

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 11 August 2011 at 7.30 pm in The Changing Rooms, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

Present Councillors W Mason (Chairman), L Armstrong, J Delve, M Frost, S Harris, B Harrison, D Holborn, C Lilley, M Miller, and R Monks.

Also present Mr A Elwood (Standards Committee Mentor) and 1 Member of the Public.

102.11 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors A Barnes and J Lilley and PCSO A Catterall.

103.11 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

104.11 Minutes of the Meeting held 14 July 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.

105.11 Public Participation

Mr Tony Elwood introduced himself as the Chorley Standards Committee Mentor to the Parish Council and provided information on future changes, including the abolition of the Standards Board for England under the forthcoming Localism Bill and the removal of the requirement for a Code of Conduct for Councillors.

A resident provided information on the process of applying for Village Green Status for a part of the site covered by the proposed Carrington Centre development.

Resolved: Standing orders be restored.

106.11 Financial Matters

Councillors considered the financial monitoring statement.

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

Councillors reviewed the existing bank mandate. The election in May resulted in a requirement for replacement signatories.

Resolved: Councillors J Lilley and M Miller be appointed as authorised signatories.

Resolved: the following payments be approved, the invoices having been inspected in accordance with fidelity guarantee requirements:

£ 581.85	Employee 1	Salary
£ 411.28	Employee 2	Salary
£ 457.06	Employee 3	Salary
£ 216.80	HM Revenue and Customs	Tax and NI
£ 11.24	Employee 2	Reimbursements
£ 45.00	Tell Tale Signs	Replacement perspex for noticeboard
£ 204.24	Fenland Leisure Products	Replacement cradle swing seats
£ 100.51	Chorley Council	VAT due on dog waste bin emptying
£ 60.55	United Utilities	Water services charge
£ 46.32	United Utilities	Surface water charge

107.11 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

11/00543/FUL Change of use from photography studio/shop to Podiatry Centre (Use Class C1) at 308 The Green.

11/00544/FUL Illuminated fascia sign above shop frontage at 308 The Green.

11/00565/FUL Formation of car park, footpath and erection of vehicle and pedestrian access gates at St Mary's Church of England Primary School, The Green.

Councillors had no comments relating to these applications.

11/00659/FUL Amendments, comprising retaining outbuilding to rear and changes to the layout of parking spaces and the service yard, to previously approved application 11/00308/FUL at Oceans Apart, 267-271 The Green.

Resolved: the Council's previously submitted concerns regarding parking be reiterated.

11/00657/FUL New link extension between hairdressers and vacant retail unit and change of use of part of existing vacant retail unit to form hot food takeaway and associated extraction flue at Oceans Apart, 267-271 The Green.

Resolved: an objection be submitted on the grounds of inadequate parking in the area for a business of this nature.

108.11 Proposed Carrington Centre Redevelopment

A resident had requested the Parish Council's support for an application for Village Green status for the open space between Bradley Lane and the Carrington Centre. A suggestion to defer the request to the next meeting of the Open Spaces Committee was put forward.

Resolved: the request be considered by the Open Spaces Committee at its next meeting.

109.11 Community Car Scheme

A resident had advised of alterations to the Community Car Scheme which has resulted in an introduction in fares. Concerns were expressed the alterations discriminate against elderly residents holding bus passes who cannot, physically, access buses. The Community Car Scheme provides an enhanced service for residents requiring transport to access medical appointments at Doctors surgeries, dentists and hospitals.

Resolved: Lancashire County Council be advised of the concerns of the Parish Council.

110.11 Ironman Triathlon

A resident had complained regarding problems of access caused by the Triathlon passing through the village. Councillors reported very few complaints had been received and these were regarding energy drinks bottles discarded by competitors. As the Parish Council has no control over events of this nature no action was proposed.

111.11 Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Councillors discussed possible events to mark the Diamond Jubilee. Suggestions included a 1950's theme incorporating a village fete and a picnic event. It was suggested the Village Events Working Group could be resurrected to discuss proposals in detail.

Resolved: the Village Events Working Group, comprising Councillors Armstrong, Delve, Holborn, Miller and Monks be appointed.

112.11 Police Matters

Crime figures were provided to the recent PACT Meeting which showed a small increase in the total number of reported incidents, from 53 to 55, over 2010 figures. Reported crimes increased from 5 to 8 and comprised 3 assaults, 3 thefts and 2 burglaries.

The local PCSO's will, in future, sign on at Chorley Police Station prior to making their way to the village.

113.11 Lancashire Fire and Rescue Services - Performance and Action Plan 2011

Councillors considered a consultation on the Performance and Action Plan. Councillors had no comments to make in respect of the consultation.

114.11 Lancashire County Council Draft Policy - Managing Unauthorised Encampments

Councillors considered a consultation on the Draft Policy. Councillors had no comments to make as the consultation relates only to land under the control of the County Council.

115.11 Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)

Borough Parish Liaison Meeting - Lancashire County Council was not represented at the meeting. Chorley Council is awaiting the results of trials of the Three Tier Forum before deciding whether to take part. Results of the Rural Housing Needs Survey are expected with the next two months. Parish Councils will be invited to bid to carry out devolved services.

Lancashire Association of Local Councils Chorley Area Committee - a representative from Lancashire Constabulary provided information on various issues regarding reported crimes. Overall crime rates are down but burglaries have increased. The PCSO's are to be retained. The Rural Housing Needs Survey was discussed.

116.11 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 8 September 2011.

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

..... (Chairman)