

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on
TUESDAY 12 OCTOBER 2021 at 7.30 pm in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, Kiln Lane, Eccleston**

PRESENT: Cllr Ashcroft (Chair)
Cllrs Cass, Haw, C Pearl, G Pearl, Sims, Skepper and Williams
J Anderson (Clerk)

21.69 APOLOGIES

Cllrs Barton, Gray-Williams, Kempself and Watmough

21.70 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr G Pearl declared an interest in item 21.79 – Planning Applications

21.71 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 14 SEPTEMBER 2021

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

21.72 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

21.73 RESIDENTS' ISSUES

Cllr Sims had received several complaints regarding the parking around Walmesley Road, Broadway and Gunning Avenue on Saturdays. She would be meeting with the police on Friday 15 October 2021.

21.74 POLICE REPORT

Copies of the latest crime figures were given to the meeting. The figures compared favourably with the previous year.

21.75 VILLAGE HALL

Grounds maintenance had begun on Friday 8 October 2021. The grounds would be maintained regularly throughout the winter.

21.76 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

It was agreed that Councillors would attend the War Memorial on Sunday 14 November 2021 at 10.45am in order to lay a wreath on behalf of the Parish. Cllr Sims and Cllr G Pearl would attend the Remembrance Service at St Helens Town Hall. The gates would be opened for the day.

It was agreed the gates to the War Memorial would also be opened on Remembrance Day, Thursday, 11 November 2021.

Cllr Sims had ordered poppies that would be placed around Eccleston and Eccleston Park. Cllrs Haw and Cass agreed to put the poppies up around the Parish.

21.77 TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Councillors agreed that the annual tree lighting ceremony held at Eccleston Library should not go ahead this year due to the large number of people that usually attend. It was agreed to ask Rainfords Christmas Treeland to kindly donate a tree and Library staff would be asked to decorate it for the day the tree lighting would have taken place – Thursday 2 December 2021. Cllr Sims would ask for the lights on the tree on St Helens Road to be switched on the same day.

21.78 REPORTS

Resolved to note the following:

Finance Sub Ctte – 12 October 2021, 6.45pm, Eccleston Village Hall Cllrs Ashcroft, G Pearl and Sims met along with the Clerk. The current budget position was monitored, including the Smithy, with no issues to report.

Smithy – all Councillors were given a copy of the Curators' report and the following points were discussed:

- Smithy had closed for the end of season
- Visitor numbers had been reduced this year due to covid restrictions
- The measures taken to adhere to covid guidelines had worked well
- The Curators had received lots of excellent feedback from visitors both regulars and new
- Virtual visits to the Smithy were still available from the link on the Smithy website – this had proved extremely popular
- Collections documentation – the Curators had used their time to create an inventory and update the Collections Database tied into the Accreditation Documentation Policy
- Closed season preparations – the Curators would be installing more wall mounted shelving as well as planning for events such as International Blacksmith's Day and Heritage Weekend in 2022
- The use of the dehumidifier had been discussed. It was explained that it was on the minimum setting and was emptied regularly proving that it was needed to protect items in the store
- It was agreed that the Education Room could be used for Parish Council meetings to enable groups to use the hall if required

21.79 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Resolved to note the following:

Delegated

25 Brookfield Ave

Demolition of existing rear extension and construction of new single storey rear extension along with alterations to position of alley gate and fencing at rear

N/O

Land at Millwood Ave

Variation of conditions 2 (amended plans), 6 (tree protection), 7 (landscaping), 10 (highways), 12 (highway improvement), 15 (drainage strategy) and 16 (drainage scheme) on approval P/2019/0654/FUL

N/O – refer to planning officer

41 Springfield Lane

Two storey side extension

N/O

7 Elm Grove

First floor extension and two dormers to the front of the property. Alterations to the front entrance, fenestration amendments and render to the property. First floor rear extension following the removal of the existing rear dormer

N/O

33 Forest Grove

Two storey side extension

N/O

3 Chapel Lane

Works to tree covered by a tree preservation order to remove 1no ash tree

Refer to Trees and Woodland Officer

Ecclesfield Open Space

Siting of storage container to facilitate provision of football training

Granted 1/10/21

21.80 ANNUAL AUDIT

The external audit report had been received with no further issues raised. All documents had been published on the website as required.

21.81 ACCOUNTS

Received: Village Hall Hire £440; R Kelsey PAYE £81.00; interest 0.69

TOTAL £521.69

Payments

SSE – gas	9.16
RBL Poppy Appeal – wreath	20.00
PKF Littlejohn LLP – external audit	360.00
CF Corporate – copier lease	93.60
Water Plus – Oct	16.84
J Chamberlain – October	175.58
V Griffiths – October	175.58
J Anderson – October + travel	1337.18
L Poole – October	383.25
Merseyside Pension Fund – employer and employee contributions	481.18
Ecclesfield Project – second half contribution	1749.50
Total	£4801.87

RECONCILIATION – The Clerk reported that as at 30 September 2021 the balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £71,766.43 and Capital Deposit Account £466.98.

PETTY CASH - Expenditure for the month of September 2021 £7.92

Approximate balance at the end of September 2021 £11.40

21.82 CORRESPONDENCE

- **Email from St Helens Archive Service** – inviting Parish Councils to store some documents for long term preservation. Clerk replied to acknowledge and would make a visit to look at the types of documents being stored.
- **Email** with further complaints regarding the overgrown bushes hanging over to the pavement on Millbrook Lane – reported to gardener who had begun work on Friday 8 October. Clerk had informed the resident.

21.83 DATES OF MEETINGS

Tuesday 9 November 2021 7.30pm Parish Council Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.05pm.

SIGNED

DATED