

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL held on TUESDAY  
12 NOVEMBER 2019 at 7.30 pm in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, Kiln Lane, Eccleston**

PRESENT: Cllr Sims (Chair)  
Cllrs Ashcroft, Cass, Duncan, Haw, C Pearl, G Pearl and Williams  
J Anderson (Clerk)  
PCSOs Green and McKeown  
2 residents

19.81 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Kempell, Skepper and Watmough

19.82 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillors Sims and G Pearl declared an interest in item 19.90 Planning Applications.

19.83 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 8 OCTOBER 2019

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

19.84 MATTERS ARISING

Ref: 19.69 – Cllr Sims reported that there would be a site visit to look at the reported uneven pavements. Cllr Sims also reported back on the request for a ‘SLOW’ sign in Lester Drive. She read out an email from the Highways Department of St Helens Council that stated as Lester Drive was not a major route, nor within the vicinity of a school or local amenities, a ‘SLOW’ sign could not be installed. She added that Highways would monitor Lester Drive for speeding using ‘journey time’ software. Cllr Sims had arranged for an officer from St Helens Council to visit residents that had complained about flooding in residential gardens. The officer had explained that there were no felled trees or blockages in the brook and that it was residents’ own responsibility.

19.85 RESIDENTS’ ISSUES

The resident from the property next to the Village Hall had spoken to Cllr Sims before the meeting regarding the tree in the grounds of the hall near his property. Cllr Sims explained to the meeting that she had asked him to put in writing that he would like to prune the tree and to request to enter Village Hall grounds to carry out any work if necessary. He was also asked to guarantee that the work would be within the British Standards required.

Cllr Williams asked whether there was a schedule for re-surfacing pavements and roads. Cllr Sims explained they were inspected every 6 months and action taken if required.

A resident had contacted Cllr Ashcroft reporting that at certain times of the day, usually 8-10am and 3-4.15pm, the number 10 buses were so full with college students they did not stop at bus stops along St Helens Road meaning passengers were left waiting for long periods of time. Cllr Ashcroft had already contacted Merseytravel but to date had not had a reply. Cllr Pearl also advised contacting Arriva. Cllr Sims would raise it at the next meeting she had with Merseytravel.

19.86 POLICE REPORT

PCSOs Green and McKeown had attended the meeting and reported the latest crime figures. Incidents on 30 and 31 October seemed unusually high. PCSO McKeown explained that several incidents had been reported more than once. She reported 16 incidents over both nights. PCSO Green advised that if residents saw anything suspicious they should not hesitate to contact the police with as much as

information as was safe to gather. Cllr Sims asked if the PCSOs would make a visit to the junction of Walmesley Road and Houghtons Lane where vehicles were parking four wheels on the pavement making it difficult for cars to get out of the junction.

Cllr Haw joined the meeting

#### 19.87 COUNCILLOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Resolved that Cllr Watmough be granted 6 months' leave of absence due to ill health.

#### 19.88 TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

The Christmas tree lighting ceremony would take place on Thursday 5 December 2019 at 11.00am at Eccleston Library. It was reported that Eccleston Lane Ends School, the Library and Rainford's had all confirmed. Refreshments were requested (mince pies).

#### 19.89 REPORTS

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

Smithy – 12 November 2019, 7.00pm, Eccleston Village Hall All Councillors were given a copy of the Curators' report and the following points were discussed:

- Loan Box – St Julies had loaned a box
- Images of Bleak Hill School – a request had been made by one of the teachers for old images of the original school to construct a 3D model
- Next Year's Exhibition – 2 possible themes. One on the obsessiveness of collecting and the other being old images of St Helens. Curators would decide after they had looked at the available material

#### 19.90 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

##### **Delegated**

##### **Hillside View, Green Lane**

Single storey front link extension and raising of roof height of existing garage to facilitate conversion to habitable rooms, and a single storey rear extension

##### **Ensure appropriateness in the greenbelt**

##### **Griffin Inn**

Erection of a single storey rear kitchen extension; extension to existing hotel reception entrance along with covered outdoor seating area **N/O**

##### **23 Springfield Lane**

Single storey rear extension **N/O**

##### **61 Brookside Ave**

Single storey side and rear extension **N/O**

##### **3 Howards Lane**

Works to trees covered by a tree preservation order to fell 1no beech (tree A) and crown thin by 25% 1no beech (tree B) **Refer to Trees and Woodlands Officer**

##### **3 Central Avenue**

Removal of condition 5 on approval P/2018/0802/FUL **No objection to removal of condition 5 (affordable housing)**

##### **5 Lower**

##### **Barrowfield Farm**

Single storey rear extension **Check whether contravenes green belt policy**

##### **1 Davy Close**

Single storey rear extension, conversion of detached garage to garden store, removal of hedge row and installation of a 2.1m high fence to side, and new vehicular access and driveway to the front **Ensure sufficient off street parking**

#### 19.91 ACCOUNTS

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

**Received:** Village Hall Hire £625; R Kelsey PAYE £77.80; Interest £8.77 and 0.08; Windle phone £12.31; Ecclesfield insurance £233.71; HMRC £551.88

**TOTAL**

**£1509.55**

## Payments

GPS Telecom – clerk phone – Sept	44.33
BT – Smithy phone	146.29
B&M Office Machines – photocopier/copies	62.28
P Sherman – travel with Viking items for Smithy exhibition	56.70
Water Plus Nov	12.29
Water Plus Nov	1.81
L Poole – November	403.25
J Chamberlain – November	168.86
V Griffiths – November	168.86
J Anderson – November + PC	1309.60
Merseyside Pension Fund – employer and employee contributions	439.13
St Helens Council – cleaning Nov	369.25
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£3182.65</b>

**RECONCILIATION** - The Clerk reported that at 30 October 2019 the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £43,527.66 and Capital Deposit Account £466.30.

<b>PETTY CASH</b> – Expenditure for the month of October 2019	£18.20
Balance at the end of October 2019	£17.94

**INTERNAL AUDIT** – The accounts had been internally audited for the second quarter with nothing to report.

## 19.92 CORRESPONDENCE

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

**Letter from St Helens Council** – requesting to use hall at short notice for the general election. Clerk completed necessary form and returned to Council. Also informed the Caretaker and user group

**Invitation from Windle Parish Council** to Chairman and guest to attend Bleak Hill tree lighting on Friday 6 December 2019, arrive 1.50pm at Bleak Hill School

**Email from Merseyside Pension Fund** – no longer accepting payments by cheque

**Email from St Helens Council Planning Dept** regarding a sign for Ecclesfield changing rooms – regulations were complex and without signage details (location, size etc) could not confirm if planning permission would be required

**Clerk sent email to Liverpool City Council** regarding the poor state of the gates to the War Memorial although it was thought that maintenance of the railings would be the responsibility of the Parish Council. Clerk awaiting a reply from email sent 11 November 2019

## 19.93 DATES OF MEETINGS

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

Tuesday 3 December 2019	7.00 pm	Ecclesfield	Village Hall
Thursday 5 December 2019	11.00 am	Tree Lighting	Eccleston Library
Tuesday 10 December 2019	7.00 pm	Smithy Meeting	Our Lady's
	7.30 pm	Parish Council	Our Lady's

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

SIGNED ..... DATED .....