

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY 8 MARCH 2016 at 7.30 pm in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, Kiln Lane, Eccleston**

PRESENT: Cllr Ashcroft (Chairman)  
Cllrs Broughton, Duncan, Haw, Kempself, C Pearl, G Pearl and Watmough  
Janet Anderson – Clerk  
3 residents

APOLOGIES

15.135 Cllrs Dawson, Gray-Williams, Sims and Skepper

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

15.136 Cllr G Pearl declared an interest in Item 15.143 – Planning Applications.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 9 FEBRUARY 2016

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

MATTERS ARISING

15.138 Item 15.125 – Cllr Haw reported that the potholes at the Walmesley Road bus stop had been repaired.  
Item 15.125 – the Clerk had emailed St Helens Council, Highways department requesting Albany Avenue, Bleak Hill Road and Walmesley Road be 20 mph zones.  
Item 15.127 – Parish Councillors had agreed to sign the Management Agreement for Mill Brow Nature Reserve on the understanding that the signage would be completed to the satisfaction of the Parish Council.

RESIDENTS' ISSUES

15.139 A resident raised the issue of water running off the field in Bobbies Lane causing flooding. Cllr Haw had contacted St Helens Council and requested they regularly clean out the gullies to clear the build up of leaves. St Helens Council were also looking at the possibility of putting another grid nearer to the field to take some of the water. He also reported that United Utilities were also looking at solutions to channel water away from gardens.

Cllr Duncan reported that the uneven flags on the pavement of St Helens Road had not been repaired. Cllr Haw reported that St Helens Council had been to look at them and it was being dealt with.

A resident raised the issue of parking at Walmesley Road shops. She reported that the area was very congested at all times during the day. After a lengthy discussion **it was agreed that the matter would be reviewed when the new cafe was open and then possibly arrange for the parking attendant to visit the area.**

**Cllr Kempself joined the meeting.**

POLICE REPORT

15.140 PCSO Green reported that police had been monitoring parking around schools. Cllr G Pearl raised parking problems near Eccleston Mere School at Saleswood Avenue. PCSO Green said he would monitor the situation. Cllr G Pearl also raised an issue of youths gathering in the entry way at Brookside Avenue. PCSO Green had not encountered any persons there but would continue to patrol the area. Cllr Ashcroft raised the issue of empty canisters being found around Ecclesfield changing facility and asked PCSO Green to patrol. PCSO Green reported crime figures comparing the period Feb-Mar 2016 with the same period last year

which showed a slight drop in some areas including burglary (dwelling). He advised residents to still be vigilant keeping doors and windows locked.

## ANNUAL MAGAZINE

15.141 The magazine had gone to print and would be delivered to the Guides' representative on 24 March 2016 for delivery to residents at least one week before the Annual Parish Meeting on 26 April 2016.

## REPORTS

15.142 **Resolved to note the following:**

Ecclesfield – Tuesday 1 March 2016 at 7.00 pm in Eccleston Village Hall. Councillors Ashcroft, Broughton and Sims attended along with the Secretary and reported as follows:

- Caretaker reported no problems with the changing facility except for small empty canisters being left around the outside of the building
- Ecclesfield FC had not played any games because of bad weather and water logged pitches. He mentioned to the meeting that discussions were taking place with the St Helens and District League regarding changing to a summer season instead of winter
- Bleak Hill Rovers reported the junior leagues were also discussing a summer league
- Bleak Hill Rovers reported an incident in September 2014 that was in the hands of the Football Association's insurance company
- Pitch fees for 2016/17 were agreed and would remain the same
- Budget was agreed and accepted

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

- Work being carried out – Phill Gregson and his apprentice were working on the new front doors. He was keeping a photographic record of the work and a 'blog' could be added to web site
- Windows had been fitted and CCTV installed
- Slate – Curators reported a slate that had fallen from the roof. Roofing company to look at the roof this week
- Accreditation – the return due in August this year
- Shakespeare Week – opens at the Smithy on 12 March. Shakespeare talk for adults by Rosemary Tyler on 17 March which will be a cheese and wine evening costing £5 at the door
- Murder Mystery Evening – been put back a week to Saturday 2 July 2016 at 7pm
- Training – Joanne attending a training session on healing herbs on 13 March
- Badges – curators asked what type of badge and which budget. Cllrs agreed to inexpensive plastic, pin on badges and the cost would come out of Parish Council budget
- Schools – St Julie's had taken a loan box and made enquiries about a potential visit to the Smithy to cover the Industrial Revolution
- The curators informed the meeting of how the Smithy were actively engaged in lifelong learning – education for all regardless of age or background

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

15.143 **None to report**

## ACCOUNTS

15.144

**Receipts:** Village Hall Hire £447, RK PAYE £77.80, HMRC £369.08, Windle – phone/copier £25.53, NatWest interest 0.02 and £1.29

**Total Receipts**

**£920.72**

**Payments:**

GPS Telecom – clerk’s phone/internet – Jan	32.33
CostCo – membership	24.00
United Utilities	9.86
United Utilities	32.00
Southern Electric – Elec Nov-Jan	364.26
L Poole – March + exp	437.23
J Anderson – March + PC	1296.79
J Chamberlain – March	168.86
V Griffiths – March	175.06
Paul Potter – grounds maintenance – March	18.75
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£2559.14</b>

**RECONCILIATION** - The Clerk reported that, as at 29 February 2016, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £25,611.41 and Capital Deposit Account £464.91.

<b>PETTY CASH</b> - Expenditure for the month of February 2016	£10.73
<b>Approximate</b> balance at the end of February 2016	£9.31

CORRESPONDENCE

15.145 **Resolved to note the following:**

- St Helens Council** – request to use hall for EU referendum 23 June 2016
- St Helens Council** – confirmation of receipt of signed Management Agreement for Mill Brow Nature Reserve with an agreement to complete signage satisfactorily
- St Helens Council** – request to continue knotweed treatment year 6
- St Helens Windows** – their bank made a processing error – our cheque for £2090 may have been withdrawn twice but bank will make the adjustment (Clerk to check at bank)
- SLCC** – proposing to create a new legally independent trade union to offer employment advice and support
- Tower Mint Ltd** – commemorative medal for Queen’s 90<sup>th</sup> birthday for schools and councils
- Eccleston Old People’s Welfare Committee** – letter informing Parish Council of change of charitable status from Unincorporated Charity to Charitable Incorporated Organisation

DATES OF MEETINGS

15.146 **Resolved to note the following:**

Tuesday 12 April 16	6.45 pm	Smithy Meeting	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	Parish Council	Village Hall
Tuesday 26 April 16	7.30 pm	Annual Parish Meeting	Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

SIGNED .....

DATED .....