

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2009 at 7.30 pm in ST JAMES'S CHURCH HALL, St Helens Road, Eccleston Park

PRESENT: Cllr G Pearl (Chair)
Cllrs Broughton, Duncan, D & S Evans, Gray-Williams, C Pearl, Skepper
CSO Laura Rowling, PC D Moore
Mrs L Scott (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Cllrs Bain, Maloney & Sims

A minute's silence was held to commemorate the life and passing of Councillor Lionel Perry.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

09.50 Cllr G Pearl declared an interest in 09.43 - Planning Applications.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 14 JULY 2009

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

MATTERS ARISING

09.52 09.40 – Walmesley Road parking – see Residents' Issues
09.48 – Diseased Tree – see item below

RESIDENTS' ISSUES

9.53 The resident at 96 Millbrook Lane reported flooding to the front of her property. Cllr G Pearl reported that he had responded to other reports of flooding in that area during June and July and had forwarded them on to St Helens Council. United Utilities claimed responsibility for the incident in July but not June. Residents have been requested to write to United Utilities individually. The resident at 96 Millbrook Lane was away on holiday at the time.

Resolved the Clerk writes to Miss Pyke at 96 Millbrook Lane to update her.

Request for play equipment on Ecclesfield by Mr J Hall – Mr Hall was unable to attend the meeting so this item was deferred until next month.

Mr Clintworth, Walmesley Road Butcher, made a request for the key to the new padlock on the Changing Room car park to made his responsibility. He has given assurances that the chain will be locked after every use. He also requested the Council to consider extending the user's car park in the future.

Resolved that the Clerk contacts Windle Councillors for their comments.

Cllrs Broughton joined the meeting

POLICE REPORT

09.54 CSO Laura Rowling stated that she is now back in Eccleston and would be attending Parish Council meetings in future. The figures for the period 15 July to 8 September showed that there was an arrest for drunken driving, 4 arrests for criminal damage,

29 reports of anti-social behaviour, 9 burglaries, 2 attempted burglaries, 11 criminal damage/arson, 10 drug seizures, 5 robberies, 6 thefts from motor vehicles, 3 reports of violence, 106 stop forms, 8 alcohol seizures. There had also been a positive ID parade in the case of indecent exposure.

Cllr G Pearl invited questions from Councillors. Cllr Evans reported that she had accompanied a resident to the bushes on Gillar's Green and had discovered youths in a den they had made. The resident had complained of loud, bad language, regularly coming from this area. Cllr Evans and Cllr Sims had reported the height of the hedges to St Helens Council and had understood that they would be cut back. Assurances have now been given that this will be done.

Cllr Gray-Williams reported shouting and bad language coming from neighbours returning home between the hours of 2.30 – 5.00 am at weekends in New Road.

Cllr G Pearl reported incidents of speeding on St Helens Road and asked for this area to be assessed.

Cllr Broughton stated that parking on Kiln Lane is still a problem with cars making access dangerous. Laura replied that unless driveways are blocked police are powerless.

ECCLESFIELD DRAINAGE

09.55 The Clerk updated the meeting regarding the situation on Ecclesfield. Work to rectify the drainage problem has been carried out and the cost of this is estimated to be around £8,450. Ninety per cent of the cost is to be paid for by young users applying to the Youth Opportunity Fund. The remaining ten per cent is to be paid by the Parish Council.

FIRE SAFETY RECOMMENDATION

9.56 The inspection of our fire equipment by Hoyles flagged up the need for a new seal round the Education Room door, which will cost £39.95.
Resolved to proceed with this.

DISEASED TREE

09.57 David Bielawski has informed the Clerk it would be easier and quicker if we were to carry out the treatment on the Village Hall diseased tree ourselves as there is no health and safety issue involved in doing this.
Resolved to ask Paul Potter to carry out the work.

CHAIRMAN'S CHAIN OF OFFICE

09.58 The cost of mounting the Chain of Office onto a collar will be £225.00. Ensign Flag Company Ltd, Liverpool 5, has informed the Clerk this afternoon that the work has been completed.

