

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY  
10 MARCH 2009, at 7.30 pm, in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, Kiln Lane, Ecclestone**

PRESENT: Cllr Perry (Chair)  
Cllrs Bain, Broughton, Duncan, D & S Evans, Maloney, C & G Pearl & Sims  
Constable D Brown, Mrs L Scott (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Cllrs Gray-Williams & Skepper

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

8.141 Cllr Pearl declared an interest in Minute 08.152 – Planning Applications.

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 10 FEBRUARY 2009**

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

**MATTERS ARISING**

08.143 08.134 - Kiln Lane Open Space – John Boden has been sent instructions to go ahead with the replacement planting.  
08.136 – Art Competition – Started 9 March, finishes 24 April, Prize Giving 3.00 pm 23 May in the Village Hall – Prizes to be decided.  
08.136 – Smithy – The skip was delivered on Saturday 21 February 2009. There was more rubbish than anticipated so the skip was filled. Thanks to Councillor Skepper, Paul Potter, Joanne Chamberlain and Vicky Hiron for their hard work.

**RESIDENTS' ISSUES**

8.144 The Clerk reported on a complaint received from the resident at 560 Burrows Lane regarding the trees behind her property. This is ongoing from last year and it was believed to have been resolved last October. Confirmation of this has not yet been received from David Bielawski.

**POLICE REPORT**

08.145 Constable Brown reported on the crime figures from 1 February to 10 March 2009 and gave comparisons with the equivalent period last year. There were 27 calls regarding Antisocial Behaviour (45 last year), 4 Burglaries (5), 2 Attempted Burglaries (1), 10 Criminal Damage (8), 2 Drugs Offences (4), 2 Thefts from Motor Vehicles (8), 8 Thefts generally (10), 4 Violence (8), 1 Alcohol Seizure (3). Most of the problems in Ecclestone at the moment are of antisocial behaviour in the Gillars Green area. The Police are in the process of gathering evidence.

**CPRE SUBSCRIPTION**

8.146 This has increased by £1.00. **Resolved to renew.**

**Cllr Broughton joined the meeting**

## MILL BROW NATURE RESERVE

8.147 The Clerk read out an e-mail received from Mike Roberts, Trees & Woodlands Officer for St Helens District Council, giving his recommendations for Mill Brow Nature Reserve regarding maintenance. Mr Roberts also reported that, upon inspection of the area, he discovered litter and garden waste had been dumped over the rear fences of some of the properties.

**Resolved the Clerk writes a letter to all residents whose properties back on to the Nature Reserve – Cllr Broughton offered to deliver these.**

## GREEN BIN FOR VILLAGE HALL

08.148 The Clerk requested a green bin for garden waste but was informed that the Parish Council was classified as “trade” and not entitled to a bin. Details of compost bins were sent which could be used as an alternative.

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

8.149 The Clerk gave all Councillors a copy of the proposed Publication Scheme for Eccleston Parish Council. Councillors agreed to this with the exception of charges for the supply of information. This was amended to 10 pence/page plus any 2<sup>nd</sup> class posting and packaging costs.

**Resolved to adopt the Publication Scheme. This will be posted in Eccleston Library and sent to the website manager for inclusion on our site.**

## CHAIN OF OFFICE & HONOUR BOARD

08.150 **Resolved to hold a meeting of the Chain Working Party on Tuesday 7 April 2009 at 6.45 pm in the Village Hall.**

## REPORTS

08.151 **Resolved to note the following:**

Ecclesfield Committee – Meeting held on Tuesday 3 March 2009. The following points were discussed:

- Grant information for goal post replacement
- Defacement of Changing Room Sign
- Replacement of 2 broken shower fans
- Removal of graffiti
- Drainage Problems on pitches and silted drain in Windle Brook
- Illegal car park penalty notices

Finance Sub-Committee – a meeting of the Sub-Committee took place at 6.30 pm today when the following was discussed:

- Risk Assessment carried out according to the format suggested by BDO Stoy Hayward LLP – the external audit company
- Hall & Personnel Sub Committee Premises checks
- Budget clarification

Smithy Working Party – all councillors were given a copy of the Curators’ Report for March 2009.

