

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 12 March 2009 at 7.30 pm in The Changing Rooms, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

Present Councillors W Mason (Chairman), P Ascroft, H Bradley, C Chu, J Haines, A Love, J Morris, R Monks, M Price, S Ward.

Also present PC Howard and 1 Member of the Public.

22.09 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors L Armstrong and C Heydon and Borough Councillors H Counce and K Iddon.

23.09 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

Cllr Love, as a result of involvement with the Help for Heroes Charity, declared a personal interest in an item forming part of Agenda Item 5 (Financial Matters).

24.09 Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 February 2009

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

25.09 Public Participation

i) Police Matters

Five crimes were reported including burglaries and thefts from vehicles, and nine reports of anti social behaviour were received. The Police and Communities Together meeting was poorly attended.

ii) Borough Councillors

No report.

iii) Residents Points of Interest

A resident queried comments made at the recent public meetings to discuss the Sagar House application. Councillors advised applications could be submitted by anyone provided notice had been served on the Landowner. The current position regarding the Millennium Green was queried. Councillors advised the documentation was being prepared at present and it is hoped the adoption could take place within the next 4 - 6 weeks.

The resident also requested dog bins for the public footpath emerging onto Bannister Lane. Councillors advised dog bins were provided by Chorley Council, from a very small budget.

26.09 Financial Matters

Resolved: the financial update be received and accepted and signed by the Chairman.

Councillors considered a grant request from Help for Heroes towards care provision for wounded Servicemen.

Resolved: a donation of £300 be awarded.

Resolved: Lyndsay Hoyle MP be advised of the Council's concerns that this type of care provision is not available via regular health services.

Councillors considered a grant request from Euxton and Ecclestone District Rainbows, Brownies and Guides towards expenses for travel to Centenary celebration events.

Resolved: a donation of £200 be awarded.

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:

£ 546.84	Employee 1	Salary
£ 363.75	Employee 2	Salary
£ 396.99	Employee 3	Salary
£ 246.82	Inland Revenue	Tax and NI
£ 218.21	Employee 1	Reimbursements
£ 57.19	Employee 2	Reimbursements
£ 130.00	Eccleston Scout and Guide HQ	Newsletter delivery
£ 302.00	Sprint Print	Newsletter printing
£ 414.39	E.on	Electricity bill
£ 2.38	E.on	Christmas light electricity bill
£ 15.00	Lancashire Playing Fields Association	Annual subscription
£ 348.50	British Gas	Gas bill
£ 43.04	United Utilities	Water services charges

27.09 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

09/00146/OUTMAJ Outline application for the erection of 82 dwellings and associated roads and open space at Sagar House Langton Brow.

Resolved: the Council's objection to the previous application, on the grounds of detrimental impact on local drainage and sewerage services and certain of the proposed dwellings not being in keeping with the area which, by their size and scale, will have a detrimental impact on the visual amenity of the area, be re-iterated.

09/00110/FUL Erection of canopy (shelter) over area used by Eccleston Pre-school at Eccleston Methodist Church, The Green.

09/09/0181/FUL Four single storey extensions to the existing school building to provide Children's centre and associated facilities at Eccleston Primary School, Doctors Lane.

Councillors had no comments relating to these applications.

An appeal (APP/D2320/A/09/2097006/NWF) has been lodged against Chorley Council's refusal of outline planning permission for St Mary's Church Hall, Lawrence Lane (08/00465/OUTMAJ). The Parish Council's submitted objection to the original application will be sent to the Planning Inspectorate and Councillors considered whether further comment was necessary.

Resolved: information regarding activities formerly taking place within the Hall which, due to the size and nature of the building recently constructed at the Church, may no longer take place is to be forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate.

28.09 Appointment of the Internal Auditor

The appointment of the Internal Auditor for the current financial year was considered.

Resolved: the appointment of Mr John Lawson as Internal Auditor be confirmed.

29.09 Village Events

Councillors considered the formation of a group or committee to lead in the organisation of events. Group status would allow more flexibility with members of the public able take part and any suggestions would be taken to full Council for discussion and ratification.

Resolved: a Working Group comprising of Councillors Love, Morris and Price be set up.

30.09 Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition 2009

Councillors considered entries for the Certificate of Merit categories.

Resolved: St Mary's Church, The Fields Community Centre, St Mary's C of E Primary School and Eccleston Cricket Club be entered into their respective categories.

31.09 Litter/Dog Fouling Campaign

Councillors considered a joint litter and dog fouling campaign with neighbouring parish councils. Initially the campaign would take the form of raising public awareness via leaflets, posters and stickers for litter bins. Funding may be available from Chorley Council.

Resolved: the Council is to join the campaign and the Clerk is to move the initiative forward and investigate the availability of the funding.

32.09 Changing Rooms Management Group Report

The Football Club has not yet achieved Community Amateur Sports Club status, which would enable a reduction in the business rates. Concerns were expressed regarding the running costs of the Changing Rooms which would be significantly reduced once CASC status is achieved.

The Football Foundation has failed to respond regarding the Football Club's issues with the drainage.

33.09 Reports from Outside Bodies

No reports.

34.09 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 9 April 2009.

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

..... (Chairman)