

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY 12 OCTOBER 2010, at 7.30 pm in St James's Church Hall, St Helens Road, Eccleston Park

PRESENT: Cllr G Pearl (Chair)

Cllrs Ashcroft, Broughton, Evans, Gray-Williams, Maloney, C Pearl, Sims, Skepper and Watmough

Mr S Skidmore – CEN, CSO L Rowling, Mr & Mrs Martlew, Mr A Martlew
Mrs L Scott, Clerk

APOLOGIES: Cllr Bain & Duncan

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

10.64 Councillors G Pearl & Sims declared an interest in Item 10.74 – Planning Applications.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 14 SEPTEMBER 2010

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

MATTERS ARISING

10.66 **Councillor Co-option – Resolved that Anita Ashcroft be co-opted as a Parish Councillor for West Ward. Councillor Pearl and Parish Councillors welcomed Anita onto the Parish Council.**

Village Hall Trees – David Bielawski from St Helens Council inspected the trees to the side of the Village Hall and will forward an estimate for the necessary work.

Millbrow Trees - Councillors Bain, Evans and Clerk met with Rick Rogers and Mike Roberts of St Helens Council at the Nature Reserve on 23 September 2010 to discuss a way forward for the site. The ground between the 2 sections of boardwalk is very boggy and un-navigable without wellington boots/waders. It was recommended that we contact Groundwork Merseyside which is currently investigating sites for improvement.

MR S SKIDMORE – CEN

10.67 Simon Skidmore, from the Community Empowerment Network, is interested in developing a Heritage Trail in the area and is looking for the support of the Parish Council and other possible funding bodies. Parish Councillors requested more detail and costing before any decision could be made but commended the idea in general.

Councillor Broughton joined the Meeting

RESIDENTS' ISSUES

10.68 Councillor Sims read out a letter from Ms Julie Twist whose Mother is the owner of 25 Griffin Close, the garden of which backs on to Millwood Avenue Open Space. The tenants of the house have complained of a waterlogged garden which Ms Twist believes is the responsibility of the Parish and District Councils.

Resolved that Councillor Sims consults with Angela Sanderson when she returns from holiday and reports back to the Parish Council.

The Martlew family attended the Parish Meeting in order to request support for the Lester Drive Centre bid for funding.

Resolved that a letter of support be drafted by Councillor Sims and sent to the Clerk for forwarding to Mr & Mrs Martlew.

Councillor Evans has paid a visit to the resident at 18 Millbrook Lane who complained about overhanging trees/bushes on her property. In addition, she requested the brambles be cut back near her fence. As Mill Brow Nature Reserve has recently been inspected by St Helens Council and Groundwork Merseyside – see Item 10.66 – this complaint will be followed up once a way forward for the Reserve has been established.

POLICE REPORT

10.69 CSO Laura Rowling reported on the crime figures, comparing 1 January 2009 to 11 October 2009 with the same period this year. Laura informed Parish Councillors of the increased patrols that have been organised on bonfire and mischief nights. She is also liaising with Councillor Sims and local schools on an initiative aimed at addressing speeding and parking problems.

SMITHY SECURITY LIGHT

10.70 **Resolved that the Clerk contact ABM Alarms for a firm price and query the guaranteed period of the parts.**

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

10.71 **Resolved that Councillors attend the morning service at Christ Church, Eccleston on Sunday 14 November 2010 starting at 10.45 am. Councillor Rita Maloney will attend the service at the Cenotaph, St Helens.**

TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

10.72 This is to take place on Thursday 2 December 2010 at Eccleston Library at 11.00 am. Eccleston Lane Ends CP School is to be invited to entertain residents.

REPORTS

10.73 **Resolved to note the following:**

War Memorial Sub-Committee – A meeting was held in the home of Cllr Duncan today, attended by Councillors Evans, Gray-Williams and Skepper. The Sub-Committee decided it would be necessary to start the process of securing funding from the beginning and asked the Clerk to obtain help and advice.

