

MINUTES OF THE ONLINE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL held
TUESDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2021 at 7.30pm
VIA ZOOM

PRESENT: Cllr Sims (Chair)
Cllrs Ashcroft, Cass, Haw, Kempzell, C Pearl, G Pearl, Skepper and Williams
Janet Anderson (Clerk)
Mr C Barratt, Bleak Hill Rovers

20.45 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Gray-Williams and Watmough

Cllrs Gray-Williams and Watmough were granted 6 months leave of absence due to not having the technology to join remote meetings.

20.46 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr G Pearl Item 20.54 – Planning Applications.

20.47 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 12 JANUARY 2021

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

20.48 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

20.49 RESIDENTS' ISSUES

Mr Barratt, Bleak Hill Rovers, enquired whether there had been an update on the proposed storage facility at Ecclesfield. Cllr Sims explained that the application for funding had been completed by Eccleston District Councillors and submitted to St Helens Council. As this was no longer a Parish Council matter it would be dealt with by District Councillors. Cllr Sims would let everyone know when there were any developments. Covid-19 restrictions were making progress slow.

20.50 POLICE REPORT

Crime figures had been received and given to Councillors. Cllr Williams commented on the increase in cases of theft from shops. He enquired whether it was connected to lockdown. Councillors requested more information about theft from shops and also theft linked to motor vehicles. The Clerk was asked to contact PCSO Dearing to ask for information such as whether any culprits had been caught; the age of suspects and whether they were from the local area. Cllr Cass also requested further information regarding the increase in cases of anti-social behaviour. The Clerk would contact the police.

Cllr Kempzell passed on a message from his wife to thank Eccleston Councillors for making Eccleston a safe place to live.

20.51 PARISH MAGAZINE

A copy of the draft magazine had been sent to Councillors for approval. Cllr Williams would add some text to his article. Cllr Haw would send images to replace some in the magazine. **It was agreed that the magazine would be printed by PC Print and distribution would be handled by Masterprint.**

20.52 DEFIBRILLATORS

Defibrillators would be installed on Wednesday 10 February 2021; one at Ecclesfield Changing Facility and one at Eccleston Village Hall.

20.53 REPORTS

Smithy Working Party – all Councillors had been given a copy of the Curators' Report. The following points were discussed:

- Exhibition – Curators would use the 'Objects of Desire' exhibition in 2021.
- In the event of opening – Curators had put together a plan of action for when restrictions were lifted.
- Alarm and telephone line – after numerous callouts and telephone calls, issues with the alarm and telephone line appeared to have been resolved.
- Contact with schools – Curators had sent an email inviting all schools, pupils and parents to contribute any information about 'collections' that could be used for the 'Objects of Desire' exhibition.

20.54 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Resolved to note the following:

Delegated

Pykes Farm, Clay Lane

Demolition of existing barn and partial demolition of former tile works, erection of 2no. dwellings; demolition of existing stables and erection of new stables, storage and midden building and relocation of existing sand paddock and retention of ménage **Query whether this, in parts, contravenes the green belt policy**

42 Long Meadow

Single storey rear and two storey side extension **Ensure sufficient off-street parking**

Corporation Yard, St Helens Road

Erection of a single storey storage building (following regrading of embankment) associated with the use of the land as a construction contractor's storage compound, replacement entrance gates, and comprehensive soft landscaping **Ensure this does not contravene the green belt policy. This application wants a permanent building/storage unit to be built there. It is felt this may be a way to get around to building a new bungalow in the future upon green belt land. If a temporary structure were to be placed, rather than a permanent one, (eg a shipping container) it could no longer be argued that it was a building plot – it would remain a storage yard. Parish Council is also concerned over additional traffic on a very busy stretch of highway.**

96 Foxwood

Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a first floor side extension along with a single storey rear extension **Ensure sufficient off-street parking**

19 Pike Place

Single storey extension to the side and rear elevations **Ensure sufficient off-street parking**

25 Villiers Crescent

Erection of porch **N/O**

44 Bleak Hill Road

Reroof to existing roof from flat to hipped **N/O**

24 Howards Lane

Single storey side extension following demolition of conservatory, forward porch, part first floor rear addition and 2 no. half-dormers **N/O**

17 Brookside Avenue

First floor and porch extension to front elevation (following demolition of existing front porch) **N/O**

20.55 ACCOUNTS

Resolved to note the following:

Receipts: Village Hall Hire £0, RK PAYE £79.40, Windle phone and copier £39.06, Interest 0.48

Total Receipts **£118.94**

Payments

GPS Telecoms – Clerk’s telephone Dec	47.02
BT – Smithy telephone	146.37
SSE – gas	121.05
J Chamberlain – February	172.08
V Griffiths – February + web hosting and domain	222.46
L Poole – February + poster strips for Village Hall	385.08
J Anderson – February + petty cash	1330.07
Merseyside Pension Fund – employer and employee contributions	471.74
Costco – membership renewal	26.40
Crawford Heating and Plumbing Service – boiler service	65.00
NetWise UK – website maintenance	150.00
St Helens Council – cleaning Feb	380.40
Water Plus – water	16.84
Total Payments	£3534.51

RECONCILIATION – The Clerk reported that as at 29 January 2021 the balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £49,257.97 and Capital Deposit Account £466.94.

INTERNAL AUDIT – Accounts for the third quarter had been examined with nothing to report.

PETTY CASH - Expenditure for the month of January 2021 **£7.95**

Approximate balance at the end of January 2021 **£8.76**

20.56 CORRESPONDENCE

Noted:

Email from a resident regarding rubbish on Watery Lane – forwarded to St Helens Council

Email from a resident regarding ‘pavement etiquette’ when walking along busy roads such as Burrows Lane. The email also requested a litter pick as soon as possible. The Clerk was advised by Chairman to contact Highways to check whether there was a protocol when walking. Highways replied that there were no rules that could be enforced. With regard to litter picks, they were organised whenever possible. Clerk replied to inform the resident.

20.57 DATES OF MEETINGS

Tuesday 2 March 2021	7.00 pm	Ecclesfield	Via Zoom
Tuesday 9 March 2021	7.30 pm	Parish Council	Via Zoom

Cllr Williams asked whether there had been any further information regarding pedestrians being prevented from walking across the car park at the corner of Millbrook Lane and Kiln Lane to get to the bus stop in Kiln Lane. Cllr Haw had contacted St Helens Council but had had no reply. Cllr Sims explained that it had not been raised as an issue when the planning application had been made for the work to the car park.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

SIGNED DATED