

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL, held on TUESDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2013 at 7.30 pm in OUR LADY'S HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH HALL, PORTICO LANE, Eccleston Park**

PRESENT: Cllr Sims (Chair)  
Cllrs Ashcroft, Broughton, Duncan, Gray-Williams, Haw, C Pearl, G Pearl  
and Skepper  
Mrs J Anderson (Clerk)  
PC D Brown (Police)  
Mr J Denton (Resident)

**APOLOGIES**

13.53 Cllrs Almond, Maloney, Watmough

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

13.54 Cllr G Pearl declared an interest in Item 13.60 – Planning Applications.

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 9 JULY 2013**

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

**MATTERS ARISING**

13.56 Item 13.46, the meeting with CAMRA was not progressed as the Curators reported to the Clerk that with current events they did not have time to meet regarding arranging the CAMRA event.

**RESIDENTS' ISSUES**

13.57 Mr John Denton attended the meeting and reported the following:

- The pathway from Prestbury Drive needs clearing – Cllr Sims to investigate
- Signpost at Red Rocks/Farm need replacing – Cllr Sims to investigate
- 20 mph road signs required on The Avenue. Cllrs Sims and Haw reported that The Avenue was not a designated 20 mph area. Cllr Haw would investigate further
- Trees behind Mr Denton's property and his neighbour's property were very overgrown. This was identified as Helena Housing land
- No Ball Games signs needed replacing. Cllr Sims reported that St Helens Council would only replace with stencilling and PC Brown concurred that youths would kick the ball against the wall in an attempt to wear away the stencilling

Cllrs Sims, Haw and G Pearl attended a meeting at Bobbies Lane with Community Organisers to discuss the possibility of floodlights on the basketball pitch on Millwood Avenue Open Space. Issues raised were:

- Surrounding residents would have to be consulted
- Uneven ground would need levelling
- At present there is only half a pitch. The other half would need installing
- The area would need fencing off
- A power supply would have to be installed
- The cost of electricity would have to be paid by Parish Council

After lengthy discussion **it was resolved that Parish Council does not have the financial resources to pay for the initial set up costs or the running costs. Cllr Sims to respond to Community Organisers.**

## POLICE REPORT

13.58 PC Brown presented the Crime Report comparing 12 June 2013 – 3 September 2013 with that of the previous year.

## REPORTS

13.59 **Resolved to note the following:**

Ecclesfield – 30 July 2013 at 7pm, Eccleston Village Hall Cllrs Haw and Sims attended a special meeting along with the Secretary. Report as follows

- It was decided not to re-instate a pitch behind houses on Broadway as it would be too close to boundaries
- St Helens Council would carry out work on pitches – addition of soil, level and seed pitch 4 and aerate pitch 4 regularly to avoid water logging
- It was agreed that Waterside FC use a pitch during 2013/14 season as Bleak Hill Open Age Girls now not playing
- It was agreed that there is no spare capacity to accommodate Liverpool St Helens Rugby. Secretary to contact club and refer them to St Helens Council for pitch availability
- It was agreed that signs prohibiting the playing of golf would not be put up. Advice from the legal dept at St Helens Council suggests that signs alone would not prohibit the playing of golf and would not cover the Parish Council against a claim. It would require constant monitoring of the open space, which is not feasible.
- A resident had contacted Gary Stevens, St Helens Council to request a wild flower area be created behind houses on Ecclesfield Road. He replied explaining this was not a suitable area as it would attract rubbish. He would look for a more suitable area of the field possibly nearer the brook
- Mere FC contacted Cllr Sims to request goal posts be erected at the beginning of August rather than the end as planned. Secretary asked to contact St Helens Council to check dates for the erection of posts on Ecclesfield (**went up by 17 August 2013**)

Ecclesfield – 3 Sept 2013 at 7pm in Eccleston Village Hall Cllrs Ashcroft, Broughton and Sims attended along with the Secretary. Report as follows:

- Caretaker had repaired the fascia board that had come loose
- Keys had been given to Waterside FC (new user this season)
- Users reported that pitches were in excellent condition and were suitable for playing on. John Monsvoll had reported to St Helens Council that lines and corner arcs needed to be painted in on the junior pitches
- Discussion took place regarding the testing of the water in the changing facility for Legionella. A quote had been received for £150 plus VAT to carry out a risk assessment. Cllr Sims and the Secretary to investigate further. Item to be discussed at December meeting

