

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY 8 JULY 2008, at 7.30 pm in ST JAMES'S CHURCH HALL, St Helens Road, Eccleston Park**

PRESENT: Cllr Perry (Chair)  
Cllrs Bain, Broughton, Duncan, Evans, Gray-Williams, Maloney,  
C & G Pearl, Sims & Skepper  
Mr M Dickens (St Helens Council), Constable D Brown  
21 Residents, Mrs L Scott (Clerk)

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

08.37 Cllr G Pearl declared an interest in the Planning Applications.

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 10 JUNE 2008**

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

**MATTERS ARISING**

08.39 08.32 – Hall & Personnel – Four painters have viewed the Village Hall and have a copy of the specification. Cllr Perry and Clerk added the corridor to the Smithy as the roof has had repairs and is in need of filling/painting. The banister rail is also loose and needs attention.

**RESIDENTS' ISSUES**

08.40 Henbury Court – Cllr Sims reported that she had been informed the fence is going to be replaced by McCarthy & Stone with one that is 'rabbit-proof'.

**TRIPLEX DEVELOPMENT**

.41 Mark Dickens, Development Services Manager, St Helens Council, outlined the proposals for the Triplex Site. This was one of many consultations taking place in Eccleston. There will also be a display in Eccleston Library, on the website and at St Helens Town Hall.

**Cllrs Brought & Evans joined the meeting**

Questions followed by Cllrs Bain, G Pearl and Sims, followed by residents.

**THEFT OF ROOF LEAD**

08.42 This was reported to the police and we have now been given a crime number. An immediate repair was made to prevent any water damage using flashband at a cost of £141 including VAT.

## POLICE REPORT

.43 Constable Dave Brown reported on the crime figures for last month when there had been 4 burglaries, 1 criminal damage, 4 thefts from motor vehicles, 1 shop theft and 1 report of violence. The main problem was that of graffiti on Gillars Green and

Knowles House Avenue. The graffiti is of a racist nature and will be removed immediately. The main offender for one set of graffiti has been identified and restorative justice will be enforced. Another problem has been that of a motor cyclist in Eccleston Woods. Residents have reported that this has stopped for the moment. The Youth Service is involved in dealing with youths caught drinking on Kiln Lane Open Space.

**Cllr Gray-Williams left the meeting**

## GRANTS FOR SCHOOLS

08.44 **Resolved that Eccleston Mere, Eccleston Lane Ends, Bleak Hill, St Julie's and De la Salle Schools be awarded £50 each for school prizes.**

## REPORTS

08.45 **Resolved to note the following:**

Hall & Personnel – Cllr Perry and the Clerk carried out a Fire Survey of the buildings on Wednesday 18 June 2008. The following points required action:

- Clarification of Assessment Principles – Clerk to send for detailed copy
- Provide written instructions for evacuation of the building
- Find out how to check our fire alarm on a weekly basis

Smithy Working Party – All Councillors were given a copy of the July Curator's Report. The main points for discussion were:

- Accreditation requirements
- Appointment of key personnel in case of emergency
- Review of First Aid supplies
- Smithy Volunteers
- Annual leave/absence due to sickness
- Heritage Weekend – Craft Fayre
- Application for Costco

**Resolved that the Clerk investigates the cost of a subscription to Costco and that this will be decided on by the Chairman and Vice Chairman under Delegated Powers Over the Recess.**

St Helens CVS – Cllrs Duncan and Maloney attended a meeting at Tontine House on 13 June 2008. Cllr Maloney reported that the Speaker was Fiona Johnstone, Director of Public Health

Strategy, who talked about ‘Having Your Say About Health’. The PCT plan is to improve the health and well being of the people from Halton and St Helens – a campaign to raise the awareness of health issues. The Proposal is for a GP-led Health Centre (walk in and bookable with primary care medical facilities, open 8.00 am – 8.00 pm 7 days a week – one per PCT area. There are also to be 3 new GP practices.

Simon Griffiths, Head of Primary Care, tabled a discussion about the Health Programme. The meeting closed at approximately 3.00 pm.

#### PLANNING APPLICATIONS

08.46 Councillor G Pearl left the room

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

##### Delegated

<b>97 Alder Hey Rd</b>	Single storey rear ext – N/O
<b>16 Wokefield Way</b>	Single storey rear ext – N/O
<b>Hillside View Green Lane</b>	Application for lawful development certificate for an existing use - N/O
<b>78 Foxwood</b>	2 storey side ext – <b>Property has very short frontage - ? sufficient off-street parking</b>
<b>3 Gillars Green Cottages</b>	Demolish front porch & outbuildings, erect 2-storey front ext with porch & single storey conservatory to side – N/O
<b>2 West Close</b>	2 storey side ext – N/O
<b>49 Gillars Grn Dr</b>	Temporary change of use of ground floor from A1 (retail) to B1 (office) – N/O
<b>Willowbrook Hosp 57 Springfield La</b>	Erection of detached garage to provide storage – N/O 2 storey & single storey front extensions to form staircase enclosure & porch/cloakroom (re-submission) – N/O
<b>Trapwood &amp; Gillars Green Dr</b>	Removal of BT Phone boxes – <b>Concern both telephones subject for removal are within a super output area. Box on Trapwood is in front of 48 sheltered homes. Aware people in those areas do not have phones &amp; BT phones are used for important calls.</b>
<b>Gillars Estate</b>	Environmental improvements to Gillars Green estate inc building of off street car parking, drop kerbs, & construction of new shared bin stores - <b>Concern parking bays identified within the Estate appear to be encouraging reversing out on to a main thoroughfare. Is this a dangerous procedure? Will bins be vandal proof?</b>

