

## **ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the Meeting held 11 March 2010 at 7.30 pm in The Changing Rooms, Drapers Avenue, Eccleston.

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

Also present PCSO A Catterall and 1 Resident.

### 30.10 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors H Bradley, A Love, PC J Howard, Borough and County Councillor K Iddon and Borough Councillor H Caunce

### 31.10 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

### 32.10 Minutes of the Meeting held 11 February 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.

### 33.10 Public Participation

#### i) Residents Points of Interest

A resident reported problems with vehicles mounting the pavement along Drapers Avenue to lessen the impact of the speed humps. The Police were called to an incident on 9 March 2010 where the resident was attempting to take registration numbers of vehicles mounting the pavement. The Parish Council's support, in the form of letters to people the resident has written to, was requested. Councillors advised the issue had already been raised, by residents of Drapers Avenue, at a recent Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting, with County Councillor Iddon, who was investigating the possibility of bollards to solve the problem. The resident was also advised to attend the next PACT Meeting to discuss the issues. The issue of support letters will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

The resident also raised the issue of problems at the junction of Drapers Avenue and The Green. Parked vehicles, and vehicles blocking the junction whilst waiting to use the filling station, were mentioned. Councillors advised this matter had previously been raised with the County Council and will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

#### ii) Police Matters

There were eleven reported crimes for the month, including two burglaries on Red House Lane, two further skips stolen from Bygone Times, and a number of incidents of anti social behaviour, including fires on Mill Lane and The Carrington Centre, and eggs thrown at houses on Bradley Lane. There were no individual residents present at the last PACT Meeting. Councillors asked whether the Chorley Council CCTV van could be used on Drapers Avenue to film the incidents and were advised it would be difficult to justify tying up the van for the length of time needed. The traffic issues on Drapers Avenue could be designated a PACT Priority.

PCSO Catterall was complimented, by a resident, on his efforts.

#### iii) County and Borough Councillors

No reports.

Resolved: Standing orders be restored.

### 34.10 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
£ 333.74	Employee 1	Reimbursements
£ 50.00	D Proe	Hedgecutting
£ 180.00	Myerscough College	Playground inspection course
£ 15.00	Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition	Competition entry
£ 1.95	E.on	Christmas lights electricity
£ 234.78	E.on	Electricity bill
£ 47.01	United Utilities	Water services charge

### 35.10 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

10/00041/FUL Application for Certificate of Lawfulness for use of land as domestic curtilage at Folly Cottage, Syd Brook Lane, Croston.

Councillors had no comments relating to this application.

### 36.10 Millennium Green

The Council's Solicitor had inspected the relevant documentation and provided an opinion that the Council may either:

- a) negotiate direct with Natural England to attempt to adopt the area without the potential liability imposed by the grant conditions
- b) sign the documentation as presented, or
- c) continue to maintain the area under the present arrangements.

The Clerk had contacted Natural England to query the possibility of adoption of the area without the liability. Natural England must query the matter with the BIG Lottery Fund, as the ultimate funder, and has been asked to do so. A suggestion to obtain an indemnity to cover the potential liability of the grant conditions was made and the Clerk is to investigate with the insurers.

It was proposed to make a final decision at the May meeting, which should allow the negotiations with Natural England to be completed.

A counter proposal, to sign the Trustee documentation as presented, was made. The counter proposal was defeated.

Resolved: a final decision on the proposed adoption be made at the May meeting, at the latest.

### 37.10 Risk Assessment

Councillors completed the annual risk assessment in accordance with the Practitioners Guide to Governance and Accountability in Local Councils in England and Wales. The existing procedures and controls were found to be adequate.

Resolved: the adequacy of the existing controls was noted.

### 38.10 Tree Planting

The Council had offered the grassed area between the Football Changing Rooms and the car park, on Drapers Avenue as a location for Eccleston and District Women's Institute, to plant a tree on Council owned land to commemorate the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Lancashire Federation.

Members of the WI had expressed concerns regarding potential vandalism and requested the area between the Small Children's Play Area and the rear of the Richmond Road properties, where part of the Trim Trail was recently removed from. A Councillor mentioned siting the tree in this location may prevent future development of play facilities in this area.

Resolved: the Council's Tree Warden and the Clerk meet, on site, with representatives of the Women's Institute to identify a mutually agreeable location.

#### 39.10 Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)

Chorley Council Clerk's Meeting - a draft application for S106 monies bids was presented and information on the Commons and Greens Act provided.

PACT Meeting - there were no individual residents in attendance. At the previous meeting residents of Drapers Avenue had complimented the Police on their efforts with anti social behaviour in the area.

Intergenerational Activities - the Pancake Making Event at the Youth Club and a Knit and Natter Session at the Library were very successful. Chorley Council is arranging an Older People's Olympics event.

#### 40.10 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 8 April 2010.

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

..... (Chairman)