

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 14 April 2011 at 7.30 pm in The Changing Rooms, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

Present Councillors W Mason (Chairman), L Armstrong, A Barnes, H Bradley, M Frost, J Haines, M Miller, R Monks and J Morris and 2 Members of the Public.

Also present County and Borough Councillor K Iddon.

44.11 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors P Ascroft, J Lilley and A Love and PCSO A Catterall.

45.11 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

Cllr Frost, as an Ecclestone Brass Band member, declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 11. (Band Hut).

46.11 Minutes of the Meeting held 10 March 2011

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.

47.11 Public Participation

Members of Ecclestone Brass Band provided information in support of a request to extend the Band Hut. An influx of new members for the Training Band has resulted in a requirement for additional space. There are currently 32 Junior and 27 Senior Band Members and the Band is seeking the Parish Council's permission to extend the Hut.

A resident had mentioned broken glass on the pavement and in the road on The Green, and queried why a Parish Council employee had cleared the glass from the pavement but not the road. The resident is to be advised that Parish Council employees are under strict instructions not to sweep the highway for reasons of personal safety.

Resolved: Standing orders be restored.

Resolved: Agenda Item 11 be brought forward.

48.11 Band Hut

Councillors considered a request from Ecclestone Brass Band for approval to extend the existing Band Hut by approximately 3m to the eastern elevation. It was mentioned the area had previously been intended to be the site for tennis courts.

Resolved: permission be granted to extend by approximately 3m onto the Council's land.

The Band Members were advised that the Council's decision does not represent planning consent and the Brass Band must apply for planning permission.

49.11 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:

£ 581.85	Employee 1	Salary
£ 393.20	Employee 2	Salary
£ 434.80	Employee 3	Salary
£ 206.80	HM Revenue and Customs	Tax and NI
£ 5.60	Employee 2	Reimbursements

£ 187.00	Sprintprint	Newsletter printing
£ 100.00	Eccleston Scout Group	Newsletter delivery
£ 300.00	DW Groundwork	Replacement hedging
£ 458.14	Lancashire Association of Local Councils	Annual subscription
£ 1.88	E.on	Christmas lights electricity
£ 398.26	British Gas	Gas bill
£ 502.53	Chorley Council	Dog waste bin emptying
£ 675.48	Chorley Council	Business rates
£ 41.36	United Utilities	Surface water charge
£ 60.63	United Utilities	Water services charge

49.11 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

11/00176/COU Proposed rear sun room to replace existing conservatory at 301 The Green.

11/00274/FUL Erection of a chimney to the side of property at Orchard House, 84 Parr Lane.

Councillors had no comments relating to these applications.

11/00172/COU Change of Use from residential property to Solicitors Office at 226 The Green.

Resolved: concerns regarding the lack of available parking spaces for staff and customers and vehicles accessing directly onto The Green from the car park be submitted.

11/00248/FUL Erection of a two storey side and single storey rear extension at 34 Middlewood Close.

Resolved: a request that provision is retained for sufficient car parking spaces be submitted.

11/00253/FUL New first floor extension, including a balcony, over existing ground floor building at The Mill Race, Lydiate Lane.

Resolved: an objection be submitted on the grounds that the proposed south east elevation will provide a wall of glass which is out of keeping with the immediate surroundings and will impact on the visual amenity of the area.

11/00290/REMAJ1 Section 73 application to vary conditions 6 (boundary treatments), 7 (Code for Sustainable Homes and 16 (approved plans) attached to planning approval 10/00866/REMAJ at Sagar House, Langton Brow.

Resolved: an objection to the varying of condition 6 be submitted on the grounds that the boundary treatment was of utmost concern to neighbouring residents during the determination of the original application and these concerns were addressed by condition 6. The Parish Council is concerned the proposed rewording would allow building works to take place in the absence of any form of boundary fence and would suggest the original wording be retained in the interests of neighbour amenity.

Resolved: an objection to the varying of condition 7 be submitted on the grounds that the proposed change may lead to a situation whereby the entire development may be completed prior to the issuing of the certificate.

50.11 Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2011

Councillors considered the Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2011.

Resolved: the Statement of Accounts be approved and signed by the Chairman.

Resolved: the Annual Governance Statement be approved and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

Resolved: the Asset Register be approved and signed by the Chairman.

51.11 Contract Work

Councillors considered charges for contract litter picking works for Ulnes Walton Parish Council.

Resolved: a charge of £9 per hour, with a mileage rate of 45p per mile be suggested.

52.11 Subscription/Memberships

A review of current subscriptions was carried out. Councillors also considered invitations to join the Chorley Civic Society and the Skipton-East Lancashire Rail Action Partnership (SELRAP), which is campaigning to reinstate the line between Colne and Skipton.

Resolved: existing subscriptions to the Lancashire Association of Local Councils, the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England and the Orskirk, Preston and Southport Travellers Association be continued.

53.11 Three Tier Forum

The Lancashire Association of Local Councils Chorley Area Committee agreed to nominate seven parish representatives to the Forum instead of the single representative invited by Lancashire County Council. Councillors considered whether this action should be supported.

Resolved: the decision to nominate seven parish representatives to the Forum be supported.

54.11 Code of Recommended Practice on Local Authority Publicity

Councillors discussed the sections of the Code of Practice relevant to Parish Councils.

Resolved: the relevant contents of the Code of Practice be noted.

55.11 Recognition of Local Business Award

Local business, J A Rigbye and Sons has been awarded the Citroen La Passion Du Client 2011, awarded to the top Citroen Dealership in the UK for Excellence in Customer Satisfaction.

Resolved: a letter of congratulation for the achievement be sent to the Directors and Staff.

56.11 Open Spaces Committee

A report from the meeting held on 29 March 2011 was provided. Bollards are to be installed at the Red House Lane entrance to the Millennium Green. Residents of Newlands had mentioned the trees shading their gardens. Committee Members had inspected the area and found no evidence of this and intend to inspect the area again once the trees are in full leaf. Issues with the field drain between the Millennium Green and the corner of Newlands are being looked into. The safety surfacing of the Drapers Avenue Play Area is to be replaced in order to ensure the safety of users.

57.11 Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)

The Lancashire Association of Local Councils Chorley Area Committee was provided with information on cuts to the Police in the Chorley area.

Chorley Equality Forum was advised Chorley and South Ribble CVS may close.

The Intergenerational Group is arranging the family cycle event.

A poorly attended PACT Meeting was provided with details of reported crimes.

43.11 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 12 May 2011.

Prior to closing the meeting the Chairman thanked all the Councillors who are not standing for election, for their past service to the Council.

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