

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 11 February 2010 at 7.30 pm in The Changing Rooms, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

Present Councillors W Mason (Chairman), L Armstrong P Ascroft, J Haines, R Monks, M Miller, J Morris.

Also present PC Howard and Borough Councillor H Counce.

16.10 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors H Bradley, M Frost, J Lilley, and M Price and Borough and County Councillor K Iddon.

17.10 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

18.10 Minutes of the Meeting held 14 January 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.

19.10 Public Participation

i) Residents Points of Interest

No points raised

ii) Police Matters

There were eight reported crimes for the month, including a theft from the BT Payphone on The Green and the theft of a recovery vehicle, also from The Green, which was subsequently recovered with the aid of a fitted vehicle tracker device. A skip was stolen from Bygone Times and an elderly resident of Lord Street was the victim of a bogus caller purporting to be from the water board.

iii) County and Borough Councillors

The Sagar House planning application was approved by Chorley Council's Development Control Committee.

Resolved: Standing orders be restored.

20.10 Financial Matters

Councillors considered the financial monitoring statement.

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

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
£ 29.97	Employee 2	Reimbursements
£ 923.55	Collinwood Electrical	Electrical inspection and repairs
£ 350.00	DW Groundwork	Removal of Trim Trail
£ 15.00	Lancashire Playing Fields Association	Annual subscription
£ 151.69	British Gas	Gas bill
£ 47.01	United Utilities	Water services charge

21.10 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

10/00041/FUL Conversion of attached garage to living accommodation at 4 Red House Lane.

10/00045/FUL Erection of two storey side extension at 5 Marsden Close.

10/00068/DIS Application to discharge condition 8 of planning application 05/00382/FUL at Nursery House Farm, Parr Lane.

Councillors had no comments relating to the above applications.

Erection of 10 dwellings and associated infrastructure, including demolition of existing buildings at St Mary's Church Hall, Lawrence Lane. Amended plans had been submitted with three new vehicular accesses onto Lawrence Lane, via the pavement.

Resolved: an objection to the proposed vehicular accesses be submitted.

Councillors considered the operation of the Planning Group. A suggestion was made to dissolve the Planning Group until the May Annual Meeting, when the terms of reference may be redefined, and replace the Group with a Councillor 'Lead Member', who will work closely with the Clerk to sift and flag up out of the ordinary applications which are felt to require the Council's attention.

Resolved: the Planning Group be dissolved.

Resolved: Cllr Miller is to take on the role of Lead Member (Planning), to work with the Clerk, in reviewing applications prior to Council meetings for subsequent reference to the Council.

22.10 Millennium Green

The Council's Solicitor had inspected the Trustee transfer documentation and was unable to provide an opinion due to the large number of blanks contained within the documents. The Clerk is to meet with the Solicitor and clarify the Council's requirements.

23.10 Traffic Calming Measures

Councillors reviewed the response of residents to the newsletter articles regarding the speed humps. A total of 26 responses had been received, 20 of which were against the speed humps. The objections related mainly to the speed humps on the estate roads off Red House Lane. Councillors mentioned comments received regarding the 'chicane' section on Doctors Lane, which was felt to cause problems due to its length and the humps, which vehicles are avoiding by driving in the middle of the road. Car have been observed overtaking vehicles which have stopped to give way to oncoming traffic travelling down Doctors Lane, which has priority. The speed humps on Drapers Avenue were successful in reducing vehicle speeds, with the only issue being vehicles mounting the pavement to reduce the effect.

Resolved: Lancashire County Council be requested to revisit the measures on Doctors Lane, with a view to amending the current system and removing the humps from the cul-de-sac estate roads.

24.10 Tree Planting

Councillors considered a request to plant a tree on the Village Green in memory of a deceased resident. There was felt to be insufficient space on the Village Green, and Councillors suggested the grassed area between the Football Changing Rooms and the car park, on Drapers Avenue, as a site. Alternatively the applicant is to be advised to contact the Millennium Green Trust with a view to planting a tree on the Millennium Green.

A request, from Ecclestone and District Women's Institute, to plant a tree on Council owned land to commemorate the 90th Anniversary of the Lancashire Federation was also considered.

Resolved: the grassed area between the Football Changing Rooms and the car park, on Drapers Avenue be offered as a location.

25.10 Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition 2010

Councillors considered entries for the Certificate of Merit categories.

Resolved: St Mary's Church, the Health Centre, Sybaris, Verdi's, Parr Hall Farm, the Parish Council noticeboard, Ecclestone Cricket Club and the Village Green be entered into their respective categories.

26.10 Policies and Protocols

Councillors considered the adoption of protocols for Councillor Representatives on outside bodies and Council Meetings.

Resolved: the protocols for Councillor Representatives and Council Meetings be adopted.

27.10 Village Activities Group

The questionnaire, included in the December newsletter resulted in a disappointing response, with only 3 responses. The Group will work with Chorley Council's Neighbourhood Action Team whenever possible.

28.10 Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)

Chorley Disability Forum - buildings are being investigated to ascertain the availability of disabled access.

The Arts Partnership is arranging Active Generation events.

29.10 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 11 March 2010.

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

..... (Chairman)