

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL held on TUESDAY 12 JULY 2022
at 7.30 pm in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, Kiln Lane, Eccleston

PRESENT: Cllr Sims (Chair)
Cllrs Cass, Madine, N Taylor, V Taylor and Williams
Janet Anderson – Clerk

22.40 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs Ashcroft, Haw, Johnson, C Pearl, G Pearl and Spencer

22.41 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

None

22.42 **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 14 JUNE 2022**

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

22.43 **MATTERS ARISING**

None

22.44 **RESIDENTS' ISSUES**

- a) A resident had contacted the Clerk regarding the safety of a tree at the rear of their property in Mill Brow Nature Reserve. St Helens Borough Council's Trees and Woodlands Officer made a visit to the site and reported that the tree was perfectly healthy and, according to St Helens Borough Council's Tree Policy, would not be pruned because it was considered too tall. The Clerk informed the resident.
- b) A third email regarding the parking on the grassed area outside the Griffin Inn had been received. The Clerk had forwarded the email to St Helens Borough Council and was waiting a response.
- c) Cllr N Taylor reported a loose grid on Houghtons Lane. Cllr Sims would report to St Helens Borough Council.
- d) Cllr N Taylor also reported a car that had been parked for over a week near the old Carmelite wall. Cllr Sims would report to the police.

22.45 **POLICE REPORT**

Crime figures had been received and given to Councillors. Most figures compared favourably with the previous year's.

22.46 **VILLAGE HALL**

The Caretaker had tested positive for Covid but had been able to carry out her role at the hall as she worked alone. The Clerk had opened and closed after an event on Saturday.

22.47 REPORTS

Resolved to note the following:

Smithy – all Councillors were given a copy of the Curators' Report for July. The following points were noted:

- Visitors – the Curators reported a steady stream of visitors
- Heritage Open Days – the custodian of the pit banner from Sutton Manor Colliery had agreed for it to be displayed at the Smithy as part of Heritage Open Days
- A craft fair would take place during Heritage Open Days
- 2023 exhibition – the Curators had been in touch with Knowsley Museum to discuss the possibility of loaning materials that tell the story of a Polish blacksmith who came to Britain during the war
- Side garden – one of the Smithy volunteers had begun to clear the side garden

22.48 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Resolved to note the following:

Delegated

12 Chapel Lane

Works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order to prune 1no Lime Tree

Refer to Trees and Woodlands Officer

3 Osborne Road

Two storey side extension, single storey front and single storey rear extension

N/O

62 Springfield Lane

First floor rear extension, alterations to front porch, new front driveway gate and posts, alteration to existing rear single storey extension roof and rear dormer with the erection of free standing garden canopy and associated external alterations and landscaping

N/O

54 Millbrook Lane

Proposed single storey side and rear extension

N/O

Decisions

1 Oak Tree Road

Retention of shiplap fence above existing low level wall to the front and side garden boundaries

Refused 14/6/22

16 Brookside Avenue

Demolition of existing garage with the erection of single storey side and rear extension

Granted 17/6/22

3 Howards Lane

Works to beech tree subject to a Tree Preservation Order and to replace with a beech tree in front garden

Granted 17/6/22

Former Fire Station

Demolition of existing Ecclestone Fire Station and erection of proposed 66 bed care home and associated parking and landscape gardens

Granted 22/6/22

69 Springfield Lane

Works to trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order to fell 1no beech tree and replace with 1no beech tree

Granted 30/6/22

25 Cecil Drive

Two storey side extension with alterations to rear annexe

Granted 30/6/22

7 Albany Avenue

Demolition of detached garage and erection of as single storey side/rear extension

Granted 7/7/22

22.49 ACCOUNTS

Received: Village Hall Hire £449, R Kelsey PAYE £82.60, 2nd half precept £29,640.96, Windle PC telephone £15.01, interest 5.74 and 0.04

Total Receipts **£30,193.35**

Payments:

SSE – gas	37.83
CF Corporate – copier lease	93.60
Water Plus	22.91
L Poole – July	420.90
V Griffiths – July	179.17
J Chamberlain – July	179.17
J Anderson – July	1403.08
Merseyside Pension Fund – July employer and employee contributions	490.80
ABM Fire and Security Systems Ltd – intruder and fire alarms maintenance	347.94
GPS Telecoms – Clerk phone – June	43.72
Chris Barber – VH grounds maintenance + tree work	360.00
Total Payments	£3579.12

RECONCILIATION - The Clerk reported that as at 30 June 2022 the balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £89,023.18 and Capital Deposit Account £467.09.

PETTY CASH - Expenditure for the month of June 2022	£18.88
balance at the end of June 2022	£5.12

22.50 DELEGATED POWERS OVER RECESS

Resolved that the Chair, Cllr Sims, Deputy Chair, Cllr G Pearl, in conjunction with the Clerk, be authorised to act on the Parish Council's behalf over the August recess.

22.51 CORRESPONDENCE

Resolved to note the following:

- An email from KKP Consultants on behalf of St Helens Borough Council, requesting information regarding the current and future provision of open spaces for an audit of open spaces. Councillors completed the questionnaire.
- An email had been received from a resident regarding the proposed loss of the number 37 bus in Eccleston. Cllr Sims had replied to the resident. She had also asked for further consultation to be carried out in Eccleston.
- St Helens MBC emailed dates for training on Code of Conduct – 26 July 5.30pm-7.00pm or 29 July 12.30pm-2.00pm
St Helens MBC had requested Parish Councillors' email addresses to send out the invitation to the virtual sessions.

22.52 DATES OF MEETINGS

Resolved to note the following:

Tuesday 6 September 2022	7.00pm	Ecclesfield Man Ctte	Village Hall
Tuesday 13 September 2022	7.00 pm	Smithy Meeting	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

SIGNED

DATED