

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY
13 JANUARY 2009, at 7.30 pm in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, Kiln Lane, Eccleston**

PRESENT: Cllr Perry (Chair)
Cllrs Broughton, Duncan, Evans, Maloney, C & G Pearl & Skepper
PCSO L Taylor
Mrs L Scott – Clerk

APOLOGIES: Cllrs Bain, Gray-Williams & Sims

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

8.112 Cllr G Pearl declared an interest in the Planning Applications, Item 08.122 and left the room.

MINUTES MEETING HELD 9 DECEMBER 2009

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

MATTERS ARISING

08.114 None.

ARCHERY GROUP REPRESENTATIVES

08.115 This was deferred until the February Meeting.

RESIDENTS' ISSUES

08.116 See Open Spaces item.

POLICE REPORT

8.117 Laura Taylor reported there have been several attempted burglaries as well as 3 actual burglaries. One house had been broken into and car keys stolen – this was later recovered. Two cars had their registration plates taken – this is an ongoing problem.

The main issue has been criminal damage and anti social behaviour at the College Sports Facility, Gillars Green. Fences have been broken and the building covered in graffiti. The Police are asking residents for information and are hoping the culprit's "tag" will lead them to the people concerned. The Clerk informed Laura of the graffiti on the Changing Rooms. Goal posts had also been removed on at least 2 occasions. St Helens Council were informed and the posts replaced immediately. The Caretaker's contact number is to be sent to Laura.

There have also been a number of complaints of damage to motor vehicles where, on the same night, a hooded person was seen indiscriminately smashing vehicles using an iron bar. The Police have increased patrols round the area in order to give reassurance.

ART COMPETITION

- 08.118 Fred Leather from De la Salle School sent proposals in December which were passed on to Cllrs Bain, Evans, Pearl, Perry, Sims & Skepper. Copies were given to Councillors not on the e-mail system. A Working Party was set up with Cllrs Evans, Perry and Skepper.
Resolved to contact Mr Leather regarding the number of themes and to arrange a meeting with the Working Party.

ANNUAL MAGAZINE

- 8.119 The Clerk reminded Councillors to submit articles by the end of February. Willow Printing quote received for next year is £10 more than last. Rendezvous deliverers have quoted £235.00 plus VAT. Scouts still to reply – a further e-mail has been sent.
Resolved to accept the Willow Printing quote of £1,677.00 and, in the event of not receiving a reply from the Scouts, to ask Rendezvous to carry out the delivery.

ST JAMES CHURCH GRANT

- 08.120 **Resolved to award St James Church a grant of £300.00 towards the maintenance of their Garden of Remembrance in April 2009.**

REPORTS

- 8.121 **Resolved to note the following:**

Open Spaces Sub Committee – The following topics were discussed:

- **Mill Brow Nature Reserve** – Councillors identified a need for extending the Boardwalk as the ground has become extremely boggy. The Committee felt that an application to Istock Cory Trust for a grant by 12 February 2009 would not be possible in the time. Cllr Evans has details. It was suggested that Councillors bring this up at the next Ward Committee meeting.
- **Kiln Lane Open Space** – We are waiting for feedback on the extent of the necessary planting.
- **Ecclesfield** – Results of a drainage survey by St Helens Council have indicated £15,270 needs to be spent in order to install drainage on parts of the field that have none. Cllr Sims has referred these findings to Paul Sanderson, St Helens Council, for his comments.

Smithy Working Party – All Councillors have a copy of the January Smithy Curators' Report. The following topics were discussed:

- **Accreditation** – Curators have received verbal confirmation that their application will be recommended for full accreditation. The Panel meets on 26 February 2009.
- **Emergency Plan** – complete. Curators need further details re the Parish Council Insurance Policy.
- **Exhibition Preparations** – these are now underway and the Curators have requested loans of items of vintage-type clothing.
- **Visit in January of Andrew Backhouse, Heritage Tourism Executive** – Culture North West.
- **Hours of Work** – Curators were asked to make an assessment of the number of hours they work.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

