

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY 11 JULY 2017 at 7.30 pm in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, Kiln Lane, Ecclestone

PRESENT: Cllr G Pearl (Chairman)
Cllrs Ashcroft, Broughton, Duncan, Haw, Kempself and C Pearl
Janet Anderson – Clerk
1 resident

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

17.35 Cllrs Gray-Williams and Sims

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

17.36 Cllr G Pearl declared an interest in item 17.43 – Planning Applications

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 13 JUNE 2017

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

MATTERS ARISING

17.38 Cllr Pearl asked why the refund for cider bought for International Blacksmith's Day did not show on last month's minutes. The Clerk reported that the cheque had been received after the meeting and therefore would be reported in item 17.44 Accounts in the current meeting.

RESIDENTS' ISSUES

17.39 Cllr Broughton raised the overgrown shrubbery along the footpath to Ecclesfield off Ecclesfield Road. **Cllr Haw explained that the issue was being dealt with.**

Cllr Kempself suggested that the old fashioned signposts that were in Ecclestone, one at the top of Mill Brow and the other at the junction of Millbrook Lane and Kiln Lane, be renovated. Cllr Haw explained that it had been requested in the past but the signposts belonged to the residents of the properties they were outside.

POLICE REPORT

17.40 No one was available to attend from the police and crime figures had not been received.

ENQUIRY TO PURCHASE LAND AT ANSDELL DRIVE

17.41 A request had been received from a resident living next to the open space at Ansdell Drive, Ecclestone to purchase 1.5m of land to the side of their property. Cllr G Pearl, Chairman, reported that the land was owned by St Helens Council and leased to Ecclestone Parish Council as an open space. The lease stated that the land could not be sold and no buildings or structures could be erected on the land. Cllr Pearl informed the resident who had attended the meeting.

REPORTS

17.42 Resolved to note the following:

Smithy Working Party – 11 July 2017, 6.45 pm – all Councillors were given a copy of the Curators' Report for July 2017. The following points were discussed:

- **Festival of Archaeology** – activities looking at mystery objects
- **Preparing to Borrow** – Joanne had attended a course to enable the Smithy to be eligible to apply for loans from the Touring Exhibition Group
- **School Visit** – St Thomas of Canterbury had sent a thank you and a donation of £20 after their visit
- **Alarm** – there had been a further activation at 4.52am that Vicky had attended. The alarm company had been out to adjust the sensitivity of the detectors
- **International Blacksmith's Day Film** – Michael Humphreys had produced a short film of the activities of the Blacksmith's Day free of charge
- **Heritage Open Days** – 9 and 10 September, 12-5pm. Saturday would be looking at how books and documents were made in the past. Sunday would be the bake-off. St Helens WI had agreed to judge and give feedback
- **Eccleston Residents' Association** – a request had been received by the Smithy from the Residents' Association to have a stall at the Parish Council's Heritage Open Days event promoting their campaign against the proposed release of greenbelt land for development. Some Councillors expressed reservations whether the Parish Council should be linked to the campaign. Cllr G Pearl explained that as he was on St Helens Council's Planning Cttee and other Parish Councillors represented the Parish Council's Planning Sub Cttee that the campaign should not be linked with the Parish Council's Heritage Open Day event. Cllr Haw requested that legal advice be sought from St Helens Council's legal department to clarify the situation. **Cllr Pearl took a vote and it was unanimously agreed that he seek legal advice from St Helens Council on whether the Parish Council should accommodate a stall promoting the campaign. It was agreed that all Councillors would support the advice given by St Helens Council.**

Lester Drive – 20 June 2017 – Cllrs Duncan and Skepper attended the meeting at Lester Drive Centre and reported that everything was running well.

Bleak Hill School Awards Assembly – 11 July 2017, Cllr G Pearl had attended the awards assembly at Bleak Hill School to present trophies and book vouchers to children. Cllr Pearl reported it was the first time that a joint awards assembly had been held with Windle Parish Council. Cllr Barton had presented awards on behalf of Windle Parish Council. Cllr Pearl reported it to have been an enjoyable event.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

17.43 Resolved to note the following:

Delegated

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 3 Brookside Ave | Erection of a first floor addition above the existing garage and utility room
N/O |
| 2 Willow Cottages | Erection of detached double garage; widening of existing access and creation of additional access with gates and piers; removal of hedge to front and replacement with 1m high wall
N/O |
| Knowsley View | Part two storey part single storey side extension, including replacement porch
Ensure the extension would not contravene the green belt policy |

ACCOUNTS

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 17.44 | Village Hall Hire £747, R Kelsey PAYE £77.80, 2 nd half precept £27,152.56, Windle telephone £9.61, refund from Red Bank Cider for unused cider £245.00, Smithy donation from St Thomas of Canterbury £20.00, remaining balance of ACE grant £815, interest 0.27 and 0.01 |
| | Total Receipts £29067.25 |

Payments:

GPS Telecoms – Clerk phone – May	34.61
St Helens Council – tree and bush work at VH	298.80
Chubb Fire and Security – annual service of fire equipment	104.52
Post Office Ltd – PAYE & NI Apr-Jun	1391.50
P Gregson – wheelwright demonstration – IBD	150.00
J Chamberlain – July + exp	179.86
V Griffiths – July	168.86
L Poole – July	418.05
J Anderson – July includes travel and petty cash	1278.90
Paul Potter Garden Services – July 2 visits	62.50
Merseyside Pension Fund – July employer and employee contributions	422.07
St Helens Council – cleaning April-July	1288.80
United Utilities – June	10.91
United Utilities – June	28.84
Total Payments	£5838.22

RECONCILIATION - The Clerk reported that, as at 30 June 2017 the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £49,939.65 and Capital Deposit Account £465.13.

PETTY CASH - Expenditure for the month of June 2017	£14.44
Approximate balance at the end of June 2017	£15.17

DELEGATED POWERS OVER RECESS

17.45 **Resolved that the Chairman Cllr G Pearl and Deputy Chairman Cllr Sims, in conjunction with the Clerk, be authorised to act on the Parish Council’s behalf over the August recess.**

CORRESPONDENCE

17.46 **Resolved to note the following:**

Letter from Mayor – informing the Parish Council that the Mayor’s charity this year would be Mind UK
Bleak Hill Primary School – thank you letter for prize/merit award money
De La Salle School – thank you letter for prize/merit award money

DATES OF MEETINGS

17.47 **Resolved to note the following:**

Tuesday 5 September 2017	7.00pm	Ecclesfield	Village Hall
Tuesday 12 September 2017	6.45 pm	Smithy Meeting	Village Hall
	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

SIGNED

DATED