

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY 11 MAY 2010, at 7.30 pm in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, Kiln Lane, Eccleston

PRESENT: Cllr G Pearl (Chair)
Cllrs Bain, Broughton, Duncan, Evans, Gray-Williams, C Pearl, Maloney, Sims, Skepper and Watmough
Sgt G Bradley
Mrs L Scott, Clerk

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

10.01 Cllr Pearl declared an interest in Item 10.17 - Planning Applications.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 13 APRIL 2010

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

MATTERS ARISING

10.03 09.143 – Residents Issues – a letter was sent to the residents of 96 Millbrook Lane offering to share the cost of repairs to their fence – no reply received.

09.146 – Smithy Report - the Smithy roof has been repaired and one quote has been received for an additional security light to be fitted at the Smithy side – ABM £85 + VAT and T Poole would like to know the positioning before quoting.

09.157 – Correspondence - only one place on the War Memorial Conference on 10 June 2010 could be booked at the moment – Councillor Duncan is on the reserve list.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

10.04 **The Clerk opened, and counted the nominations for Chairman, and it was unanimously resolved that Cllr Pearl be re-elected Parish Chairman for the year 2010/1111. Cllr Pearl was pleased to accept.**

Cllr Pearl took the Chair for the rest of the meeting.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

10.05 Councillor Skepper was unanimously re-elected for the office of Deputy Chairman for a second year. Cllr Skepper was pleased to accept.

CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEES

10.06 **Resolved that the committees be constituted as follows:**

Planning - Cllrs Evans, C & G Pearl, Sims – this is to meet on a separate occasion prior to the Parish Council meeting, when possible.

Finance - Cllrs Bain, Duncan, Evans, G Pearl and Skepper

Hall & Personnel - Cllrs Bain, Duncan, Evans, C Pearl, Sims, Skepper

Open Spaces - Cllrs Evans, C & G Pearl, Sims, and Skepper

Editorial – Cllrs Bain, Evans, G Pearl

Procedures – Cllrs Bain, Evans, G Pearl, Sims
Smithy Working Party – all Councillors to attend before the Parish Council meeting
Ecclesfield Management – Cllrs Bain, Broughton, Evans, Sims
War Memorial Working Party – Cllrs Duncan, Evans, Gray-Williams and Skepper
Eccleston Ward Committee Representative – Cllr Skepper

REPRESENTATION OF OUTSIDE BODIES

10.07 **Resolved that the following be noted:**

Merseyside Playing Fields - Cllr Evans CVS - Cllrs Duncan &
Maloney District Sports Council - Cllr G Pearl

BANK MANDATE & DIRECT DEBITS

10.08 **Resolved that the present mandate specifying any 2 Councillors and the Clerk to sign cheques should continue. Resolved also that we continue with the direct debits for St Helens MBC – Rates, Scottish Power, British Gas, United Utilities, CFAF Ltd (Photocopier Lease), PHS Sanitary Services, B&M Office Machines (Photocopies), BT.**

RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER & INTERNAL AUDITOR

10.09 **Resolved that the Clerk continues to carry out the duties of Responsible Financial Officer with Cllr Bain as Finance Committee Chairman and Mr A Scott to continue as Internal Auditor for 2010/2011.**

Resolved that in order to comply with the current Audit requirements the Parish Council would request the Internal Auditor to undertake on a regular basis a review of the financial procedures adopted by the Council in connection with payments and receipts, insurance and other such matters as may be identified from time to time as part of ongoing assessment of the Council's activities.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – OFFICIAL LIST

10.10 **Resolved that these be updated with “nothing new to add”.**

STANDING ORDERS & QUORUM

10.11 **Resolved to continue to use the NALC model of Standing Orders and Chairmanship. Meetings will take place with a quorum of 5, as decided at the September 2000 Parish Council Meeting.**

RESIDENTS' ISSUES

10.12 None to report.

POLICE REPORT

10.13 Sgt Bradley reported on the crime figures for Eccleston for the months 1 January to 10 May 2010, contrasting them with those of last year.

Councillor Pearl invited questions from Councillors.

Councillor Broughton joined the Meeting

WEST WARD VACANCY

10.14 Councillor Pearl read out a letter of resignation the Clerk had received from Councillor David Evans.

Resolved to report the West Ward vacancy to St Helens District Council at the earliest convenience.

FREE PUBLICATIONS

10.15 **Resolved to defer this to another meeting.**

REPORTS

10.16 **Resolved to note the following:**

Smithy Working Party – all Councillors were given a copy of the Curators' Report for May 2010. The following points were discussed:

- Security Lighting
- Pointing
- Press Release re Volunteers
- Broadband/Phone

Resolved that Councillor Watmough attends the proposed interviews for Smithy volunteers on Sunday 30 May 2010.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