08.122 **Resolved that the following observations be made:**

- Rushen Elm Grove** Demolish existing dwelling & erect 1 apt block with 8 apts – **see response letter attached**
- 1 Gillars Green Dr** Erection of 1550 mm high, 1600 mm wide signboard at junction of Seddon Close & Gillars Green Drive – **N/O**
- 59 Millbrook Lane** Porch to front elevation – **N/O**
- Land adjacent 74 Rainhill Rd** Erection of 4 flats & associated parking – **EPC frequently contacted by residents of Ellerslie Avenue re poor visibility when exiting onto Rainhill Rd. Please condition creation of a TRO to wrap around corner from existing frontage of 74 Rainhill Rd, to where the new vehicular access will be in Ellerslie Ave to prevent exacerbation of an existing problem.**
- 5 Gunning Close** Erect 2-storey side ext, single storey rear & porch to front – **N/O**
- 20 Broadway** Erect single storey pitched roof front, side & rear extns– **N/O**
- Land to side 7 Stars Inn** Erect 4 3-bed semi-detached houses– **N/O**
- 21 Wokefield Way** Demolish conservatory & erect single storey rear ext– **N/O**
- 50 Gorsey Croft** Single storey, pitched roof rear ext – **N/O**
- 7 Ingleholme Gns** Demolish dwelling & outline permission for erection of 2 5-bed detached dwellings with double garage & 1 4-bed bungalow – **Cllr Sims to be asked to carry out a site visit**

2009/2010 BUDGET MEETING

08.123 This was held at 1.30 pm on Monday 12 January 2009 with Cllrs Bain, Evans, Perry and the Clerk in attendance. Cllr Evans gave a report to the Meeting from the Notes Cllr Bain had sent to the Clerk with the final Budget proposals.

Resolved to accept the Budget Proposals and inform the District Council that we wish to raise a precept of £48,549 for 2009-2010 based on 4,066 Band D equivalent properties at £11.94. This is an increase of 2.4% over last year.

ACCOUNTS

08.124 Received Hall Hire £513.00 (includes late payments from Nov); R Kelsey PAYE January £65.00.

St Helens Council - Rates January	95.00
British Gas – January	30.00
Manweb – January	81.50
United Utilities – January	53.01
United Utilities – December/January (missed off minutes last month)	30.78
J Chamberlain – Salary January	156.04
J Chamberlain – purchase of batteries for Smithy phone	2.63
V Hirons – Salary January	156.04
L Poole - Salary – January	384.08
L Scott – Salary January includes £12.00 travel expenses	1,084.03

L Scott – Petty Cash January	20.00
L Scott – Purchase of Padlock for Patio Gate, Batteries	21.96
L Scott – Web site hosting renewal	19.54
PAYE – Curators January (Cumulative £78 1 st month Period 4)	78.00
PAYE – Clerk January (Cumulative £267.80 1 st month Period 4)	267.80
EPC NI contribution – Clerk January (Cumulative £113.51 1 st month Period 4)	113.51
PAYE – Ecclesfield Caretaker – January (£65 1 st month Period 4)	65.00
Griffin Environmental Services – January Invoice 20812	49.83
St James – Hire of Hall for Planning Consultation Meeting	28.00
Ecclesfield Project final ¼ contribution	582.50
NatWest Voucher Charge	6.50
BT – Clerk’s phone and Internet	109.69
Balance brought forward December Meeting £33,996.81 + receipts this month	£34,509.81
Total Payments this month	3,435.44
Approximate balance	£31,074.37

NOTE GRIFFIN ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES MERGED WITH PHS IN DECEMBER 2008.

NEW A4 PHOTOCOPIER DELIVERED 7/1/09 – SEE MINUTE 08.108

RECONCILIATION - The Clerk reported that, as at 31 December 2008, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500, Reserve Account £29,813.97 and Capital Reserve Account £463.05. Members of the Finance Sub-Committee were given copies of the monthly Reconciliation, together with copies of the bank statements for November 2008.

PETTY CASH - Expenditure for the month of December 2008	£11.97
Approximate balance at the end of December 2008	1.26

CORRESPONDENCE

8.125 Resolved to note the following:

St Helens Council – Recently published Road Safety Plan 2008 – **passed to Cllr Duncan**
Communities & Local Gov – Consultation of recommended practice on local authority publicity –
passed to Cllr Perry

DATES OF MEETINGS

08.126 Resolved to note the following:

Tues 10 February 09	7.00 pm	Smithy Meeting	St James
	7.30 pm	Parish Council	St James

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

SIGNED

DATED