Smithy – 10 September 2013, 7pm, Village Hall All Councillors were given a copy of the Curators' report for September 2013. The following points were discussed:

- Christ Church Garden Party and Scarecrow Festival – Smithy had stall at the event
- Memories of Eccleston – last of the sessions was held 9 August
- 2014 Exhibition – one theme to be crime and punishment
- Festival of Archaeology – successful event
- Rainhill Rotary Club – visit by Club who made generous donation of £200
- Pilkington Family Trust – short talk on fashion and Smithy items
- Gutters – Smithy gutters leaking

- Office re-plastering – arrangements to be made to move items and work carried out
- Planning – Joanne to consult with St Helens Council Planning regarding planning policies and archaeology
- Heritage Open Weekend – busy event planned 14 and 15 September with activities for all the family including a bake-off, hair styles, assault course, War Rooms Operations Centre, children’s activities as well as teas, coffees and cake on sale
- Smithy Sub Ctte Meeting – meeting arranged for Friday 4 October 2013 at 9am in the Village Hall

Call for Sites 2013 Meeting Cllr Sims attended a meeting at St Helens Council on Thursday 8 August 2013 at the Town Hall regarding sites/land for economic development or protection. Cllr Sims asked the Clerk to inform St Helens Council that the Parish Council has identified land to be protected from development. The land identified is along Burrows Lane, the back of New Road and along St Helens Road to Hill School Road.

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

### 13.60 **Resolved to note the following:**

#### **Delegated**

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 2 Crocketts Walk | Two storey side and single storey front extension with porch N/O   |
| 22 Ledbury Close | Two storey side and single storey rear extension N/O   |
| 25 Daresbury Rd  | Single storey rear extension N/O   |
| 23A Central Ave  | Two storey side extension N/O  |
| 95 Alder Hey Rd  | Erection of detached garage N/O  |
| 68 Brookside Ave | Single storey rear extension N/O   |
| 2 Cypress Gdns   | Demolition of side garage & erection of 2 storey side extension<br><b>Query as to whether there is sufficient off-street parking</b>       |
| 14 Walmesley Rd  | Single storey rear and side extension. Replacement of flat roof with pitched at rear outrigger N/O   |
| 16 Pike Place    | Part two storey side extension and single storey rear extension N/O  |
| Christ Church    | Erection of a steel storage unit on land adjacent to Christ Church N/O   |
| 10 Tamarisk Gdns | Two storey side extension N/O  |
| 13 Laurel Dr     | Rear dormer window N/O   |
| 13 Sandfield Rd  | First floor side extension along with single storey rear extension N/O   |
| 19 Gorsey Croft  | Demolition of existing garage and shed in rear garden and erection of a single storey detached outbuilding to be used as a granny flat N/O |
| Millbrow Ctgs    | Extension of time limit on previous approval P/2010/0659 which was for a two storey side extension N/O                                     |
| 6 Broadway       | Demolition of existing rear extension and erection of new single storey rear extension N/O   |
| 39 Broadway      | Single storey side and rear extension N/O  |
| 2 Stanley Ctgs   | Single storey rear extension for bathroom disabled adaptation N/O  |
| 14 Orchard Hey   | Single storey rear extension projecting 4.65m from the rear, 3.5m high overall, and 2.3m to the eaves N/O                                  |

## ANNUAL AUDIT

- 13.61 It was reported that BDO completed the annual audit with only one issue arising. Payments made to Christ Church and St James for churchyard maintenance should be authorised under S214 of Local Government Act, power to contribute towards expenses of cemeteries and not under S137, expenditure in the interests of the area or its inhabitants.  
**Resolved that payments be authorised as indicated in future.**

## SMITHY DONATION

- 13.62 Rainhill Rotary Club have kindly donated £200 in support of the work of the Smithy Heritage Centre. **Resolved to note.**

## DEED OF SURRENDER – MILLFIELDS OPEN SPACE

- 13.63 A draft copy of the Deed of Surrender has been received for approval. **Resolved to approve and sign a fair copy when received. Clerk to report to St Helens Council.**

## FIRE EXTINGUISHER

- 13.64 After a recent annual check of extinguishers at the Village Hall and Smithy, Eccleston Parish Council has been advised that one fire extinguisher does not meet the safety standards because of obsolete parts. A quote has been received from Hoyles to replace the extinguisher. Cllr G Pearl to obtain a further quote.

