

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY 13 MARCH, 2007, at 7.30 pm in ST JAMES'S CHURCH HALL, St Helens Road, Eccleston Park

PRESENT: Cllr Duncan (Chair)
Cllrs Bain, Broughton, Evans, Maloney, C & G Pearl, Perry
Constable G Harper
1 Resident
Mrs L Scott (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Cllrs Gleave, Gray-Williams & Sims

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 13 FEBRUARY 2007

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

MATTERS ARISING

06.131 06.123 – Annual Magazine – Willow Printing has reduced the charge for printing the Annual Magazine by £105. Rapid Fliers Leaflet Distribution has agreed to distribute the magazine at a cost of £22.50 per thousand. Councillor Evans agreed to amend the Eccleston map to give to Rapid Fliers.

POLICE REPORT

06.132 This item was taken after Kiln Lane Open Space.

Constable Harper reported on the crime figures for Eccleston over the last 30 days when there were 5 burglaries, 1 attempted burglary, 3 burglaries to non-residential properties; 3 cars stolen, 6 broken into, 3 damaged; 1 stranger assault and youth disorder complaints regarding children playing football. By far the most complaints were from Walmesley Road and George reported that he and Constable Miller had spent considerable time at Walmesley Road last Friday night when there were from 60 to 80 youths congregating. The numbers had decreased by Saturday night but the police are now aware that the problem has returned. Many of the youths were from Rainford and Billinge areas.

STAFF SALARIES

06.133 **Resolved that the staff salaries are increased to the budgeted figures, ie Curators £4,545 jointly; Caretaker £4,450 and the Clerk £15,610 including allowance for working at home.**

CPRE SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL

06.134 **Resolved to renew the CPRE subscription at a cost of £27.00 per annum.**

Councillor Broughton joined the Meeting

CARETAKER TELEPHONE/VOTING DAY REMUNERATION

- 06.135 **Resolved to pay the Caretaker the budgeted £75 as a contribution towards the use of her private telephone on behalf of Eccleston Parish Council. Also agreed to award the Caretaker £25 for election duties.**

KILN LANE OPEN SPACE

- 06.136 **Resolved to find out from John Broomhead the cost of moving 3 of the willow trees to the side of the open space adjacent to Millbrook Lane.**

Resolved to ask residents at the Annual Parish Meeting whether they would be interested in forming a residents' group to liaise with the Parish Council on the care of our open spaces.

GILLARS GREEN

- 06.137 The Clerk read out the e-mail from Councillor Sims giving information about 'mosquito' alarms as brought up at the last Parish Council meeting. It would appear that the area needs to be identified as a "hot spot" by the police before being referred to the Neighbourhood Action Group and other agencies. There is also the question of appointing someone to switch the alarm on and off and where it would be plugged into. Councillor Evans has spoken to Brian Johnson regarding the installation of lights and is waiting for confirmation of the cost. This is to be discussed at the next Parish Council Meeting.

REPORTS

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

Ecclesfield Management Committee – Cllr Bain reported on the meeting that took place on Tuesday 6 March 2007 when the following points were discussed:

- Repair of shower
- Increase in alcohol consumption around the Changing Rooms
- Request for a container to be placed on Ecclesfield
- Poor condition of one of the pitches
- Provision for more mini soccer pitches
- Soccer Gala on 9 June 2007
- Stolen Fire Extinguisher
- Entry to Ecclesfield from Ecclesfield Road – Councillor Broughton has carried out a site inspection and reports that one of the trees looks dangerous. Residents are also complaining that the entry is being used as a toilet on match days

Resolved that it would not be feasible at this time to install a container on Ecclesfield for storage of soccer equipment.

Resolved that Councillor Broughton liaises with Terry Deveney (who sent someone from the Parks & Civic Pride Department last week to inspect the area) regarding the dangerous tree and the Clerk was asked to write to football club representatives.

Smithy Working Party – All Councillors were issued with the Curators' Report for March. Topics under discussion were as follows:

- New Programme of Exhibitions
- Fire Department Building Survey
- Leaflet Printing
- United Reformed Church artefacts

Development Services Consultation - Cllrs Duncan & Perry and the Clerk attended a meeting at St Helens Town Hall on Thursday 8 March 2007 when there were two presentations on the following:

- 1 Paul Knott summarised Waste Planning for Merseyside. The Issues & Options Summary Report for Public Consultation were given out to delegates at the meeting
- 2 Bob Massingham gave highlights on the Green Space Strategy. Booklets were also given out at the meeting.

Consultations on both these topics are due to start on the 9th and 12th March 2007 respectively and will last 6 weeks. The public will be able to access both via the website, libraries, shops, newspapers or the Town Hall.