#### AUDIT APPROVAL

.47 **Resolved that the Chairman approves the 2007/2008 Accounts with his signature, together with that of the Clerk.**

#### AUDIT 2007/2008 – ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

.48 **Resolved that the Parish Council approves the Annual Governance Statement for the 2007/2008 Annual Return.**

ACCOUNTS

08.49 Received Hall Hire £485.00; R Kelsey PAYE July £65.00; HM Revenue Filing on Line Incentive payment £100.00; St Helens Council 2<sup>nd</sup> ½ Precept £23,800.50, Bank Interest £156.45.

British Gas – July	88.00
Manweb – July	81.50
United Utilities – July (1 <sup>st</sup> of another new payment £53.01 following months)	48.10
United Utilities – Direct Debit for Surface water/drainage – July	15.39
St Helens Council - Rates	95.00
St Helens Council – May & June	497.94
L Poole - Salary – July	384.08
L Scott – Salary July includes £7.20 travel expenses	1,079.03
L Scott – Petty Cash July/August	30.00
J Chamberlain – Salary July	156.04
V Hirons – Salary July	156.04
J Chamberlain – items for Smithy – Requisition 22	58.84
P Potter – Gardening & bark	100.00
Griffin Environmental Services – Village Hall sanitation – July	50.91
ABM Security – Annual Maintenance of Fire alarm	254.29
ABM Security – Annual Maintenance of Intruder alarm	72.62
PAYE – Curators July (Cumulative £78.00 1 <sup>st</sup> month Period 2)	78.00
PAYE – Clerk July (Cumulative £268 1 <sup>st</sup> month Period 2)	268.00
EPC NI contribution – Clerk July (Cumulative £113.51 1 <sup>st</sup> month Period 2)	113.51
PAYE – Ecclesfield Caretaker – July (£65.00 1 <sup>st</sup> month Period 2)	65.00
B&M Office Machines – Copies 11/4/08 – 15/5/08 – Inv 92275	15.64
B&M Office Machines – Copies 15/5/08 – 14/6/08 – Inv 93847	15.64
Griffin Environmental Services – July	50.91
Best Security – Smithy Alarm System	1,521.77
Merit Prizes – Bleak Hill, Eccleston LE, Eccleston M, St Julie, De la Salle	250.00*
St James PCC – Room Hire for Parish Meeting July	28.00
Chairman’s Allowance – Cllr L Perry for 2008/2009	250.00
Averno Graphics (Smithy sign) ]	85.77
Preservation Equipment Ltd ] – <b>Smithy Grant</b>	1085.94
Conservation by Design Ltd ]	332.62
NatWest Bank – charges	13.00
Balance brought forward June Meeting £34,404.05 + receipts this month	£59,011.00
Total Payments this month	7,341.58
<b>Approximate balance</b>	<b>£51,669.42</b>

\* Expenditure incurred by the Council in accordance with the powers under Section 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972 as being, in the opinion of the Council, in the best interests of the area or its inhabitants

**MANWEB/SCOTTISH POWER DIRECT DEBIT** – This payment will be reduced as a result of a campaign being carried out in Warrington/Cheshire – this applies to the Village Hall since the billing address is in the Warrington area.

**RECONCILIATION** - The Clerk reported that, as at 30 June 2008, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500, Reserve Account £46,030.79 and Capital Reserve Account £462.93. Members of the Finance Sub-Committee were given copies of the monthly Reconciliation together with copies of the bank statements for June 2008.

**P E T T Y C A S H** - Expenditure for the month of June 2008  
£18.27

**Approximate** balance at the end of June 2008  
£4.39

DELEGATED POWERS OVER THE RECESS

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

CORRESPONDENCE

.50 **Resolved to note the following:**

**Merseytravel** – Meeting Liverpool 26 June – **Cllr G Pearl notified**

**R S Dudley** – notification of the death of his Father, Past Chairman Mr J Dudley – **Clerk has sent a card on behalf of the Parish Council. Resolved to send flowers to Mrs Dudley.**

**CPRE** – Countryside Voice – **passed to Cllr Perry**

**Eccleston Mere/De la Salle Schools** – Thanks for Prizes Grant

**Acorn Services** – business being taken over by Stanley Gate Nursery

DATES OF MEETINGS

08.51 **Resolved to note the following**

Mon	8 September 08	7.00 pm	Ecclesfield	Village Hall
Tue	9 September 08	6.45 pm	Smithy Meeting	Village Hall
		7.30 pm	Parish Council	Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.37 pm.

SIGNED .....

DATED .....