

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY
10 JULY 2007, in the VILLAGE HALL, Kiln Lane, Eccleston**

PRESENT: Cllr Duncan (Chair)
Cllrs Bain, Maloney, C & G Pearl, Perry, Skepper
Cllrs Con G Harper
Mrs L Scott (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Cllrs Evans, Gleave, Gray-Williams, Sims

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 12 JUNE 2007

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

MATTERS ARISING

07.36 07.29 – Quality Parish Scheme - no reply from John Skinley on this but this will be on the agenda at the Clerk's Meeting scheduled for 20 July 2007 at St Helens Town Hall.

POLICE REPORT

07.37 Constable Harper reported on the crime figures for the last 30 days when there were 4 burglaries, 2 people arrested for drug possession, damage to Gillars Green phone box, a small number of cars damaged and broken into and damage to Christ Church walls in Church Lane. Incidences of youth disorder were noticeably down over the month. There had not been any written notification of the 'Alcohol-Free Zone' received by the Police and Cllr G Pearl offered to look into this.

Con Harper agreed to contact the resident from the Spires who reported youth activity at the Bobbies Lane facility. He stated that there had been only one call logged in the last month regarding this.

GILLARS GREEN

07.38 The Clerk confirmed that a bouncy castle had been ordered for the official opening of the playground. Councillor Sims has arranged for the "healthy eating" stall and Councillor Evans is dealing with the climbing wall. Councillor Maloney suggested inviting a representative from Helena Housing and the Clerk was asked to contact the Star and Reporter to request a press release and photographer.

ECCLESTON NATURE RESERVE

07.39 This item was deferred to the September meeting as Councillor Evans was away on a training course for the District Council.

REPORTS

07.40 **Resolved to note the following:**

Finance Sub-Committee Meeting – The Clerk reported on a meeting which took place on Friday 29 June 2007, attended by all Eccleston Finance Committee, Windle Finance Committee, John Friar, Internal Auditor and Len Kilshaw, Clerk of Windle Parish Council. The following topics were discussed:

- Risk Assessment
- Changes in the Audit submission for 2006/2007 Financial Year
- Appendix 7 and its implications to the Parish Council
- Role of the Internal Auditor
- Monitoring of Internal Auditor

It was agreed that John Friar and Clerks of Eccleston and Windle Parish Councils would devise an Audit Plan on Friday 20 June 2007.

Smithy - See Curators' Report attached. The main points for discussion were:

- Welcome to Jo Jones, our Curatorial Adviser
- Tour of the new Exhibition
- Craft Fayre
- Security at the Smithy and Village Hall
- Request for a meeting prior to the Heritage Weekend
- Car Allowance for the Curators
- Broken scanner

Resolved that when the Clerk writes to ABM Alarms to confirm the Council's agreement to the annual inspection that the points raised by the Curators are looked into and to request a quotation for a stand-alone intruder alarm for the Smithy.

Open Spaces Sub-Committee – A meeting of the Open Spaces Sub-Committee took place at 6.30 pm this evening. The following topics were discussed:

- Installation of playground equipment on Clarks Crescent Open Space – in response to a resident request at the Annual Parish Meeting
- Upgrading of Kiln Lane Open Space – Clerk to contact Cllr Sims re response from David Bielowski

Resolved to contact Councillor Sims to check on the availability of money for the installation of playground equipment.

Bleak Hill Prize Giving - Councillors Duncan and Perry attended Bleak Hill School on Thursday 5 July 2007 to present prizes to pupils.

Veterans Day - Councillors Duncan, Evans and Sims attended the ceremony held at the Cenotaph, Victoria Square, St Helens, on Wednesday 27 June 2007 commemorating Veterans Day and 25th Anniversary of the Falklands War.

Mayor's Sunday – Councillors Duncan, Perry and Sims attended the morning service at St Austins RC Church, Heath Street, Thatto Heath on Sunday 1 July 2007.

AUDIT – ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

07.41 **Resolved that Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Audit for 2006/2008 Accounts be approved and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.**