10.17 **Resolved to note the following:**

Delegated

56 Millbrook Lane	Amendment to P/1019 – single storey side & rear ext with alterations & ext to existing garage to form workshop – N/O
10 Albany Ave	Erection detached outbuilding to rear – N/O - Condition building must not be used for business purposes, no overlooking windows to intrude into privacy of adjacent neighbours, or residents at top end of Beech Ave.
31 Park Ave	Conservatory ext to rear – N/O
8 Ellerslie Ave	Rear Conservatory – N/O
40 Villiers Cres	Outline permission for 1 dormer bungalow – Cllr Sims to meet planners
14 Villiers Cres	Demolish single garage & erect double garage to side – N/O – Condition building must not be used for business purposes
20 Scholes Park	Words to trees protected by TPO – N/O
57 Park Ave	Infill ext to garage & rear conservatory – N/O

COMMERCIAL WASTE AGREEMENT

10.18 **Resolved that the Agreement Form be signed by Councillor Pearl to confirm continuance of the service from St Helens Council at a cost of £281.24 per year.**

MPFA SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL

- 10.19 **Resolved to renew the annual subscription to Merseyside Playing Fields Association at a cost of £10.00.**

SCOTTISH POWER DIRECT DEBIT

- 10.20 **Resolved that Councillor Bain examines latest consumption figures for gas and electricity for possible change of provider.**

ACCOUNTS

- 10.21 Received Village Hall £455.00; St Helens Council 1st half Precept £24,959.00; R Kelsey PAYE May £71.60; VAT refund £367.97; Gas £110 less April than reported; NatWest charges refunded £3.25; Ecclesfield Grant for drainage work £8,000.00; Caretaker's PAYE over-statement in April £398.30.

British Gas - May (reduction of £110 due to credit balance)	78.00
Manweb - May	157.00
United Utilities - May payment	12.53
United Utilities – start of new payments after survey (£16.14 down)	32.74
St Helens Council - May Rates	84.00
J Chamberlain - Salary May	165.72
J Chamberlain – items purchased for Smithy and mileage £2.20 – Req 47	11.47
V Hirons - Salary May	165.72
L Poole - Salary – May	402.90
L Scott – Salary May includes £9.60 travel expenses	1146.82
L Scott – Petty Cash May	20.00
L Scott – Domain name renewal £10.56 & 2 ink cartridges £23.42	33.98
PAYE – Curators May (Cumulative £164.80 2 nd month Period 1)	82.40
PAYE – Clerk May (Cumulative £568.40 2 nd month Period 1)	284.20
PAYE – Caretaker (Cumulative £9.20 2 nd month Period 1)	4.60
EPC NI contribution – Clerk May (Cumulative 242.02 2 nd month Period 1)	121.01
PAYE – Ecclesfield Caretaker – May (£143.20 2 nd month period 1)	71.60
P Potter – Plant Budget for 20010/11	150.00
T Poole – Check kitchen urn & Education Room cabinets & supply PAT Certificate	24.00*
Christ Church Grant towards maintenance of churchyard	700.00**
Calder Builders – application of anti vandal paint and sign	61.10
Calder Builders – repair to Smithy ridge tiles and verge over doors (apex)	211.50
Calder Builders – repair to Village Hall wall	270.25
BT Clerk's phone/Internet	62.47
BT Curators' phone/Internet	105.88
Ecclesfield Project – 1 st half contribution	1,830.00
St Helens Council – Ecclesfield drainage work (£8k covered in grant)	8,800.00
St Helens Council – Kiln Lane contribution to ground works	1,638.10
St Helens Council – Cleaning April	257.71
A Scott – Internal Auditor yearly fee	150.00
PHS – sanitary services	152.75
CFAF Ltd – Photocopier lease	99.87
Paul Potter – Grounds maintenance – 1 st payment	118.29

Balance brought forward from April meeting £28,101.40 plus receipts this month	£62,466.52
Total Payments this month	£17,506.61
Approximate balance	£44,959.91

RECONCILIATION - The Clerk reported that, as at 30 April 2010, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500, Reserve Account £40,968.72 and Capital Reserve Account £463.52. Members of the Finance Sub-Committee were given copies of the monthly Reconciliation for May 2010 together with the Internal Auditor’s final report of the financial year with no comments.

PETTY CASH - Expenditure for the month of April 2010	£32.03
Approximate balance at the end of April 2010	-£12.03

* as requested by the Parish Council Smithy Working Party Meeting 9 March 2010. New plug has been fitted to the urn and the cabinets have been inspected and PAT certificate supplied.

**** Resolved that the Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 & 139 of the Local Government Act 1972 should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants & will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.**

CORRESPONDENCE

10.22 **Resolved to note the following:**

St Helens Council – Armed Forces Day celebrations 27 June 2010 – **Cllrs Maloney & Watmough to attend**

St Helens Council - Mayor’s Sunday 23 May Wesley St Methodist Church, St Helens & 4July at St Peters’ C of E, Newton-le-Willows – **Cllrs C & G Pearl to attend both**

St James PCC – Letter of appreciation for Grant

St Helens Council – Info from Councillor Sims re crime in the Eccleston area – **all Cllrs given a copy**

DATES OF MEETINGS

10.23 **Resolved to note the following:**

Tue 8 June	7.00 pm	Smithy Meeting	St James
	7.30 pm	Parish Council	
Tue 22 June	7.00 pm	Ecclesfield Meeting	Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

SIGNED

DATED