

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY 11 JUNE 2019 at 7.30 pm in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, KILN LANE, ECCLESTON**

PRESENT: Cllr Sims (Chairman)  
Cllrs Ashcroft, Cass, Duncan, Haw, Kempself, G Pearl, C Pearl, Skepper and Williams  
J Anderson (Clerk)  
2 residents

19.24 APOLOGIES

Cllrs Gray-Williams and Watmough

19.25 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr G Pearl declared an interest in Item 19.31 – Planning Applications

19.26 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 14 MAY 2019

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

19.27 MATTERS ARISING

None

19.28 RESIDENTS' ISSUES

One resident raised the problem of the gutter in the road at the bus stop at Walmesley Road. The gutter was broken and full of water. **The Clerk was asked to report it to St Helens Council Contact Centre.**

The resident also raised a concern about the speed of vehicles along Springfield Lane and Acacia Grove. Cllr Sims informed the meeting that the speed cushion at the junction of Springfield Lane and Acacia Grove along with the school warning lights was to slow traffic down. She told the resident that unfortunately the police were not available to carry out speed checks in the area as traffic calming measures were already in place. The resident asked whether Acacia Grove could be made a 20mph road. Cllr Sims would look into the matter.

Cllr Williams asked what St Helens Council's view was of whole areas being 20mph as Lancashire County Council had imposed them in main residential areas and around schools. Cllr Haw explained that Parish Councillors had consulted residents in 2015 and most felt it was not necessary to impose 20mph areas. Cllr Ashcroft added that if it was not policed then it would become a waste of time. Cllr Sims informed the meeting that there was no longer a community speed watch. Cllr Pearl informed the meeting that the parked cars along residential roads naturally slow cars down. Cllr Sims explained that for any action to be taken it would depend on the accidents reported and unfortunately accidents were not always reported.

Another resident reported an increased amount of commercial fly posting on green telecoms boxes. Cllr Sims explained that nothing could be done if it was not Council property.

#### 19.29 POLICE REPORT

No one had been available from the police to attend the meeting but April crime figures were presented to the meeting. A resident reported that youngsters had been kicking a football at the shop windows in Walmesely Road. Cllr Sims explained that if the youngsters could be identified they could be reported to their school. She reported that recently some youngsters were causing nuisance at Eccleston Mere. They had been caught on CCTV and reported to their school. As a result they were made to carry out voluntary work.

#### 19.30 REPORTS

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

Ecclesfield – 5 June 2019, 7pm, Village Hall. Cllrs Ashcroft, G Pearl, Sims and Skepper attended. The Clerk was unable to attend. The following points were discussed:

- Caretaker reported no problems
- User groups – nothing to report
- Cllr discussed various ways of raising funds
- 3 new users had contacted the Secretary
- Another meeting would be arranged to discuss these further when the Secretary would be available – possibly Tuesday 2 July 2019 at 7pm. The Clerk would arrange and confirm by email

Smithy – 11 June 2019, 7pm, Village Hall. All Councillors were given a copy of the Curators' report and the following points were discussed:

- Viking Exhibition had been well received with positive feedback
- School Sessions – Curators liaising with Travellers Through Time to arrange a date for schools to attend the Smithy
- International Blacksmith's Day – had been a successful event
- Education Room – a leak had been discovered and reported to the Clerk

#### PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

##### Delegated

**95 Alder Hey Road** Replacement detached garage **N/O**

#### 19.32 SCHOOLS' PRIZES

**Resolved to award £40 to each of the 5 schools – De la Salle, St Julie, Bleak Hill, Eccleston Lane Ends and Eccleston Mere to be used for pupil prizes.**

#### 19.33 MONITORING OF VILLAGE HALL CRACKS

A report had been received from the structural engineers stating that current movement was negligible. The building was safe to use and would remain safe for the immediate future. It had been recommended that monitoring should continue. **Resolved that the cracks in the building would be monitored annually.**

19.34 ACCOUNTS

Received: Village Hall £826, HMRC VAT Jan-Mar £692.37, RK PAYE £77.80, Nat West interest £4.66 and 0.08

**Total Receipts** **£1,600.91**

**Payments:**

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| J Chamberlain – cider for IBD  | 176.00          |
| SSE – gas  | 361.74          |
| SSE – electricity  | 408.71          |
| CF Corporate – photocopier lease   | 93.60           |
| Water Plus – water   | 12.29           |
| Water Plus – water   | 5.00            |
| J Chamberlain – June + exp   | 237.59          |
| V Griffiths – June   | 168.86          |
| L Poole – June + elections   | 424.65          |
| J Anderson – June includes petty cash  | 1309.40         |
| Merseyside Pension Fund – employer and employee contributions  | 439.13          |
| P Potter – travel to collect cider from Bolton for IBD   | 21.60           |
| Crawford Heating & Plumbing – boiler service, purchase and fit new valve and clear blocked toilet drains | 505.00          |
| Best Security – annual service and replacement battery   | 415.03          |
| Lawrenson Associates – monitoring of VH cracks   | 110.40          |
| P Gregson – wheelwright demonstration for IBD  | 150.00          |
| P Keary – pole lathe demonstration for IBD   | 150.00          |
| M Constable – blacksmith demonstration plus travel for IBD   | 250.00          |
| George Wright Brewing Company – beer IBD   | 232.68          |
| HMRC – PAYE and NI Apr-June  | 1436.75         |
| De La Salle School pupil prizes  | 40.00*          |
| Eccleston Lane Ends School pupil prizes  | 40.00*          |
| Bleak Hill Primary School pupil prizes   | 40.00*          |
| St Julie School pupil prizes   | 40.00*          |
| Eccleston Mere Primary School pupil prizes   | 40.00*          |
| <b>Total Payments</b>  | <b>£7108.43</b> |

\* Resolved that the Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 & 139 of the Local Government Act 1972 should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.

**RECONCILIATION** - The Clerk reported that as at 30 May 2019 the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £39,173.60 and Capital Deposit Account £465.91

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| <b>PETTY CASH</b> - Expenditure for the month of May 2019 | £1.20  |
| <b>Approximate</b> balance at the end of May 2019         | £17.60 |

19.35 CORRESPONDENCE

**Resolved to note the following:**

- Message from resident of Millbrook Lane asking Councillors to look at the trees and bushes overhanging his property from the Village Hall grounds
- Email from Bleak Hill School – reminder that the Awards Assembly would be Monday 22 July at 2.30pm – Cllr Sims to attend

19.36 DATES OF MEETINGS

**Resolved to note the following:**

|                     |         |                        |              |
|---------------------|---------|------------------------|--------------|
| Tuesday 9 July 2019 | 7.00 pm | Smithy Meeting         | Village Hall |
|                     | 7.30 pm | Parish Council Meeting | Village Hall |

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.

SIGNED .....

DATED .....