

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL held on TUESDAY 11 JULY 2023**  
**at 7.30 pm in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, Kiln Lane, Eccleston**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Sims (Chair)  
Cllrs Ashcroft, C Pearl, G Pearl and N Taylor  
1 resident  
Janet Anderson – Clerk

**23.42    APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs Cass, Haw, Madine, Johnson, Spencer and V Taylor

**23.43    DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Cllr G Pearl declared an interest in Item 23.49 – Planning Applications.

**23.44    MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 13 JUNE 2023**

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

**23.45    MATTERS ARISING**

None

**23.46    RESIDENTS' ISSUES**

A resident, attending the meeting, reported the overgrown foliage at Mill Brow. Cllr Sims explained that it had been dealt with.

He also raised the issue of blocked grids from Church Lane along to Bleak Hill Road. He reported pools of water on the roads, including on Mill Brow, even though United Utilities had installed the over spill outlet at Christ Church several years ago. The resident explained that even though the grid cleaner had been along at times to clear grids it did not seem to make any difference. Cllr Sims would look into the matter.

The resident also raised the issue of parking on the grassed area at the side of the Griffin Inn. Cllr Sims explained that the area was not classed as a grass verge but was part of Highways and that she was involved in discussions and was working with the Highways Department of St Helens Council to try to resolve the problem.

**23.47    POLICE REPORT**

Crime figures had been received and given to Councillors.

**23.48    REPORTS**

**Resolved to note the following:**

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

- Heritage Open Days – 16 and 17 September. Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> would be WW2 field kitchen and making of Polish headdresses.

- On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>, members from Merseyside Polonia and John Paul II Polish school would be joining the Smithy to help carry out Polish crafts. There would also be the Great British Eccleston Bake-off judged by St Helens Women's Institute. Curators asked for a Councillor to be present for the prize giving.
- Curators asked for help during the weekend and would appreciate any donations of cake.

#### 23.49 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

**Resolved to note the following:**

##### **Delegated**

##### **16 St Berthold Gate**

Works to various trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order

##### **Refer to Trees and Woodlands Officer**

##### **82 Fairholme Avenue**

Proposed two storey side extension and single storey rear extension

**N/O**

##### **27 The Spires**

Proposed single storey rear extension

**Ensure it is not overbearing on neighbouring property**

##### **6 Ingleholme Gardens**

Demolition of the existing conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension

**N/O**

##### **208 St Helens Road**

Proposed single storey rear extension

**N/O**

##### **14 Ackers Lane**

Single storey rear and side extension with garage conversion

**N/O**

##### **Hiltons Farm, Green Lane**

Change of use from agricultural land to residential garden (retrospective). Change of use from existing barn to habitable accommodation, with two storey link extension to farmhouse and external alterations

**Concerned at any loss of Green Belt if the original barn is made into additional property.**

**The original barn is renowned for bats (which are protected).**

**The rural nature of this area of Eccleston needs to be preserved.**

#### **Decisions**

##### **1C Albany Avenue**

First-floor front extension, re-roof and convert existing garage and single storey side extension

**Granted 28/6/23**

#### 23.50 OPEN SPACES

An email had been received from a resident in Rainhill enquiring how Eccleston Parish Council were managing to maintain open spaces since St Helens Council were now charging for the maintenance. It was agreed to reply explaining that the budget had been managed to include the costs involved.

#### 23.51 ACCOUNTS

**Received:** Village Hall Hire £357, R Kelsey salary + PAYE £433.60, 2<sup>nd</sup> half precept £39,251.89, Windle PC telephone £12.14.

##### **Total Receipts**

**£40,054.63**

##### **Payments:**

GPS Telecoms – Clerk phone	43.72
SSE – gas	54.74
Water Plus	29.88

R Kelsey – July	346.80
J Chamberlain – July + expenditure for Blacksmith's day	297.96
V Griffiths – July	188.17
L Poole – July	459.36
J Anderson – July + phone top-up	1450.11
Merseyside Pension Fund – July employer and employee contributions	558.30
Chris Barber – VH grounds maintenance	240.00
ABM Fire and Security Systems Ltd – intruder and fire alarms maintenance	347.94
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£4016.98</b>

**RECONCILIATION** - The Clerk reported that as at 30 June 2023 the balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £104,640.81 and Capital Deposit Account £469.90.

<b>PETTY CASH</b> - Expenditure for the month of June 2023	£12.00
balance at the end of June 2023	£10.48

All external audit requirements had been completed. All documents were emailed to external auditors on 20 June for 30 June deadline. All documents required to be published on the website by 1 July were published on 9 June.

#### 23.52 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.**

#### 23.53 CORRESPONDENCE

**Resolved to note the following:**

- Insurance pre-renewal questionnaire to be completed.
- Email from resident of Rainhill regarding the maintenance of leased land.
- Email from St Helens Council updating the draft recommendations of the Community Governance Review going to full Council on 12 July.

#### 23.54 DATES OF MEETINGS

**Resolved to note the following:**

Tuesday 5 September 2023	7.00pm	Ecclesfield Man Ctte	Village Hall
Tuesday 12 September 2023	7.00 pm	Smithy Meeting	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm.

SIGNED ..... DATED .....