Smithy Working Party – all Councillors were given a copy of the Curators' Report for October 2010. The following points were discussed:

- Volunteer agreements - 3 received at present
- HOD Evaluation Meeting - missed due to late notification
- Loan Boxes - in the process of being assembled
- Christmas Event - 4/5/10 and 11/12/10
- Diary of Events - to be forwarded to Cllr Sims
- Smithy Alarm - Clerk to contact Best Alarms
- Security Light - ABM to be asked to quote

St Helens CVS – Councillor Maloney attended the AGM on 23 September 2010 at the World of Glass. The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Linda Maloney, presided over the meeting. The following items were discussed:

- Welcome and introductions by the Chairman, Jean Mulford
- Minutes and Information packs given to all in attendance
- Annual Report - Sally Yeoman, Chief Officer
- Financial Statement – Tom Kelly, Honorary Treasurer
- Election of Officers and Board
- Vote of thanks – Mr J Hill

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

10.74 **Resolved to note the following:**

Delegated

10 Albany Ave Erection of brick garage to rear – **N/O**

APPROVAL OF ANNUAL RETURN

10.75 **Resolved that the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2010 be signed and approved by the Chairman.**

ACCOUNTS

10.76 Received Village Hall £340.00; R Kelsey PAYE Oct 71.60; Bank Interest £5.70

British Gas – October	88.00
Manweb – October	106.00
United Utilities – October payment	12.73
United Utilities – October payment	24.75
St Helens Council - October Rates	84.00
St Helens Council – Cleaning July/August	515.42
J Chamberlain - Salary October plus HLF Hours	1,565.13
J Chamberlain – Reqn 61	115.06
J Chamberlain – Replacement padlock for Smithy side gate	10.98
V Hirons - Salary October	165.72
V Hirons – Smithy purchases – Heritage Weekend & HLF	80.04
L Poole - Salary – October	402.90
L Scott – Salary October includes £7.20 travel expenses	1144.42
L Scott – Petty Cash October	20.00
PAYE – Curators October (Cumulative £436.00 1 st month Period 3)	436.00
NI – Curators October (Joanne £14.99 & EPC £191.86 1 st month Period 3)	206.85
PAYE – Clerk October (Cumulative £284.20 1 st month Period 3)	284.20
PAYE – Caretaker (Cumulative £4.60 1 st month Period 3)	4.60
EPC NI contribution – Clerk October (Cumulative £121.01 1 st month Period 3)	121.01
PAYE – Ecclesfield Caretaker – October (£71.60 1 st month Period 3)	71.60
B&M Office Machines – copies Inv 135993	26.44
BDO LLP – Fee for Annual Audit	470.00
P Potter – Village Hall Grounds Maintenance – payment 4	140.00
St James PCC – Room hire for Parish Council Meeting October	28.00
BT – Clerk’s phone	116.42
BT – Smithy phone	115.68
Ecclesfield – 3 rd Contribution to running costs	915.00

Balance brought forward from September meeting £51,174.69 plus receipts this month £51,591.99

Total Payments this month £7,270.95

Approximate balance £44,321.04

RECONCILIATION - The Clerk also reported that, as at 30 September 2010, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,700, Reserve Account £39,059.82 and Capital Deposit Account (new name) £463.64. Members of the Finance Sub-Committee were given copies of the monthly Reconciliations for September 2010.

PETTY CASH - Expenditure for the month of September 2010 £18.71

Approximate balance at the end of September 2010 £5.63

CORRESPONDENCE

10.77 **Resolved to note the following:**

St Helens Council – Invitation to Ceremony of Remembrance – Cllrs Evans, Pearl & Maloney to attend 11/11/10 ceremony & Cllr Maloney to attend 14/11/10

DATES OF MEETINGS

10.78 **Resolved to note the following:**

Tuesday 9 November 10	7.00 pm	Smithy Meeting	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	Parish Council	Village Hall
Sunday 14 November 10	10.45 am	Remembrance Day	Christ Church

The meeting closed at 9.14 pm.

SIGNED

DATED