

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 13 January 2011 at 7.30 pm in The Changing Rooms, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

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

Also present 4 members of the Public.

01.11 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors M Frost and A Love and PCSO A Catterall.

02.11 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

03.11 Councillor Vacancy

Councillors considered applications for co-option.

Resolved: Mr A Barnes be co-opted.

04.11 Minutes of the Meeting held 9 December 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.

05.10 Public Participation

Residents Points of Interest

Residents advised of concerns regarding the pond in the field off Bradley Lane, which has recently been drained. A written report, with photographs, was provided. The pond is a Biological Heritage Site under the current Chorley Local Plan and a resident had contacted various authorities including the Police Officer responsible for wildlife and environmental issues. The Parish Council's assistance in restoring the pond by removing the vegetation and raising the level of the drain was requested.

Also bats were reported to use the trees on the field boundary as a roost. Councillors advised it is much more likely the trees were a feeding route, as opposed to a roost. A suggestion for a protection order for the trees was put forward.

Resolved: Standing orders be restored.

Resolved: Agenda Item 12 be brought forward.

06.10 Bradley Lane Pond

Councillors considered the issues raised by the residents.

Resolved: the landowner be asked for the reasons for the drainage of the pond.

Resolved: the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England be contacted for advice.

Resolved: Chorley Council be asked to consider a protection order for the trees.

07.11 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:

£ 561.81	Employee 1	Salary
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£ 383.87	Employee 2	Salary
£ 418.91	Employee 3	Salary
£ 249.96	HM Revenue and Customs	Tax and NI
£ 7.60	Employee 2	Reimbursements
£ 100.00	Eccleston Scout and Guide HQ	Newsletter delivery
£ 187.00	Sprintprint	Newsletter printing
£ 200.00	Eccleston Brass Band	Donation
£ 301.39	J H Mayor and Sons	Christmas tree
£ 268.94	British Gas	Gas bill
£ 4523.75	J T and K J Waterworth	Grasscutting
£ 776.50	D W Groundwork	Works to Millennium Green
£ 5.72	United Utilities	Metered water charge
£ 44.67	United Utilities	Water services charge

08.11 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

10/00004/FUL Extensions and alterations at Woodlands, Woodhart Lane.

Councillors had no comments relating to this application.

11/00009/FUL Retrospective erection of a new timber fence to the curtilage of boundary with Lydiate Lane at The Mill Race, Lydiate Lane, Eccleston.

Resolved : An objection be made on the grounds of the impact on the visual amenity of the area.

09.11 2011-2012 Precept

Councillors considered the Precept for the forthcoming financial year. Given the current economic climate Councillors wished to provide a reduction in the precept, whilst maintaining services to residents.

Resolved: the Precept for 2011 - 2012 be set at £41260, a reduction of £1980 on last year's Precept figure.

10.11 Sites for Chorley Issues and Options Discussion Paper

The Issues and Options Discussion Paper was considered. The Paper includes proposals for the enhancement of the Medical Centre and an additional half a form entry of primary school places.

Councillors felt suggested housing use at 75 Towngate conflicted with its inclusion on the Schedule of Locally Important Buildings.

Employment use at the Carrington Centre was welcomed, but not housing.

Resolved: objections be submitted proposed housing use on CS00012 (field off Bradley Lane), CH0207 (Carrington Centre) and CH0148 and CH0224 (75 Towngate).

11.11 Local Development Framework

The Local Development Framework consultation document for Preston, South Ribble and Chorley was considered.

Councillors had no comments.

12.11 Newsletter

Councillors reviewed the delivery of the newsletter by Eccleston Scout Group following comments that a cul-de-sac on Larkfield rarely received a copy. The majority of Councillors confirmed receipt of newsletters and the existing arrangements are to remain in place.

13.11 Postal Service

Councillors discussed the postal delivery service over recent months. Concerns were expressed that the village recently appeared to have had alternate day deliveries, items posted the same day to addresses in Leyland and Chorley, were delivered significantly earlier in Leyland and a Councillor advised of several letters which had been overfranked with a later date.

Resolved: Royal Mail be asked to explain the issues raised.

14.11 Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)

The Intergenerational Group is to meet to discuss the holding of the Tour de Village.

The Older People's Christmas Party at the Youth Club went extremely well.

The PACT Meeting was advised of a decrease in reported crimes. The latest Crime Report was presented.

15.11 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 10 February 2011.

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

..... (Chairman)