

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 13 August 2009 at 7.30 pm in The Changing Rooms, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

Present Councillors W Mason (Chairman), L Armstrong, P Ascroft, H Bradley, M Frost, J Haines, J Lilley, A Love, R Monks, J Morris.

Also present Borough Councillors H Counce and K Joyce, County and Borough Councillor K Iddon and 2 Members of the Public.

85.09 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors M Price, PC J Howard and PCSO A Catterall.

86.09 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

87.09 Minutes of the Meeting held 9 July 2009

Resolved: the Minutes (as circulated) be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

88.09 Public Participation

i) Police Matters

No report.

ii) Borough Councillors

Lancashire County Council is to introduce reductions in street lighting as part of an initiative to reduce carbon emissions. Councillors were asked to monitor the situation with regard to potential increases in crime or accidents as a result.

iii) Residents Points of Interest

Residents expressed their opposition to the proposed development of the land between Bannister Lane and Larkfield. Objections centred mainly on the style of houses, with 2.5 storeys being out of character for the area, and road safety and parking issues on Larkfield.

A resident requested an explanation for the Council's refusal to allow the planting of trees to the rear of the Changing Rooms, on Council property. The Council has concerns regarding future maintenance, the setting of a precedent and it was noted that neighbouring properties have trees within their own domestic curtilages.

A resident reported the gate to the School playing field on Bradley Lane was not secure and expressed concerns regarding travellers being able to access the site. Councillors with connections to St Mary's School will report the matter.

89.09 Financial Matters

Councillors considered the financial monitoring statement.

Resolved: the monitoring statement be received and accepted and signed by the Chairman.

Councillors considered a grant request from Vitalise towards the cost of respite breaks for disabled people and subsidy costs for volunteers. The request is to be carried over for consideration within the next financial year.

Councillors considered a grant request from Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team towards rescue equipment. There was no proposer for the awarding of a grant.

Councillors considered requests for payment to the Council.

Resolved: the following payments be approved, the invoices having been inspected in accordance with fidelity guarantee requirements:

£ 557.68	Employee 1	Salary
£ 381.96	Employee 2	Salary
£ 416.73	Employee 3	Salary
£ 245.22	Inland Revenue	Tax and NI
£ 65.20	Employee 2	Reimbursements
£ 65.00	D W Groundwork	Tree felling

90.09 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

09/00399/FUL Detached garage at 19 Bradley Lane.

09/00552/FUL Trellis to existing rear and side fencing and erection of summerhouse in rear garden at 60 New Street.

09/00570/FUL Erection of a steel framed canopy at Eccleston County Primary School, Doctors Lane.

09/00592/FUL Side extension and front porch at 40 Parr Lane.

Councillors had no comment relating to these applications.

91.09 Chorley Council's Section 106 Distribution Policy

Councillors considered the proposed policy on the distribution of S106 monies, which are levied by planning authorities, on most new houses built.

Resolved: a request for the limit to be reduced to 10 dwellings be put to Chorley Council.

92.09 Recreation Fields

Lancashire County Council's Environmental Projects Team had offered carry out thinning and pruning of trees on the Recreation Ground at no cost to the Parish Council and, in the light of the Lancashire Environmental Fund's decision to refuse grant funding for the Country Trail, the Environmental Projects Team Leader had offered to work with BTCV to improve the access areas between the two fields.

Resolved: both offers be accepted.

93.09 Traffic Calming Measures

Councillors reviewed the effects of the Doctors Lane Traffic Calming Scheme on estate roads within the village. A number of residents of roads subject to traffic calming measures, which did not form part of the Council's original request for Doctors Lane and Drapers Avenue, are not happy with the measures.

Resolved: an article be published in the next newsletter requesting feedback from residents.

94.09 Allotments

Thirty residents have, thus far, registered interest in having allotments.

Resolved: a 'final call' for interested residents, and an appeal for areas of possible available land, be published in the next newsletter.

95.09 Council Meetings and Committee and Working Group Membership

Councillors considered a suggestion, tabled as a result of the poor attendance at the July meeting, to reduce the number of meetings. Councillors were reminded of the requirement to attend as meetings are scheduled well in advance. The number is to remain unchanged

Membership of the Recreation Fields Committee, and the Working Groups was reviewed.

The Recreation Fields Committee is to remain unchanged.

Revised membership of the Working Groups is as follows:

Changing Rooms Management Group - Councillors Haines, Love and Monks, with Cllr Bradley as reserve member.

Planning Group - Councillors Lilley, Love and Price.

Village Events Group - Councillors Lilley, Love and Morris.

96.09 Councillor/Employee Relations Protocol

Councillors consider the adoption of a draft protocol, drawn up by Chorley Council's Standards Committee. The matter was deferred to the next meeting to allow Councillors more time to study the document.

97.09 Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)

The Chairman represented the Council at the Licensing of the Rev Ward as the new Priest in Charge of St Mary's Church.

The latest PACT Meeting was very poorly attended. July was reported as being quiet with six reported crimes.

Borough Parish Liaison - Chorley Council's S106 monies distribution policy was presented. Weed spraying is to be carried out 4 times per year.

Lancashire Local - the continuation of the pavement on Bradley Lane to the School Field gate was approved, the continuation of the pavement on Bannister Lane to Woodhart Bridge was not. As part of a scheme to reduce carbon emissions streetlighting is to be upgraded and power reduced when possible.

The Clerk attended a Clerks Meeting, with the Chief Executive and Senior Officers of Chorley Council. Items discussed included the possible introduction of a Service Level Agreement, Neighbourhood Working Scheme, planning issues and the bidding process for s106 funds.

98.09 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 13 August 2009.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

..... (Chairman)