

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY
12 JANUARY 2016 at 7.30 pm in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, Kiln Lane, Eccleston**

PRESENT: Cllr Ashcroft (Chairman)
Cllrs Broughton, Duncan, Haw, Skepper and Watmough
Janet Anderson – Clerk
3 Residents

APOLOGIES

15.107 Cllrs Dawson, Gray-Williams, Kempself, C Pearl, G Pearl and Sims

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

15.108 None

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD

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

MATTERS ARISING

15.110 Cllr Haw reported under item 15.96 that United Utilities were looking into the problem of water drainage in Valencia Grove.

Cllr Haw reported under item 15.96 that St Helens Council would in future use larger and stronger lights on the Christmas tree on St Helens Road.

RESIDENTS' ISSUES

15.111 Cllr Duncan reported that the uneven flags on the pavement of St Helens Road had not been repaired. Cllr Haw would look into the issue.

A resident raised the issue of parking at Walmesley Road shops. She reported that it is very congested at all times during the day. Cllr Haw would look into the matter and possibly request the traffic warden to patrol the area.

Mr Wagstaff, a resident from Eccleston Park attended the meeting to represent residents from the area to raise the issue of speeding traffic along St Helens Road. He reported that traffic was speeding on both sides of the road but particularly in the direction towards Prescot and regularly using the chevrons to overtake. He said residents were concerned as several walls to properties had recently been knocked down by speeding traffic and as Eccleston Lane Ends School use the route for their walking bus scheme, the safety of the children and staff was of concern and a high priority. He was happy to represent the residents regarding the issue and had been liaising with Cllr Haw. Cllr Haw would be speaking to Mr Houghton from Highways at St Helens Council on Friday 15 January 2016. He would report the outcome of the meeting to Mr Wagstaff and the Parish Council.

Cllr Haw had been approached by several shop keepers from Walmesley Road requesting to use the Ecclesfield Changing Facility car park to help ease the parking for shoppers on the main car park during week days. Cllrs were in agreement that all shop keepers be sent a letter stating the terms and conditions of being provided with a key and that there would be a deposit required for the use of the key. The Clerk to liaise with Cllr Haw.

A resident, Mrs Martlew, reported that she had been in touch with Rainhill Civic Society regarding information about setting up a civic society. She had been advised that an informal meeting with interested parties would be beneficial. Mrs Martlew agreed to arrange a

convenient date with Rainhill Civic Society and the Clerk would write to all interested parties to inform them of the date and to invite them to attend the informal meeting/chat.

POLICE REPORT

15.112 PCSOs Green was unable to attend. He sent crime figures comparing the period December 2015 to January 2016 to the same period last year which showed a drop in some areas including theft. He advised residents to be vigilant keeping doors locked.

REPORTS

15.113 **Resolved to note the following:**

Smithy Working Party – all Councillors were given a copy of the Curators' report. The following points were discussed:

- Shakespeare Week Event – 14-18 March with the aim of introducing primary children to Shakespeare. Curators would also be arranging an evening talk for adults by Rosemary Tyler on Shakespeare
- ACE Grant – Phill Gregson was to purchase French oak to begin making the doors. Windows to be fitted 1 Feb and CCTV to be confirmed as 15 Feb. Press release agreed by Parish Council to go to the St Helens Star and on web site
- Sadly Mr Jim Brady who had been a regular visitor to the Smithy had died.

PENSIONS

15.114 **It was agreed that the Clerk contact Merseyside Pension Fund to begin the process of joining the scheme.**

ANNUAL MAGAZINE

15.115 The Chair requested articles from Councillors for the next magazine to be sent to the Clerk by 12 February 2016. Guides would deliver the magazine again this year.

RISK ASSESSMENT

15.116 The annual risk assessment was carried out by the Councillors and Clerk. **Resolved to approve and sign.**

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

15.117 **Resolved to note the following:**

Delegated

44 The Avenue Single storey side/rear extension **N/O**

6 Barrowfield Rd Replacement hipped roof over existing two storey side extension **N/O**

1 Chapel Lane Construction of two storey vicarage, within curtilage of existing vicarage
Consultation meeting being held 16 January 2015 in Village Hall at 10am

The Vicarage
Chapel Lane Creation of new vehicular driveway access, with alterations to brick boundary wall
Consultation meeting being held 16 January 2015 in Village Hall at 10am

ACCOUNTS

15.118

Received Village Hall Hire £477, RK PAYE £97.80, Windle PC phone/copier £35.11, Interest 0.02p and £1.39

Total Receipts

£611.32

Payments

United Utilities – December	9.86
United Utilities – December	32.00
CF Corporate – copier lease Dec-Feb	93.60
GPS Telecoms – Clerk’s telephone Nov	32.81
Christ Church, Eccleston – churchyard grant	650.00*
St Helens Council – cleaning – Nov	298.60
Post Office Ltd – PAYE & NI (Oct-Dec)	1480.46
P Gregson – materials for new Smithy doors (ACE grant money)	1050.00
Easily Ltd – domain name renewal – 1 year	29.99
J Anderson – January + petty cash	1282.39
L Poole – January	415.85
J Chamberlain – January	168.86
V Griffiths – January	174.86
Paul Potter Garden Services – VH grounds maintenance – January	18.75
V Griffiths – Smithy domain name renewal – 1 year	35.99
Total Payments	£5774.02

* Resolved that the Council in accordance with its powers under sections S214 of the Local Government Act 1972 should incur the following expenditure to contribute towards expenses of cemeteries.

RECONCILIATION - The Clerk reported that, as at 30 December 2015, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £35,460.91 and Capital Deposit Account £464.87.

PETTY CASH - Expenditure for the month of December 2015	£10.37
Approximate balance at the end of December 2015	£13.09

CORRESPONDENCE

15.119 **Resolved to note the following:**

Letter from St Helens Council – Calculation of tax base, 3811 Band D equiv properties (3801 last year)

Email St Helens Council – Parish Council logo to go on Mill Brow Nature Reserve sign shortly

Email from utility broker – another 2 years with Total Gas and Power with possible savings of £289 against current year

Letter from St Helens Council – request to use the hall for Police and Crime Commissioner and Local Elections on Thurs 5 May 2016 6.30am-10.30pm

Letter from St Helens Council – invitation to Holocaust Memorial Service on Wed 27 January 2016 at Town Hall at 10am

Letter from resident replying to the request from the Parish Council for them to remove trees that they had left at the back of their property on Mill Brow Nature Reserve. They would move the trees as soon as they could.

DATES OF MEETINGS

15.120 **Resolved to note the following:**

Wednesday 20 January 2016	10.00am	Finance Sub (Budget)	Village Hall
Tuesday 9 February 2016	6.45 pm 7.30 pm	Smithy Meeting Parish Council	Our Lady’s Our Lady’s

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm.

SIGNED

DATED