REPORTS

9.59 Resolved to note the following:

Ecclesfield Management Committee – The Clerk reported on a meeting held on Tuesday 1 September 2009 in the Village Hall when the following was discussed:

- Drainage Problems
- Repairs carried out to Changing Rooms before the start of the new season
- Painting to be carried out by the Caretaker
- Pointing left hand side coving needed
- Unofficial games on the field – Caretaker to cost a sign prohibiting this
- Request by Secretary that in future **half** the yearly contributions of Parish Councils are paid at the end of April when Precepts are received. Also request to pay October instalment immediately to help with cash flow problem.
- Acceptance of 2008/2009 Accounts

Resolved that in future the 1st and 2nd contribution will be paid at the end of each April.

Smithy Working Party – All Councillors were given a copy of the Curators' Report for September from which the following was discussed:

- Heritage Open Days – volunteers
- Donations Box
- Visit by Bleak Hill School 24 September
- Light fixtures

Resolved that the Curators put a Donations Box in the Smithy

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

09.60 Resolved to note the following:

Delegated

Rushen Elm Gr	Application withdrawn 21/7/09
9 Daresbury Rd	Erect 2 front dormer windows & 1 rear dormer – N/O
Ecc Medical Centre	Renewal of temporary consent for further 3 years for GP surgery – N/O
45 Clarkes Cres	2 storey side & rear ext & single storey rear ex t– N/O
3 Brookside Ave	Demolish garage & erect single storey side /rear ext/ conservatory – N/O
6 The Spires	Remove single storey structure & erect single storey rear ext – N/O
32 Bleak Hill Rd	Demolish side garage & single storey rear ext & erect 2 storey side & rear ext - Please confirm whether or not there is to be a garage at the side and what the store is for? Object to any form of business being conducted from the property.
81 Portico Lane	2 storey side ext - Concern proposal to create an additional pavement crossover so close existing one & also so close to the entrance to Portico Avenue. All cul-de-sacs off Portico Lane are difficult to access/egress - this would only exacerbate the situation. The Parish Council strongly objects to this 2nd pavement crossing.
13 Brookside Ave	Erect 2 storey side & rear & part single storey rear extns - ? sufficient off-street parking
30 Pike House Rd	Demolish side garage & erect single storey side ext for garage & enlarged kitchen – N/O

164 Kiln Lane	Ext to existing detached rear garage – Does the development allow for change of use?
5 Gunning Ave	2 storey side ext, single storey rear ext & front porch - ? sufficient off-street parking
1 Bobbies Lane	Amendments to previously granted planning application P/2008/1087, ground floor window to replace existing door to west elevation, pitched roof added to east elevation & alteration to porch design – N/O

ACCOUNTS

09.61 Received Hall Hire £410.00 July; £335.00 August; HM Revenue & Customs – VAT £272.58; Nat West Interest £2.94; R Kelsey PAYE August/Sept £136.40

