

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL held on
TUESDAY 11 JANUARY 2022 at 7.30pm in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, KILN LANE**

PRESENT: Cllr Ashcroft (Chair)
Cllrs Barton, C Pearl, G Pearl, Sims, Skepper and Williams
Janet Anderson (Clerk)

21.110 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Cass, Gray-Williams, Kempself and Watmough

21.111 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr G Pearl Item 21.121 – Planning Applications.

21.112 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 14 DECEMBER 2021

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

21.113 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

21.114 RESIDENTS' ISSUES

None reported.

21.115 POLICE REPORT

PCSO Dearing had sent the latest crime figures which were given to Councillors.

21.116 REPORTS

Resolved to note the following:

Finance Sub Cttee, 10 January 2022 via Zoom – Cllrs G Pearl, Sims and Skepper along with the Clerk met to discuss the budget and the proposed precept (See Item 21.117).

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

- Closed period – the Curators had been getting things ready in advance of the new season. New equipment that was purchased last year would be installed (a screen and media player).
- Online exhibition – the Smithy still had access to the online exhibition which allowed visitors to look inside the Smithy and view last year's exhibition
- Exhibition 2022 – the Curators had started research on the new exhibition looking at industry and trades that once took place in St Helens. The Curators would like any photographs, objects or memories to help tell the story.
- Loan boxes – the Curators would contact local schools to promote loan boxes again.

21.117 BUDGET FOR 2022/2023

The budget was approved and it was resolved that a precept of £59,281.92 for 2022/23 would be requested. This would result in a cost to residents of £14.94 per year – same as last year.

21.118 VILLAGE HALL

The group intending to start on a Thursday evening had decided to delay the start due to concerns over the increase in coronavirus cases. The deposit had been refunded.

Another group had enquired to use the hall once a month. They had booked Sunday evenings once a month until May. If that worked for them, they would be happy to continue on Sunday evenings.

21.119 ANNUAL MAGAZINE

Articles were requested for the next magazine. Emails had been sent to all schools, churches, local groups and the library, inviting articles. Articles should be sent to the Clerk by 4 February 2022.

21.120 RISK ASSESSMENT

The annual risk assessment was carried out by the Councillors and Clerk. Changes were suggested to include the fire alarm under security of buildings and equipment. The Clerk was asked to arrange a security review for safety of staff and visitors. **Resolved to make the amendment and sign at the February meeting.**

21.121 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Resolved to note the following:

Delegated

4 Heath Close

Single storey rear extension and first floor side extension along with replacement porch and part garage conversion

N/O

55 The Avenue

Proposed single storey rear extension with pitched roof

N/O

2 Holme Close

Demolition of garage and erection of part two storey, part single storey side and rear extension with balcony on flat roof to rear and porch to front

N/O

21.122 ACCOUNTS

Resolved to note the following:

Received: Village Hall Hire £422, RK PAYE £101, interest 0.01 and 0.57.

Total Receipts

£523.58

Payments

SSE – gas	155.48
L Simms – refund of bond for hall key	25.00
St Helens Council – cleaning April 2021-January 2022	3880.00
J Chamberlain – January	175.78
C F Corporate – photocopier lease	93.60
Water Plus	22.91
L Poole – January	383.25
J Anderson – January + petty cash	1351.98
V Griffiths – January	175.78
Merseyside Pension Fund – employer and employee contributions	481.18
Total Payments	£6744.96

RECONCILIATION – The Clerk reported that at 30 December 2021 the balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £61,100.36 and Capital Deposit Account £467.00.

PETTY CASH - Expenditure for the month of December 2021	£20.23
Balance at the end of December 2021	£3.19

21.123 CORRESPONDENCE

Resolved to note the following:

- **Letter from St Helens Council** – calculation of tax base, 3968 band D equivalent properties for 2022/23.
- **Email from St Helens Council** – response to queries that were raised at the last Parish Councillor Briefing regarding Queen’s jubilee and how CIF was allocated.
- **Email from the website** – someone enquiring about their family history in Eccleston. Cllr Barton agreed to investigate.
- **Email from St Helens Council** – inviting Parish Council Chairs and Clerks to meet to go through the process of a Community Governance Review – Monday 24 January 2022 at 5.30pm via Teams.
- **Email from St Helens Council** – Boundary Commission’s final recommendations for St Helens. Eccleston Parish now had 5 wards – East, Eccleston Park, Ellerslie, Foxwood and West

21.124 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 8 February 2022 7.30 pm Parish Council Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

SIGNED

DATED