

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL held on
TUESDAY 14 MARCH 2023 at 7.30 pm in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, KILN LANE**

PRESENT: Cllr Sims (Chair)
Cllrs Ashcroft, Cass, Haw, Johnson, Madine, C Pearl, G Pearl, Spencer, N Taylor and Williams
Janet Anderson – Clerk

22.114 APOLOGIES

Cllr V Taylor

22.115 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr G Pearl item 22.125 – Planning Applications

22.116 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 14 FEBRUARY 2023

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

22.117 MATTERS ARISING

None

22.118 RESIDENTS' ISSUES

Cllr Sims had received a letter from a resident asking whether flower boxes or planters could be installed in the area of Walmesley Road shops. Cllr Sims had contacted Grounds Maintenance at St Helens Borough Council and they had said it would not be feasible as the planters and boxes regularly got vandalised, with plants and bulbs thrown on the pavement causing a danger. Cllr Williams added that the land around the shops was privately owned, therefore the land owner's permission would need to be sought. Cllr Sims added that bulbs and trees had been planted, using the Councillor Improvement Fund, along Broadway and Burrows Lane which was utilising the money in the best way. Neither St Helens Council or Parish Council had the funds to provide further plants. Cllr Sims would reply to the resident.

22.119 POLICE REPORT

The latest figures were presented. It was noted that public order incidents had reduced dramatically compared to the previous year. Cllr Ashcroft explained that the schools were closed last year, due to Covid, which may have increased the figures.

22.120 OPEN SPACES

Costs had been received from St Helens Borough Council for the maintenance of all the leased open spaces. Councillors agreed to the maintenance for 12 months. The open spaces would be reviewed over the next year. Ecclesfield Management Cttee would consider the charges for the maintenance of the pitches being passed on to the pitch users.

Cllr Williams explained the if hawthorn hedges were constantly cut to the same height they would die. The Clerk was asked to report this to St Helens Council and ask whether there would be any possibility of the hedge being laid.

22.121 ANNUAL MAGAZINE

The magazine had gone to print. All magazines should be delivered to residents by 14 April 2023.

22.122 DEFIBRILLATORS

New pads were needed for both defibrillators, the one at the Village Hall and the one at Ecclesfield Changing Rooms, by the end of March. Cllr Haw would inform the Clerk which pads to re-order and would check the expiry dates of the batteries.

22.123 MILL BROW FENCE

The fence at Mill Brow had been damaged. The Clerk had contacted the insurance company who required 2 quotes for the repair. The Clerk had received one quote but was having difficulty getting a second quote for the fence. Cllr Johnson would pass on details of a firm that may be able to provide a quote.

22.124 REPORTS

Ecclesfield – re-arranged for Tuesday 28 March 2023 at 7.00pm, Eccleston Village Hall.

Smithy – Curators reported they were working on the opening of the museum for the season.

22.125 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Resolved to note the following:

8 St Berthold Gate

Single storey rear extension

N/O

Portico Vine ARLFC

Installation of 11no. floodlights mounted on 6no. 10 metre columns, and 1no. floodlight mounted on 1no. 5 metre column

Ensure that the boundary to the site is shielded by appropriate trees. Also, a cut off time for usage of the floodlights should be agreed. They may need backing/shielding screens to prevent light pollution

31 The Meads

Works to 4no trees (T11-T14) covered by TPO

Refer to the Trees and Woodlands Officer

66 Springfield Lane

External alterations to the property including new pitched roofs over existing flat roofs, amendments to existing window and door openings, removal of chimney, and the addition of cladding and render to the whole property

The proposed design would not be in keeping with the surrounding properties. The roof works may be acceptable, but not the proposed amendments to existing windows or door openings. Changes to the rear of the existing property may invade the privacy of houses at the rear

39 Mill Brow

Prior approval for a single storey rear extension, projecting 3.48m from the rear, 3.59m in height and 2.27m at the eaves

N/O

69 Brookside Avenue

Demolition of existing conservatory, proposed single storey rear extension and part garage conversion

N/O

21 The Spires

Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension, first floor front extension and conversion of part of garage to form office / utility room

Ensure sufficient off-street parking

To be consider by Planning Committee on 14 March 2023

57 Springfield Lane – erection of 1no dwelling following demolition of existing dwelling house
Cllr Pearl reported that the application had been granted.

22.126 ACCOUNTS**Resolved to note the following:**

Received: Village Hall Hire £655, RK Salary + PAYE £412.95, NatWest interest 0.33 and £41.25, WPC phone £11.29

Total Receipts **£1120.82**

Payments:

CF Corporate – copier (new contract)	76.80
ASL – copier (end of contract)	80.27
SSE – gas	263.10
Water Plus – water	29.88
V Griffiths – March + expenditure	373.69
L Poole – March	432.70
J Anderson – March	1453.62
J Chamberlain – March	179.17
R Kelsey – Salary Ecclesfield	330.35
Merseyside Pension Fund – employer and employee contributions	516.55
GPS Telecom – clerk's phone/internet – Feb	38.87
St Helens Council – cleaning for 2022/23	4749.60
Masterprint – magazine delivery	666.12
Golden Hygiene – washroom services	435.46
Norwyn Ltd – totem display panel – Smithy	226.80
Total Payments	£9852.98

RECONCILIATION – The Clerk reported that as at 28 February 2023 the balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £52,569.64 and Capital Deposit Account £468.35.

PETTY CASH – Expenditure for the month of February 2023 **£0.00**
Approximate balance at the end of February 2023 **£13.80**

22.127 CORRESPONDENCE

- **Email from St Helens Council** – a webinar would be held on Wednesday 15 March 2023, 2-3pm, organised by the Football Foundation explaining support that may be available to improve grass pitches and how the fund would be opening to Parish Councils and others.
- **An email from a resident** informing Parish Council that the allotments holders at Alder Hey Road had received a solicitor’s letter stating that the owners wish to take control and clear the site.

Noted

22.128 DATES OF MEETINGS

Resolved to note the following:

Tuesday 11 April 23	6.45pm	Finance Sub Ctte	Village Hall
	7.00pm	Smithy	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	Parish Council	Village Hall
Tuesday 25 April 23	7.30 pm	Annual Parish Meeting	Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm

SIGNED DATED