British Gas – August /September	68.00
Manweb – August/September	205.00
United Utilities – August/September	97.76
United Utilities – August/September	27.20
St Helens Council – Rates	200.00
St Helens Council – Cleaning June	249.77
St Helens Council – Cleaning July	249.77
J Chamberlain – Salary August	160.88
J Chamberlain – Req 37 – items for Smith inc Archaeological Dig & mileage	65.56
V Hirons – Salary August	160.88
L Poole - Salary – August	395.42
L Scott – Salary August includes £4.80 travel expenses	1,108.80
PAYE – Curators August (Cumulative £160 2 nd month Period 2)	80.00
PAYE – Clerk August (Cumulative £552 2 nd month Period 2)	276.00
EPC NI contribution – Clerk August (Cumulative £231.42 2 nd month Period 2)	115.71
PAYE – Ecclesfield Caretaker – August (£136.40 2 nd month Period 2)	68.20
J Chamberlain – Salary September	160.88
J Chamberlain – Req 38 – Stationery & Smithy items	41.39
V Hirons – Salary September	160.88
L Poole - Salary – September	395.42
L Scott – Salary September includes £19.20 travel expenses (Chain – Liverpool)	1,123.20
L Scott – Petty Cash September	20.00
PAYE – Curators September (Cumulative £240.00 3 rd month Period 2)	80.00
PAYE – Clerk September (Cumulative £828.00 3 rd month Period 2)	276.00
EPC NI contribution – Clerk September (Cumulative £347.13 3 rd month Period 2)	115.71
PAYE – Ecclesfield Caretaker – September (£204.60 3 rd month Period 2)	68.20
Post Office – PAYE & NI Period 2 – already notified & deducted monthly	(1,619.73)
B&M – extra copies Invoice 115518	8.63
Ecclesfield Project Revenue Account – 3 rd Contribution	827.50
St James's PCC– Hire of hall for September Parish Council meeting	28.00
Friends Meeting House – June event table hire for Smithy	7.00
Hoyles Fire & Safety – Annual check on Village Hall equipment	82.04
Willow Printing – 1000 leaflets for Smithy	245.00
Stanley Gate Nursery – May and July Tidy of War Memorial grounds	138.00
ABM – installation of new panel after lightening strike	287.50
Burns Jewellers - Chain of Office engraving – 3 medals	90.00
L Scott – Flowers for Ex Chairman, inc delivery	25.00
Paul Potter – Village Hall Grounds Maintenance	150.00
Best Alarms – Replacement equipment due to lightening strike	327.24
Best Alarms – Maintenance of Smithy system	204.70

Balance brought forward from July meeting £52,402.76 plus receipts this month	£53,559.68
Total Payments this month	£8,391.24
Approximate balance	£45,168.44

RECONCILIATION - The Clerk reported that, **as at 31 July 2009**, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500, Reserve Account £38,559.46 and Capital Reserve Account £463.34. Members of the Finance Sub-Committee were given copies of the monthly Reconciliation for July & August 2009. **As at 28 August 2009**, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,890, Reserve Account £35,854.88 and Capital Reserve Account £463.34.

PETTY CASH - Expenditure for the month of July/August 2009	£29.02
Approximate balance at the end of August 2009	£12.59

EXTERNAL AUDIT – The Audit Company, BDO Stoy Hayward LLP, has requested modification to Section 1 of the 2008/09 audit document, which needs to be authorised by the Council. The last VAT re-payment did not clear the NatWest until 1 April 2009 and so must be transferred to next year’s audit submission. In addition, they wish to know whether we have reviewed the level of fidelity guarantee during the year and what this is currently set at.
Resolved that changes be authorised as outlined by BDO Stoy Hayward LLP.

CORRESPONDENCE

09.62 **Resolved to note the following:**

- Ironman UK Race** – Request for race marshals for 2 August race through area – **emailed District Councillors**
- St Helens CVS** – Contact August/September 2009 – **passed to Cllr Duncan**
- St Helens Council** – Gambling Act 2005 – 3 Year Review Draft Policy on web licensing@sthelens.gov.uk – comments invited
- St Helens Council** – Invitation to RAFA Service 13 September 2009 – **Cllr G Pearl to attend**
- St Helens Community Empowerment Network** – invitation to Open Meeting 18 September 2009 at Peter Street Community Centre
- CPRE** – Fieldwork publication – September 2009 – **passed to Cllr Broughton**
- Eccleston Library** – Invitation to 2 Presentation evenings 6 October and 13 October – **Cllrs Evans, Pearl and Sims to attend**
- St Helens CVS** – 2 Copies of Programme of Workshops & Events – **passed to Cllr Duncan**
- School Governors 1 Stop Shop** - request to display poster
- St Helens Council** – Ward Committee Minutes and Agenda

DATES OF MEETINGS

9.63 **Resolved to note the following**

Tues 13 October 09	6.45 pm	Smithy Meeting	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	Parish Council	Village Hall

The Meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

SIGNED

DATED