

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 2014 at 7.30 pm in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, Kiln Lane, Ecclestone

PRESENT: Cllr Sims (Chair)
Cllrs Ashcroft, Broughton, Duncan, Haw, C Pearl, G Pearl,
Skepper and Watmough
Janet Anderson (Clerk)
7 residents

APOLOGIES

14.47 Cllrs Almond, Gray-Williams and Maloney

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

14.48 Cllr G Pearl declared an interest in Item 14.54 – Planning Applications.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 8 JULY 2014

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

MATTERS ARISING

14.50 **Minute 14.37** – Clerk confirmed that Windle Parish Council had also agreed not to pay Bleak Hill Rovers a contribution towards pitch fees for their international youth matches.

Minute 14.38 – Cllr Sims had already sent a letter to NHS England on behalf of the Parish Council and residents regarding possible closure of Walmesley Road pharmacy, supporting both pharmacies.

RESIDENTS' ISSUES

14.51 A resident enquired if the geocache had been placed in Mill Brow Nature Reserve. It was confirmed that it had.

A resident asked what would be planted on the embankment along Millfields. Cllr Sims confirmed that wild flowers would be planted. The resident was concerned for the safety of children that walk along the top of the embankment and suggested prickly-type bushes along the top to prevent them walking along the top and falling. Cllr Sims agreed with the suggestion and would try to implement it.

A resident thanked Cllr Sims and the Councillors for getting a sign erected at Bobbies Lane making it clear that the road was unsuitable for vehicles.

A resident reported the amount of litter of late around Ecclestone. Cllr Sims had reported it to St Helens Council and an officer had been to look.

A resident reported to poor condition of Houghtons Lane and that there were no white lines marking the edge of the carriageway. Also there were only 2 telegraph poles with reflective discs left on them. Cllr Sims asked the Clerk to contact St Helens Council, Highways Dept to check the white lines on the edge of the carriageway and find out whose responsibility the reflective discs were.

POLICE REPORT

14.52 PCSO Green presented the Crime Report comparing 9 August 2014 – 9 September 2014 with that of the previous year. Generally figures were down. Cllr Sims commented on the good work of the police and PCSOs in seizing a scrambler bike that was being ridden on Ecclesfield.

REPORTS

14.53 **Resolved to note the following:**

Hall & Personnel – 25 July 2014 at 10am, Village Hall Cllrs Sims, Ashcroft, Skepper and Broughton met along with the Clerk to discuss the installation of a new boiler. All quotes were discussed and it was decided that one combination boiler with 2 systems be installed.

Hall & Personnel – 22 August 2014 at 10am, Village Hall Cllrs Sims, Almond, Duncan, C Pearl and G Pearl met along with the Clerk to look at the new heating system and agree payment on the successful completion of the job. All Cllrs were happy with the heating system and payment was agreed. Cllrs also met with a decorator to discuss the painting of the Village Hall. Decorator would telephone Clerk with quotation and follow with written quote.

Ecclesfield – 2 Sept 2014 at 7pm in Ecclestone Village Hall Cllrs Ashcroft, Broughton and Haw attended along with the Secretary. Report as follows:

- Work on changing rooms had been completed
- Pitches in good condition although concern over dog dirt left by dog owners
- An application from Maghull FC was received. It was decided that the facility was at full capacity with consideration given to parking, the changing facilities and the wear and tear on the pitches
- After a resident complaint about youths playing golf on the field, it was decided that signs would not deter people playing golf. Police advised that anyone seeing golf being played should report it. PCSOs would monitor the situation
- One new user requested to pay by instalments this season only. It was agreed that they could pay over 6 months. The fee would include the 10% surcharge indicated on the hiring agreement letter
- HMRC had written to explain that Ecclesfield Project could not claim back VAT as it is not recognised as a public body. Cllr Broughton to investigate further

Smithy – 9 September 2014, 6.45pm, Village Hall All Cllrs were given a copy of the Curators' report and the following points were discussed:

- Festival of Archaeology – theme this year had been forensic archaeology
- Fire Service Visit – fire service made an unannounced visit to the Smithy to familiarise themselves with the layout
- International Blacksmith's Day 2015 – Smithy's 20th anniversary with a farrier booked
- Macmillan Coffee Morning – 26 September 2014 in Village Hall
- Out of Season Events – Curators holding a Valentine's Day exhibition instead of usual Halloween or Christmas exhibitions. Holding Murder Mystery event on 14 February 2015
- Heritage Open Days – 13 and 14 September – old fashioned fun with traditional games and a craft activity of printing. Great Ecclestone Bake Off held on Saturday to be judged by the Mayor and Mayoress. Cllrs agreed to volunteer over the weekend.
- Village Hall Key – a key with the alarm code on was put through the letterbox when a user group had finished using the hall. Curators concerned for the security of the Smithy. Caretaker asked to take the code off any keys given to user groups.