The following points were discussed:

- St Helens Cultural Awards success
- Accreditation – this has yet to be made official
- Visit of Sue Wright re grant funding
- Need for a Curatorial Adviser
- Mad Hatter’s Tea Party

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

**8.152 Resolved to note the following:**

Delegated

- Eccleston Mere Schl** Erection of canopy to main entrance & second canopy for outdoor play **N/O**  
**16 Cranston Close** 2-storey side & part rear ext & part single storey rear ext – **N/O**  
**Eccleston Methodist** Demolish church & buildings & erect 8 dwellings – **see letter in packet**  
**21 Bleak Hill Rd** Demolish conservatory, erect single storey side ext & front porch – **N/O**

ACCOUNTS

08.153 Received Hall Hire £485.00; R Kelsey PAYE March £65.00

British Gas – March	30.00
Manweb – March	81.50
United Utilities – March	53.01
United Utilities – March	15.39
J Chamberlain – Salary March (includes Bonus for Accreditation)	356.04
J Chamberlain – Purchases Reqn 29 for Smithy	86.56
V Hirons – Salary March	356.04
V Hirons – Purchases Reqn 30 for Smithy	86.48
L Poole - Salary – March	384.08
L Poole – Reimbursement for Telephone Calls for the year	75.00
L Scott – Salary March includes £12.00 travel expenses	1,084.03
PAYE – Curators March (Cumulative £156.00 3 <sup>rd</sup> month Period 4)	78.00
PAYE – Clerk March (Cumulative £535.80 3 <sup>rd</sup> month Period 4)	267.80
EPC NI contribution – Clerk March (Cumulative £227.02 3 <sup>rd</sup> month Period 4)	113.51
PAYE – Ecclesfield Caretaker – March (£130.00 3 <sup>rd</sup> month Period 4)	65.00
Griffin Environmental Services – March Invoice 22157	49.83
Mainsway Ltd – Hire of skip for Village Hall Rubbish 21/2/09	86.25
CPRE – Subscription for 2009 (Up £1)	29.00
B&M Machines – Extra copies & Annual Service Support Package	19.90
Post Office Ltd – PAYE & NI last ¼ payments – already informed monthly	(1,573.13)
St Helens Council – Cleaning Feb & March	487.40
N W Museums – Charge for J Chamberlain to attend meeting	20.00
Balance brought forward February meeting £28,001.40 + receipts this month	£28,551.40
Total Payments this month	3,824.82
<b>Approximate balance</b>	<b>£24,726.58</b>

**RECONCILIATION** - The Clerk reported that, as at 27 February 2009, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500, Reserve Account £16,302.72 and Capital Reserve Account £463.05.

Members of the Finance Sub-Committee were given copies of the monthly Reconciliation for February 2009.

**PETTY CASH** - Expenditure for the month of February 2009 £1.08  
**Approximate** balance at the end of February 2009 £22.99

**MILL BROW MAINTENANCE CONTRACT** – Cost next year will be £293.68 plus VAT  
**Resolved to delay the acceptance of a new contract until Cllr Sims has spoken to the Head of De la Salle School to determine their involvement in the Nature Reserve**

CORRESPONDENCE

08.154 **Resolved to note the following:**

**United Utilities** – letter stating they are not enforcing the new way of charging for 2009-2010 due to hardship this method has caused

DATES OF MEETINGS

08.155 **Resolved to note the following:**

**PLEASE NOTE A CHANGE IN THE LIST OF MEETING DATES – ANNUAL PARISH MEETING IS CHANGED TO 28 APRIL 2009 at the Village Hall**

Tues 14 April 09	7.00 pm	Smithy Meeting	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	Parish Council	Village Hall
Tues 28 April 09	7.30 pm	Annual Parish Meeting	Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

SIGNED .....

DATED .....