

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY, 13 NOVEMBER 2012 at 7.30 pm in OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, Portico Lane, Eccleston Park, Prescot**

PRESENT: Cllr C Pearl (Chair)  
Cllrs Ashcroft, Broughton, Gray-Williams, G Pearl, Sims & Skepper  
Janet Anderson (Clerk)

APOLOGIES

12.91 Cllrs Almond, Haw, Duncan & Watmough

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

12.92 Councillors G Pearl – 12.101 Planning.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 9 OCTOBER 2012

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

MATTERS ARISING

12.94 None

RESIDENTS' ISSUES

12.95 None

POLICE REPORT

12.96 No one from the Police attended. Crime statistics were sent to the Clerk and distributed to all Parish Councillors.

SMITHY POLICIES

12.97 **Resolved that the following Smithy policies be approved and adopted:**  
Smithy Heritage Centre Forward Plan; Access Policy Statement; Documentation Policy Statement; Documentation Plan; Acquisitions and Disposals Policy; Management Policy on the Care and Conservation of the Collections; Environmental Policy. The policies will be reviewed each year at the Parish Annual Meeting in May.

TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

12.98 St Julies School, Eccleston Library and Rainford's responded favourably. The Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place on Thursday 6 December 2012 at 11.00 am.

AMENDMENT TO CODE OF CONDUCT

12.99 St Helens Borough Council recommended the following amendments to the Code of Conduct:

6.3 Line 5, addition of ***subject to having previously obtained a dispensation*** you may make representations to the meeting to the same extent as any other member of the public.

## **Dispensations**

**11** Amended to include “*Monitoring Officer authorised to grant dispensation rather than set up a meeting of Standards Committee specifically for this purpose. This will enable applications for dispensation to be made, considered and granted in a timely manner but it is suggested that a right of appeal against the Monitoring Officer’s decision to Standards Committee also be provided for.*

**Resolved that the amendments be adopted.**

## REPORTS

### **12.100 Resolved to note the following:**

Smithy Working Party – all Councillors were given a copy of the Curators’ Report for November 2012. The following points were discussed:

- Curators attended Eccleston Ladies Guild at Lester Drive Tuesday 13 November 2012
- Museum accreditation documentation completed and submitted before deadline of 28 October 2012. Awaiting approval of policies (see item 12.97 above)
- Group from Pilkington Family Trust visited the Smithy on 11 October 2012 for a tour and talk. The group borrowed a WW2 loan box
- Rainhill Rotary Club visited the Smithy on 25 October 2012. A successful evening in which the Curators provided a talk and also refreshments (paid by Rainhill Rotary Club).
- Faulty fire alarm discovered by the Curators on 25 October 2012. Curators raised concerns about contacting the relevant person. This was discussed and Councillors failed to understand the concerns. Cllr G Pearl and Sims were consulted and the correct procedure was followed
- 2012 Season – events being organised include: Jake Scolah (blacksmith) and Phil Gregson (wheelwright) for International Blacksmith’s Day. The beer event will run alongside this next year. George Wrights Brewery agreed to run a competition to design a pump label of a beer the day. Open Heritage Days will have a 1940s feel with George Wrights Brewery having a recipe for a beer from the time and will possibly set up a microbrewery. There will also be a cake baking competition. Cllrs discussed suggestions for judges and will investigate possibilities
- All Our Stories – the Curators have been successful in the Heritage Lottery Fund bid to record ‘Memories of Eccleston’. The Smithy has been awarded £5,200 to record the memories of local people. The results will be published and a touring exhibition will attend local venues
- Dickensian Christmas – this year’s Christmas exhibition will explain traditions of Christmas and the part Dickens’ work played in today’s interpretation. Exhibition takes place 8 & 9, 15 & 16 December, 1-4pm

Clerk’s Meeting – The Clerk attended a meeting at St Helens Town Hall on Friday 26 October 2012 when the following points were discussed:

- Presentation on Equality Act 2010 by Simon Cousins, Equality Officer
- Council tax base – it is hoped that Borough Council will stay with old basis for calculating properties for the precept
- Parish Councils’ websites to be linked to St Helens Borough Council website – Eccleston already linked
- Code of Conduct – amendments made by St Helens Borough Council
- Police and Crime Commissioner Election on 15 November 2012
- Next Meeting – to be arranged, possibly February.