- Redecoration of Hall – Curators notified of the imminent decoration of the hall, toilets, corridor and kitchen. Discussion took place regarding mounting images/pictures along the corridor when decoration completed. A Smithy meeting would take place to discuss further.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

14.54 **Resolved to note the following:**

Delegated

26 Central Ave	Remodelling of existing property including first floor above existing single storey element, new front and rear dormer windows, first floor side elevation window, rear and side extensions, pitched roof above existing garage, new porch canopy feature detail and external alterations N/O
23a Central Ave	Works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order for felling of 3no hollies Refer to Trees & Woodlands Officer
11 Chapel Lane	Demolition of existing porch, and erection of front porch and canopy N/O
26 Lester Dr	Single storey front porch extension N/O
130 Portico Lane	Alterations to a listed building to include replacement timber sliding sash windows with slimline double glazed units to front elevation, replacement timber double glazed window to rear elevation, repainting of gable end, partial demolition of internal wall, re-siting of front door and replacement timber double glazed windows in flat roof extension Changes must not compromise the listed building status
67 Alder Hey Rd	Two storey side extension with a single storey side and rear extension along with porch to front Ensure sufficient off street parking
18 Villiers Cresc	Works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order for crown lifting of 1no horse chestnut Refer to Trees & Woodlands Officer
28 Daresbury Rd	Demolition of existing rear extension and erection of a single storey side and rear extension N/O
20 Wildcherry Gds	First floor side extension above existing garage, and partial conversion of rear end of garage to habitable room N/O
32 Daresbury Rd	Single storey extension to side and rear Ensure sufficient off-street parking
11 Aynsley Crt	Single storey rear extension with first floor rear balcony Concern that the balcony element may overlook neighbouring properties
69 Walmesley Rd	Dormer extension to rear, along with alterations to roof to form hip to gable N/O
15 Foxwood	Conversion and enlargement of garage to granny flat Ensure sufficient off street parking
75 Old Lane	Demolition of existing single storey rear extension, and erection of single storey part rear and side extension N/O
1 Millfields	Replacement porch to the front elevation N/O
Ecc Park Tennis Club	Replacement of fencing around two of the clubs existing tennis courts N/O
15 Millbrook Lane	Two storey rear extension N/O
5 Walmesley Rd	Changing flat roof over garage and porch into pitched roof and alterations to windows N/O

VILLAGE HALL HEATING SYSTEM

14.55 It had been decided that one boiler and 2 control systems would be the best option. Work began on Tuesday 12 August 2014 and completed on Friday 15 August 2014. The system was checked whilst Clerk was at the hall and the Caretaker was shown how to use it. Cllrs also looked at the work and were happy to agree payment.

REDECORATION OF VILLAGE HALL

14.56 Clerk received 2 quotes for painting of hall, corridor, ladies/gents/disabled toilets and kitchen and one layer of tiles in the kitchen. The quotes were discussed. Clerk to contact decorator to agree a start date and schedule of work so that user groups could be notified.

ANNUAL AUDIT

14.57 It was reported that BDO completed the annual audit with no issues arising. **Resolved to note.**

ACCOUNTS

14.58 Received – Village Hall hire £1055, R Kelsey PAYE £152.40, Murder Mystery Smithy event £481, loan boxes £35, talk £16.60, NatWest Interest £0.06 and £3.33

Total Receipts **£1743.39**

GPS Telecoms – Clerk phone – June	31.13
Total Gas and Power – Gas Apr-Jun	208.51
BT – Smithy phone and internet	116.10
ABM Security – Annual maintenance fire and intruder alarms	347.94
Phill Gregson – wheelwright demonstration – IBD	150.00
B&M Office Machines – photocopier	39.52
BDO LLP – Annual audit fee	360.00
R J Tyler – spinning demonstration IBD	30.00
Chubb Fire and Security – annual service of fire equipment	89.76
T Edge Builders – Smithy repairs (manhole seal and entrance tiles)	84.00
United Utilities – Aug	22.19
United Utilities – Aug	9.69
J Anderson – August plus travel	1229.92
J Chamberlain – August plus expenses	232.17
L Poole – August	407.50
V Griffiths – August	165.72
Paul Potter – VH Grounds maintenance 1 visit August	24.72
PHS Group – Sanitary services	144.00
GPS Telecom – Clerk’s phone	29.46
MC Holker – boiler	3942.00
Southern Electric – Electricity May-Jul	426.04
B&M Office Machines – Photocopier lease	102.00
Triprint – Smithy leaflets	59.00
United Utilities – Water Sept	22.19
United Utilities – Water Sept	9.69
J Anderson – Sept plus exp	1241.72
J Chamberlain – Sept	165.72
L Poole – Sept	407.50
V Griffiths – Sept	165.72
Paul Potter – Grounds maintenance – Aug and Sept	74.16
St Helens Council – Cleaning July	279.30
TOTAL	£10617.37

RECONCILIATION - The Clerk reported that, as at **30 July 2014**, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £49,212.93 and Capital Deposit Account £464.53.

As at **28 August 2014**, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £42,204.19 and Capital Deposit Account £464.53.

PETTY CASH - Expenditure for the months of July and August 2014	£13.72
Approximate balance at the end of August 2014	£11.48

INTERNAL AUDIT – The Accounts were audited in July for the end of the first quarter with nothing to report.

CORRESPONDENCE

14.59 **Resolved to note the following:**

Insurance – Came & Company renewal quotation of £2,134.44 (plus £256.13 for Ecclesfield) tied into long term agreement until September 2016

Letter of application – enquiring if there are any administration vacancies – **Clerk to reply**

St Helens Council – notice of review of polling districts and polling places and stations

Police and Crime Commissioner’s – annual report

St Helens Council – encouraging Parish Councillors to actively engage with retailers/small businesses to establish business/trade forums in order to sustain and improve facilities available to residents **Clerk to draft letter to all shop keepers/businesses offering any support the Parish Council could offer.**

DATES OF MEETINGS

14.60 **Resolved to note the following:**

Tuesday 14 October 2014	6.30 pm	Finance Sub Ctte	Our Lady’s
	6.45 pm	Smithy Meeting	Our Lady’s
	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	Our Lady’s

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

SIGNED

DATED