

**MINUTES OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL SMITHY WORKING PARTY MEETING  
held at 6.45 pm on TUESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER, 2007, in the VILLAGE HALL, Kiln Lane,  
Eccleston**

PRESENT: Cllr Bain (Chair)  
Cllrs Evans, Gleave, Maloney, Skepper  
Miss V Hirons (Curators)  
Mrs L Scott (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Cllrs Duncan, Perry, Sims, J Chamberlain, J Jones

**CURATORS' REPORT**

All Councillors were given a copy of the Curators' Report for September.

From the Curators' point of view the day had been a success with only slightly fewer visitors than last year but it was the opinion of the Curators and Councillors that the publicity by the Liverpool Culture Company had been inadequate. This coupled with the fact that the vintage bus had not been running on the day due to "sickness" of the driver, resulted in the decrease of visitors.

Vicky reported that there was a problem with the gate at the Smithy side of the building. One of the hinges has sheared off, probably due to age. As a result, the gate was lifted onto the hinges after use last week and can not be used until work has been done on it. The Clerk stated this had been reported to Calder Builders along with the sunken paving slabs in the Smithy courtyard and the gate at the Education Room side of the building, which the Ecclesfield Committee had been unable to close properly after the meeting the previous evening.

**CRAFT FAYRE**

Councillors reported that there had been a decline in visitors coming to the Craft Fayre on Saturday of the Heritage Weekend, probably due to the fact that the vintage bus was not running which had dropped people off from the other attractions around St Helens. Stallholders were invited to set up on the Sunday due to the poor performance on Saturday. There were noticeably more people in the Village Hall on the Sunday but 2 stallholders will not be attending next year.

Councillor Evans stated that she was intending to write to Councillor Ashcroft with regard to the way in which the Liverpool Culture Company had handled the Heritage Weekend borough-wide and would include the problems at the Smithy Heritage Centre and Village Hall in her e-mail.

It was decided that Mr & Mrs K Anderson who have both attended the Craft Fayre with their card stall for many years should be sent a letter of thanks for their support.

SIGNED .....

DATED .....