St Helens Voluntary Sector Forum – Councillor Maloney reported on a meeting held on 22 February 2007 at 10.00 am at Tontine House, St Helens. Sally Yeoman, Chief Officer of the CVS carried out the introduction followed by Rebecca Burke-Sharples, Chief Executive of Halton and St Helens PCT. As a newly formed organisation, Halton and St Helens PCT is developing a communication and involvement strategy document. All PCT communication and involvement work will then use the principles outlined in this strategy. It needs to be practical and include the views of those who will be using it. It will be presented at the 22 May 2007 PCT Board Meeting.

Louise Sinnott, Patient and Public Involvement Manager talked about PP1, which is the active participation of patients and the public in developing health services. It is giving local people a say in how local services are planned, delivered and evaluated.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

06.139 **Resolved to note the following:**

Delegated

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Burrows Lane Farm | Demolish existing barns & replace with steel frame Dutch barns partially clad in green – N/O |
| Holme Close | Works to trees covered by Tree Preservation Order – Refer to Trees & Woodlands Officer |
| 24 Fairholme Ave | Rear conservatory – N/O |
| 152 St Helens Rd | Formation of new vehicular access to St Helens Road – N/O |
| 9 Church Lane | Works to trees covered by TPO – N/O |
| 40 Villiers Cres | Alter flat roof to pitched on existing garage, install smaller window openings to side elevation on 2-storey ext previously granted under P/2006/1422 – N/O |
| 7 Corsican Gdns | Single storey ext to side & rear – N/O |

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

06.140 **Resolved to renew the grounds maintenance contract for the Village Hall and Millbrow Nature Reserve at the cost quoted of £908.37 plus VAT. This is an increase of £17.51 over last year.**

ACCOUNTS

06.141 Received £303 Hall Hire; £58.74 R Kelsey PAYE March; £2.00 J Chamberlain overpayment in February Salary

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|---|-------------------|
| British Gas – March | 103.00 |
| Manweb – March | 54.50 |
| United Utilities – March | 46.19 |
| United Utilities – Direct Debit for Surface water/drainage – March | 15.50 |
| St Helens Council – Cleaning – February and March | 482.85 |
| L Poole - Salary – March | 360.00 |
| L Poole – Contribution to telephone charges | 75.00 |
| L Scott – Salary March includes £7.20 travel expenses | 973.57 |
| L Scott – Petty Cash April | 20.00 |
| J Chamberlain – Salary March | 143.27 |
| V Hirons – Salary March | 143.27 |
| PAYE – Curators March (£161.48 3 rd month Period 4) | 80.96 |
| PAYE – Clerk March (£545.16 3 rd month Period 4) | 272.58 |
| EPC NI contribution – Clerk March (£209.70 3 rd month Period 4) | 104.85 |
| PAYE – Ecclesfield Caretaker – March (£117.26 3 rd month Period 4) | 58.74 |
| Post Office – Period 4 NI and PAYE payment (already reported) | (1,550.95) |
| B&M Office Machines – Copies 6/2/07 – 18/2/07 | 14.22 |
| CPRE – Annual subs renewal | 27.00 |
| St James - Hire of hall for Parish Council Meeting | 26.00 |
| Balance brought forward February Meeting £29,634.19 + receipts this month | £29,997.93 |
| Total Payments this month | 3,001.50 |
| Approximate balance | £26,996.43 |

RECONCILIATION - The Clerk reported that, as at 28 February 2007, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500, Reserve Account £16,731.95 and Capital Reserve Account £462.26.

Members of the Finance Sub-Committee were given copies of the monthly Reconciliations together with copies of the bank statements for February 2007.

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| PETTY CASH - Expenditure for the month of February 2007 | £ 23.34 |
| Approximate balance at the end of February 2007 | £0.66 |

CORRESPONDENCE

06.142 **Resolved to note the following:**

Christ Church Treasurer – Request for continued financial assistance - **Clerk to reply this will be considered in the next Financial Year**

CPRE – Countryside Voice publication Spring 2007 – **passed to Cllr Perry**

Merseytravel – Meeting 16 March 2007 and Culture Calendar – **passed to Cllr Evans**

Childline – request for financial assistance – **Clerk to reply not in our criteria**

MPFA – Meeting 22 March 2007 at St Ann’s Millennium Centre, Rainhill

St Helens Council – Public Consultation documents on Greenspace Strategy – **passed to Councillor Broughton**

CPRE – Fieldwork publication – March 07 – **passed to Cllr Perry**

MPFA – subscription renewal request

EMERGENCY ITEM

06.143 **Resolved to renew the MPFA subscription at a cost of £10.00.**

DATES OF MEETINGS

06.144 **Resolved to note the following:**

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|------------------|---------|-----------------------|--------------|------|
| Tues 10 April 07 | 7.00 pm | Smithy Meeting | Village | Hall |
| | 7.30 pm | Parish Council | | |
| Tues 24 April 07 | 7.30 pm | Annual Parish Meeting | Village Hall | |

The Meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

SIGNED

DATED