Merseyside Playing Fields Association – Cllr Ashcroft attend a meeting on 8 November 2012 at Liverpool Cricket Club when the following points were discussed:

- MPFA received a bursary from Ladbrooks of £10 thousand to support deserving causes
- Child and Family Connect Centre St Helens requesting £250 to replace play equipment
- MPFA to organise a canal boat trip for children

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

### 12.101 Resolved to note the following:

#### Delegated

- 13 Brooklands Rd** Two storey extensions to both side elevations, two storey extension to front porch, two storey and single extensions to the rear and a single storey garage extension to the side **Concern expressed at these extensive proposals - which would affect the character of the existing property**
- 31 Park Ave** Ground floor extension to form bedroom and kitchen, with change of use of garage to a habitable room **Query whether there is sufficient off-road parking provision for vehicles**
- 5 The Paddock** Installation of pitched roof dormers to the front and a flat roof dormer to the rear **N/O**
- 4 Orchard Hey** Erection of part two, part single storey side extension **N/O**

## ACCOUNTS

12.102 Received Village Hall Hire £399; R Kelsey PAYE £76.20, HM Rev & Cust 2<sup>nd</sup> ¼ payment £701.65 Interest £5.05 **TOTAL £1181.90**

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| J Chamberlain – items for HOD   | 9.47    |
| Lisa Poole – toilet roll/hand wash for Village Hall                                       | 23.98   |
| St Helens Council – Cleaning September  | 269.80  |
| Tommy Poole Electrical – repair to boiler and boiler room keys cut                        | 95.00   |
| United Utilities – Oct payment  | 8.93    |
| United Utilities – Oct payment  | 25.96   |
| CAF Ltd – photocopier lease   | 102.00  |
| Total Gas & Power – July-Oct  | 118.19  |
| GPS –Clerk telephone Sept   | 30.71   |
| Southern Electric – May-July  | 393.98  |
| BT – Smithy phone – quarter   | 193.29  |
| B&M Office Machines – photocopies   | 32.66   |
| J Chamberlain – Salary – November plus expenses   | 256.46  |
| V Griffiths – Salary – November   | 165.72  |
| L Poole - Salary – November   | 407.50  |
| J Anderson - Salary November – inc travel and £20 petty cash                              | 1206.33 |
| J Anderson – laminator and printer ink  | 30.84   |
| PAYE – Curators November (Cumulative £164.80 2 <sup>nd</sup> month Period 3)              | 82.40   |
| PAYE – Clerk November (Cumulative £298.40 2 <sup>nd</sup> month Period 3)                 | 149.20  |
| PAYE – Caretaker November (Cumulative £0.00 2 <sup>nd</sup> month Period 3)               | 0.00    |
| NI Contribution November – Clerk (Cumulative £188.98 2 <sup>nd</sup> month Period 3)      | 94.49   |
| EPC NI Contributions November Clerk (Cumulative £220.08 2 <sup>nd</sup> month Period 3)   | 110.04  |
| PAYE – Ecclesfield Caretaker November (Cumulative £152.40 2 <sup>nd</sup> month Period 3) | 76.20   |
| Our Lady’s Help of Christians – Hall hire November  | 20.00   |
| Paul Potter – travel exp for return of museum objects to Rawtenstall                      | 31.04   |

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Balance brought forward October meeting £33178.03 plus receipts this month | £34359.93 |
| Total Payments October   | £3934.19  |
| Approximate balance  | £30425.74 |

**RECONCILIATION** - The Clerk reported that, as at 25 October 2012, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £27,968.44 and Capital Deposit Account £464.12.

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| <b>PETTY CASH</b> - Expenditure for the month of October 2012 | £12.20 |
| <b>Approximate</b> balance at the end of October 2012         | £3.35  |

**INTERNAL AUDIT** – The Accounts have been internally audited for the second quarter with nothing to report.

CORRESPONDENCE

12.103 **Resolved to note the following:**

**Paul Potter** – request to get a skip to tidy up the grounds – **Clerk to find out what needs to be removed and report back**

**Invitation from Windle Parish Council** to Chairman to attend Bleak Hill Tree Lighting, Friday 7 December, 1.45pm – **Chair Cllr C Pearl and Cllr G Pearl to attend**

EMERGENCY ITEM - LEAVE OF ABSENCE

12.104 Leave of absence granted for Margaretta Maloney whilst incapacitated.

DATES OF MEETINGS

12.105 **Resolved to note the following:**

|                        |          |                |                   |
|------------------------|----------|----------------|-------------------|
| Tuesday 4 December 12  | 7.00 pm  | Ecclesfield    | Village Hall      |
| Thursday 6 December 12 | 11.00 am | Tree Lighting  | Eccleston Library |
| Tuesday 11 December 12 | 6.45 pm  | Smithy Meeting | Village Hall      |
|                        | 7.30 pm  | Parish Council | Village Hall      |

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

SIGNED .....

DATED .....