

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 8 April 2010 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, M Miller, J Morris.

Also present Borough and County Councillor K Iddon and 10 Members of the Public.

41.10 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors R Monks and M Price and PCSO A Catterall.

42.10 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

Cllr Frost as a member of St Mary's PCC declared a personal interest in an item forming part of agenda item 5 (Financial Matters). Cllr Bradley, as a Millennium Green Trustee, declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 8 (Millennium Green) and Cllr Miller, as a relative of a Millennium Green Trustee, declared a personal interest in agenda item 8 (Millennium Green).

43.10 Minutes of the Meeting held 11 March 2010

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

Resolved: Standing Orders be suspended to allow members of the public to speak.

44.10 Public Participation

i) Residents Points of Interest

Residents reported problems of youth nuisance on the car park on Drapers Avenue. Youths have been gathering, causing problems with littering and noise. Councillors advised the issue was raised at the last Police and Communities Together (PACT) Meeting and youth nuisance is now a PACT Priority. Residents were urged to report all incidents to the Police so they are logged. Youths are also playing football on the car parks, and residents attending the PACT Meeting had suggested a rebound wall, with a tarmaced area, or an all weather pitch on the playing fields. Borough Councillor Counce is looking into this. Residents also mentioned a multi use games area, which may be let out to users. Residents were advised the cost of a MUGA would be prohibitive and may lead to additional problems with additional vehicles and visitors to the area. A resident suggested a covered area on the Recreation Fields, where the youths could congregate. Councillors advised a youth shelter had previously been considered, but dismissed following residents objections. The Clerk will set the car park light timer to go off at 10.45pm.

A resident mentioned footballers walking along Drapers Avenue, knocking mud off their boots onto the pavement.

A resident reported problems with vehicles and scooters travelling at excessive speed over the humps and congestion at the junction of Drapers Avenue and The Green caused by vehicles visiting the garage. The resident had provided details of proposals for traffic schemes to solve the congestion problems. Closed circuit television cameras were also suggested to alleviate the problems with vehicles and youth nuisance. Youths were also congregating by the garage.

Anti social behaviour was reported on the Carrington Centre.

ii) Police Matters

No reports.

iii) County and Borough Councillors

No reports.

Resolved: Standing orders be restored.

Resolved: Agenda Item 7 be brought forward.

45.10 Drapers Avenue

A resident's proposals for alleviating the congestion around the garage were considered. The resident had provided detailed sketches of proposed traffic restrictions. Lancashire County Council had previously inspected the area and decided no action was needed. Councillors suggested the County Council should be approached to revisit the area and provide recommendations, with the sketches being held back pending receipt of the recommendations.

Resolved: Lancashire County Council be advised of the concerns and requested to investigate the implementation of measures to solve the issue as a matter of urgency.

Anti social behaviour was a major topic of discussion at the PACT Meeting and is now a PACT Priority. The Parish Council will deal with the suggestion for the rebound wall at a future meeting and it was suggested attempts be made to involve local youths in the project.

A resident's suggestion for closed circuit television to alleviate problems at both ends of Drapers Avenue was considered. This would be provided by Chorley Council and the Police due to the requirement for a link to the CCTV Control Room at Chorley. The CCTV Van could be requested to attend the area.

Resolved: Chorley Council be requested to investigate the provision of a fixed CCTV system.

Resolved: Inspector Harris be advised of the issues of anti social behaviour and traffic violations and asked to arrange for the CCTV Van to visit Drapers Avenue.

Resolved: Standing Orders be suspended to allow members of the public to speak.

A resident advised it was four years ago that the previous suggestions were made to alleviate the problems at the junction and the situation had now changed. The Parish Council could write in support of the resident regarding the problems with drivers mounting the pavement to lessen the impact of the humps. Councillors advised this issue was already being dealt with by the Police and Lancashire County Council.

Problems were also mentioned regarding youths climbing on the roof of the Youth Club.

Resolved: Agenda Item 8 be brought forward.

46.10 Millennium Green

The Chairman of the Millennium Green Trust advised that, following negotiations with Natural England, the documentation is available for signature by the Council.

Resolved: Standing orders be restored.

Councillors considered a list of exclusions of items from liability, as provided by Natural England.

Resolved: the documentation, to include agreement of the items for which the Parish Council is not to be held liable for, is to be signed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

47.10 Financial Matters

Councillors considered the financial monitoring statement.

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

A request from St Mary's Parochial Church Council for a contribution towards the restoration of the War Memorial was considered.

Resolved: a grant of £750.00 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:

£ 561.81	Employee 1	Salary
£ 381.96	Employee 2	Salary
£ 416.73	Employee 3	Salary
£ 247.59	Inland Revenue	Tax and NI
£ 502.53	Chorley Council	Dog waste bin emptying
£ 55.00	Heskin Plumbing and Heating	Boiler repair
£ 181.00	Sprint Print	Newsletter printing
£ 287.96	United Utilities	Water meter charge
£ 75.00	A P Griffiths	Noticeboard repair

48.10 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

10/00210/FUL Demolition of existing attached garage and utility area and erect a two storey side extension to create additional living space at 5 Marsden Close.

Councillors had no comments relating to this application.

Chorley Council had requested comments on the proposed naming of the road for the new estate to be built on the site of the Former Church Hall as 'Marychurch Close'. Councillors were unanimously of the opinion that, given the history of the Hall, any name bearing an association with the Church would be insensitive.

Resolved: Chorley Council be requested to provide a name with no association with the Church.

49.10 Newsletter

Problems with deliveries of recent newsletters were reported, with incidents reported on Larkfield and Richmond Road of newsletters being left in hedges and on lawns. The Clerk is to discuss the issue with the Scout Leader.

50.10 Online Community Diary

A suggestion to subscribe to an online community diary was considered. Councillors felt the idea was a good one however alternatives, which may be available at no cost, are to be investigated.

51.10 Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)

PACT Meeting - the issues on Drapers Avenue dominated the meeting and anti social behaviour has been made a PACT Priority. There was an increase in reported crimes, the major ones being two burglaries in Red House Lane and a mugging at the cash machine at the Bank.

The Intergenerational Activities are working well.

Lancashire Local - the final meeting was held in March. Funding will continue to be provided to County Councillors for local schemes.

52.10 Exclusion of the Press and Public

Councillors considered the exclusion of members of the press and public for items of business, in accordance with Part 1(1, 2 and 3) of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

Resolved: Members of the public be excluded for the consideration of the following items.

53.10 Personnel Matters

The salaries of the Lengthsman and Village Caretaker were reviewed.

54.10 Correspondence with Residents

Councillors considered a procedure for dealing with correspondence from residents.

55.10 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 13 May 2010.

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