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

Delegated

40 Villiers Cres	2-storey side ext & pitched roof over existing garage (amendment to P/0292) – N/O
98 Kiln Lane	Raise existing roofspace by 1.6 m – N/O
22 Central Ave	Single-storey rear ext – N/O
2 Chapel Lane	2-storey side ext & single-storey rear ext – N/O
9 Central Ave	Single-storey rear ext & 1 st floor side ext – N/O
7 Tamarisk Gns	2-storey side ext & single-storey rear & front exts - ? overbearing effect on neighbouring property
3 Central Ave	1½-storey rear ext (from 1 st floor to roof level) for lift – N/O
10 Knowles House Ave	Demolish existing outbuilding & erect 2-storey side/rear ext, single-storey rear ext & porch & canopy to front - ? architectural imbalance – properties link houses with no off-street parking
8A Albany Ave	Variation to condition 6 on application 2006/0921 - object to any variation on the planning permission given - it is to protect amenity & privacy of neighbouring property, and needs to stay as is.
39 The Meads	Works to trees covered by TPO – Refer to Trees & Woodlands Officer
162 Kiln Lane	Erection of 2-storey side ext, single storey rear ext & detached garage to side (demolition of existing detached garage). – N/O
34 Long Meadow	2-storey side ext & rear conservatory – N/O
12 Chapel Lane	Demolish existing rear ext & erect single-storey rear ext – N/O

CHAIRMAN'S ALLOWANCE

07.43 **Resolved that £250 Chairman's Allowance is paid to Councillor Duncan for the year 2007/2008.**

ACCOUNTS

07.44 Received £441 Hall Hire + £34 from last month; £64.02 R Kelsey PAYE July; £22,892.50 2nd ½ Precept St Helens Council; repeated item on 07.31 as per 1st ¼ internal audit £242.13; £155.67 Bank Interest

British Gas – July	103.00
Manweb – July – increase of £12.00	66.50
United Utilities – July	42.99
United Utilities – Direct Debit for Surface water/drainage – July (down £39.28)	12.23
St Helens Council - Rates (increase of £43.93/year)	92.00
St Helens Council – Commercial Waste April 2007 – March 2008	241.93
St Helens Council – Cleaning April & May	485.82
L Poole - Salary – July	370.83
L Scott – Salary July includes £ 7.20 travel expenses	1021.81
L Scott – Petty Cash July	20.00
J Chamberlain – Salary July and £31.98 purchases (correction from Notes)	179.77
V Hirons – Salary July	147.79
PAYE – Curators July (£83.16 1 st month Period 2)	83.16
PAYE – Clerk July (£286.22 1 st month Period 2)	286.22
EPC NI contribution – Clerk July (£110.83 1 st month Period 2)	110.83
PAYE – Ecclesfield Caretaker – July (£64.02 1 st month Period 2)	64.02
B&M Office Machines – Copies 16/5/07 – 18/6/07	14.22
Councillor Christina Duncan – Chairman's Allowance	250.00
NatWest Bank – Safe Custody rental	20.00
Ecclesfield Project – 2 nd ¼ contribution	757.50
BT – Clerk's phone & internet charges	116.76

Balance brought forward June Meeting £33,240.74 + receipts this month	£57,070.06
Total Payments this month	4,487.38
Approximate balance	£52,582.68

RECONCILIATION - The Clerk reported that, as at 29 June 2007, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500, Reserve Account £44,530.50 and Capital Reserve Account £462.48. Members of the Finance Sub-Committee were given copies of the monthly Reconciliations and copies of bank statements for June 2007.

PETTY CASH - Expenditure for the month of June 2007	£11.04
Approximate balance at the end of June 2007	£11.00

DELEGATED POWERS OVER THE RECESS

07.45 **Resolved that the Chairman Cllr Duncan, Vice Chairman Cllr D Bain, in conjunction with the Clerk, be authorised to act on the Parish Council’s behalf over the August recess**

CORRESPONDENCE

07.46 **Resolved to note the following:**

- MPA – Newsletter – see Village Hall noticeboard
- Ward Committee** – May Minutes – **passed to Cllr Duncan**
- Toye, Kenning & Spencer** – Civic Regalia brochures – **passed to Cllr Duncan**
- Joanne Griffiths** – request for financial assistance for Gemma Griffiths for 2007 Dragonboat Championships – **passed to Cllr Pearl to bring up at the next Sports Council meeting**
- St Helens Council** – Dates of Training Sessions for Code of Conduct – **passed to all Councillors**
- St Helens Council** – Supplementary Planning Document
- St Helens Council** – Clerk’s Meeting Friday 20 July 2007
- CPRE** - Countryside Voice and raffle tickets – **passed to Cllr Perry**
- Mrs C Gardner** – resident complaint re Bobbies Lane Sports Facility – **discussed with Con Harper who will contact the resident**

DATES OF MEETINGS

07.47 Councillors were given a list of all meeting dates for 2007/2008.

Resolved to note the following:

Thursday	6 September	7.00 pm	Planing Committee	Village Hall (if necessary)
Monday	10 September	7.00 pm	Ecclesfield AGM	Village Hall
Tuesday	11 September	6.45 pm	Smithy Meeting	Village Hall
		7.30 pm	Parish Council	Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

SIGNED

DATED.....