

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL held
TUESDAY 12 APRIL 2022 at 7.30 pm in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, KILN LANE

PRESENT: Cllr Sims – Chair for the meeting
Cllrs Kempell, Skepper and Williams
Janet Anderson – Clerk

21.154 APOLOGIES

Cllrs Ashcroft, Barton, Cass, C Pearl and G Pearl

21.155 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

21.156 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 8 MARCH 2022

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

21.157 MATTERS ARISING

None

21.158 RESIDENTS' ISSUES

None

21.159 POLICE REPORT

Councillors had received the latest crime figures. Most figures compared favourably with the previous year.

Cllr Sims reported the setting on fire of a wheelie bin at Ecclesfield changing rooms damaging the tarmacked area, and also damage to the storage container. The Clerk had reported it to the police and asked for extra patrols of the area especially in the evening. Cllr Williams reported that cars are on the car park with their engines running most evenings. The Clerk was asked to contact the police to ask to be informed of any further issues.

21.160 LIBRARY SERVICES – REPORT

Nothing to report. All Councillors were reminded that any points should go through Parish Council and the Clerk.

21.161 ECCLESFIELD CONTAINER

An email had been received from St Helens Council regarding the container. It stated that the agreement for the use of the container had to be between the land owner and the tenant, which was Eccleston Parish Council. All members of Ecclesfield Ctte had been informed that Eccleston Parish Council would now deal with St Helens Council to agree conditions of use that would be passed to the football team.

A meeting of Eccleston Parish Councillors on Ecclesfield Management Ctte would be held to approve the agreement document.

21.162 VILLAGE HALL

- a) The Clerk reported that one of the toilets was blocked. It was agreed to call a plumber.
- b) There had been no update on a smart heating system. There had recently been problems with setting the heating once a month for a Sunday group.

21.163 OFFICE EQUIPMENT

The Clerk had investigated the cost of leasing a photocopier to include a service contract for parts/labour, toner and copies. Two companies had been compared and it was agreed to go with 24/7 Technology as, not only was it cheaper to lease the machine, copies were cheaper and the contact included IT/laptop connectivity.

21.164 REPORTS

Lester Drive Centre – there had been a meeting at Lester Drive but Cllr Skepper had been unable to attend.

Finance Sub Ctte – 12 April 2022, 6.45pm – Cllrs Sims and Skepper along with the Clerk met to discuss the end of year finances.

- Overall, there had been an underspend.
- The Clerk explained that the few areas where there had been an overspend, had been due to increase in costs.
- Income had been slightly below budget as groups were slow to return to the hall and the Smithy had not been able to hold events.
- There were no concerns raised.

Smithy Working Party – 12 April 2022, 7.00pm – Councillors had been given a copy of the Curators' report. The following was discussed:

- The Smithy would open for the season on Saturday 16 April and would be open Saturdays and Sundays 1pm-4pm.
- The Making of St Helens – the Curators were preparing for the new exhibition.
- Blacksmith's Day – 21 May 2022. Craftspeople had confirmed and new suppliers sourced. Demonstrations would take place between 12pm and 5pm with real ales and ciders served between 12pm and 6pm.
- Heritage Open Weekend – 17 and 18 September. This year would be the third weekend in September to avoid other large-scale events. The event would include the return of the Great Eccleston Bake-off judged by St Helens WI.
- Cllr Sims reported that she and Cllr Pearl had met with a member of Rotary Club St Helens to discuss creating a Heritage Trail around St Helens beginning with a plaque in Eccleston. This would be reported to Parish Council and the Curators would be informed of any updates.

21.165 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Resolved to note the following:

11 Walmesley Road

Proposed conservatory at the rear of property and new front porch

N/O

18 Osborne Road

Re-roof on existing single storey side extension

N/O

Hillside View, Green Lane

Single storey front link extension and raising of roof height of existing garage to facilitate conversion to habitable room along with the formation of a basement below, and a single storey rear extension with balcony

If the site is within the green belt, check it is not contravening any green belt policy

1 & 3 Howards Lane

Works to fell 2no beech trees covered by TPO

Refer to Trees and Woodlands Officer

11 Brooklands Road

Garage conversion

Ensure sufficient off-street parking

22 Brookland Road

Erection of 1no dwelling following demolition of existing dwellinghouse

Concern the balcony may overlook neighbouring properties

27 Mosslands

Demolition of existing detached garage and erection of detached outbuilding for ancillary living accommodation

Ensure sufficient off-street parking

15 Lester Drive

Two storey side extension

N/O

21.166 ACCOUNTS

Resolved to note the following:

Received: Village Hall Hire £572, RK PAYE £81, Windle phone and copier £190.70, NatWest interest 0.01 and 0.40

Total Receipts

£844.11

Payments:

Water Plus	22.91
GPS Telecoms – phone Feb	40.07
SSE – electricity	1426.92
SSE – gas	150.63
Masterprint Ltd	640.50
V Griffiths – Smithy – beer pump, dataloggers, webhosting, banner and leaflets	855.11
PC Print – printing Parish magazines	831.00
St Helens Council – trade waste 22/23 plus open space leases	403.20
A Scott – internal audit 21/22	175.00
Ecclesfield Project – first ½ contribution	1749.50
SLCC – membership	143.33
HMRC – PAYE and NI Jan-Mar	1602.32
J Chamberlain – April + expenditure	186.36
V Griffiths – April	179.37
L Poole – April + expenditure	444.87

J Anderson – April	1347.87
Merseyside Pension Fund – employer and employee contributions	490.80
CF Corporate – photocopier lease	93.60
Water Plus	22.91
L Poole – telephone contribution	75.00
Total Payments	£10881.27

RECONCILIATION – the Clerk reported that as at 31 March 2022 the balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £44,208.28 and Capital Deposit Account £467.02.

PETTY CASH – Expenditure for the month of March 2022	£2.99
Balance at the end of March 2022	£24.38

21.167 CORRESPONDENCE

Email from Amanda Roberts with background information to support her application for internal auditor.

Email from PKF Littlejohn, external auditors, informing that Eccleston Parish Council had been selected for an intermediate review as part of the 5% sample of those undertaking a basic review.

Email from the Scouts – 5 Scouts from St Helens, including one from 23rd St Helens, Eccleston, had been given the opportunity to take part in the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea. They were looking for funding from any community groups. The Scouts had also attached a letter.

St Helens Council – non-domestic rate demand – nil until 31 March 2023.

Email from a resident of Broadway – requesting Eccleston Parish Council to apply for funding for a street party. The Clerk had replied to explain that Parish Councils would not be able to apply on behalf of individual groups – only for a Parish Council event.

21.168 DATES OF MEETINGS

Resolved to note the following:

Tuesday 26 April 2022	7.30 pm	Annual Parish Meeting	Village Hall
Tuesday 10 May 2022	7.00pm	Smithy	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	Parish Council	Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm

SIGNED DATED