## STRUCTURAL SURVEY – SMITHY

- 13.65 Clerk had 2 quotes, one for a structural survey and the second company suggested a list of works rather than a structural survey. This would provide a list of any work needing doing, a suggested contractor and a price. A lengthy discussion took place and **it was resolved to arrange for a structural survey on the Smithy. Clerk to arrange.**

## INSURANCE RENEWAL

- 13.66 Quote from Came Insurance renewing insurance for Village Hall, Smithy and Ecclesfield. **It was resolved to sign a long term agreement until September 2016 in order to reduce the premium.**

## ACCOUNTS

- 13.67 Received – Village Hall Hire £1182, R Kelsey PAYE £152.40, HM Rev & Customs first ¼ payment £574.87, loan box £10, Rotary Club Rainhill £100 for refreshments and £200 donation to Smithy Heritage Centre, NatWest Interest £0.06 and £3.28  
Total Receipts £1863.41

### **Payments**

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| United Utilities – Surface water charges July              | 25.96   |
| United Utilities – Water July                              | 9.40    |
| V Griffiths – Smithy expenses                              | 78.98   |
| GPS Telecoms – Clerk phone                                 | 36.79   |
| St James Church – Grant                                    | 250.00* |
| Total Gas and Power – Gas Apr-Jun                          | 264.70  |
| George Wrights Brewing Co – beer for IBD                   | 640.74  |
| ABM Security – Annual maintenance fire and intruder alarms | 344.51  |
| BT – Smithy phone and internet (quarter)                   | 107.90  |
| B&M Office Machines – photocopier                          | 35.93   |
| CAF Ltd – Photocopier lease                                | 102.00  |
| St Helens Council – Cleaning June                          | 276.50  |
| Vinylene Signs – lettering on Honours Board                | 36.00   |
| Paul Potter – Grounds maintenance July 2 visits            | 49.44   |
| BDO LLP – Annual audit fee                                 | 360.00  |
| L Poole – August   | 407.50  |

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| J Anderson – August plus travel                         | 1203.97 |
| J Chamberlain – August plus expenses                    | 262.86  |
| V Griffiths – August                                    | 165.72  |
| GPS Telecom – Clerk’s phone                             | 29.98   |
| United Utilities – Water Aug                            | 9.40    |
| United Utilities – Water Aug                            | 36.32   |
| St Helens Council – Cleaning July                       | 276.50  |
| J Chamberlain – Purchases for Memories and HOD          | 26.91   |
| Hoyles Fire and Safety – Annual service                 | 85.60   |
| Southern Electric                                       | 624.17  |
| M Humphreys – Smithy web design – Memories of Eccleston | 927.45  |
| L Poole – Sept  | 407.50  |
| J Anderson – Sept plus Smithy expenses                  | 1276.74 |
| J Chamberlain – Sept plus expenses                      | 186.72  |
| V Griffiths – Sept plus expenses                        | 248.72  |
| Our Lady’s Help of Christians – hall hire               | 20.00   |
| Make It Work Shop – Smithy loan items                   | 75.00   |

\* 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 July 2013**, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £44,025.27 and Capital Deposit Account £464.29.

As at **30 August 2013**, the Balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £39,598.35 and Capital Deposit Account £464.29.

**PETTY CASH** - Expenditure for the months of July and August 2013 £12.70  
**Approximate** balance at the end of August 2013 £17.12

**INTERNAL AUDIT** – The Accounts were audited in July for the end of the first quarter with nothing to report.

CORRESPONDENCE

13.68 **Resolved to note the following:**

**Came Insurance** – renewal of insurance **Resolved to renew** (item 13.66 above)

DATES OF MEETINGS

13.69 **Resolved to note the following:**

|                      |         |                  |              |
|----------------------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Tuesday 8 October 13 | 6.30pm  | Finance Sub Ctte | Village Hall |
|                      | 6.45 pm | Smithy Meeting   | Village Hall |
|                      | 7.30 pm | Parish Council   | Village Hall |

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

SIGNED .....

DATED .....