6 months to site accommodation during alteration works N/O
2 Old Lane	Part two storey, part single storey rear extension N/O

ACCOUNTS

13.132 Received Village Hall Hire £441, RK PAYE £96.20

Total Receipts **£537.20**

GPS Telecoms – Clerk's telephone Nov	33.36
PHS Group plc – hygiene services quarterly bill	208.99
St Helens Council – knotweed treatment (3 rd yr of 4 yr treatment)	58.68
Post Office Ltd – PAYE & NI	1566.87

United Utilities – December	9.40
United Utilities – December	41.29
J Chamberlain – January	165.72
V Griffiths – January	165.72
L Poole – January	407.50
J Anderson – January plus £20 petty cash	1238.28
United Utilities – January	9.40
United Utilities – January	24.38*
GPS Telecoms – Clerk’s telephone Dec	31.09
Easily Ltd – web hosting renewal	29.99
CF Asset – photocopier lease - quarter	102.00
Paul Potter Garden Services	24.72
Total Payments	£4117.39

* Water payment reduced after paying £41.29 for 4 months

RECONCILIATION - The Clerk reported that, as at 24 December 2013, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £25,045.22 and Capital Deposit Account £464.35.

PETTY CASH - Expenditure for the month of December 2013	£18.40
Approximate balance at the end of December 2013	£13.23

CORRESPONDENCE

13.133 **Resolved to note the following:**

- Condition Survey from St Helens Council** advising of work to be completed within 12 months, 1-2 years and 3-5 years
- Letter from St Helens Council** – Calculation of tax base, 3793 Band D equiv properties (3775 last year)
- Email from Police Community Engagement Officer** – requesting permission to attend February Parish Council meeting to introduce himself and his role
- Email from Francis Sephton**, Land Records & Deeds Officer, St Helens Council – Deeds now with Angela Sanderson, Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Administrative Services)
- Merseytravel** – meeting on Friday 17 January 2014 at Peter Street Community Centre 1.30pm-3pm

DATES OF MEETINGS

13.134 **Resolved to note the following:**

Friday 17 January 2014	10.00am	Hall and Personnel	Village Hall
Friday 24 January 2014	10.00am	Finance Sub (Budget)	Village Hall
Tuesday 11 February 2014	6.45 pm	Smithy Meeting	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	Parish Council	Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

SIGNED

DATED