

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present Councillors W Mason (Chairman), L Armstrong, A Barnes, M Frost, S Harris, C Lilley, M Miller, and R Monks.

Also present Borough and County Councillor K Iddon and 4 Members of the Public.

86.11 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor J Lilley and PCSO A Catterall.

87.11 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

88.11 Minutes of the Meeting held 9 June 2011

Resolved: the Minutes (as circulated) be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

89.11 Councillor Vacancies

Applications from Joan Delve, Bryan Harrison and Danny Holborn were considered.

Resolved: Joan Delve, Bryan Harrison and Danny Holborn be co-opted.

Resolved: Standing Orders be suspended to allow members of the public to speak.

90.11 Public Participation

A resident mentioned alterations to the Community Car Scheme which has resulted in an increase in fares. Concerns were expressed that elderly passengers who can access public transport can do so for free, yet those who cannot have to pay a higher charge. This subject will be placed on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

A Member of the EC3 Group advised of a suggestion to apply for Village Green Status for a part of the site covered by the proposed Carrington Centre development, and requested the Council's support for this. The request will be on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

A resident complained that many pavements in the village appear to have been given over to car parking, with Marsden Close, Doctors Lane and The Green particularly affected by vehicles obstructing the pavement. Councillors suggested the resident attends the next PACT Meeting.

Rumours regarding the potential closure of the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme in the village were reported. Lancashire County Council had provided information that the Scheme is to continue, with support structure for the Scheme being centralised.

The University of the Third Age (U3A) had requested to plant a tree on Council managed land. The matter was referred to the Open Spaces Committee.

Resolved: Standing orders be restored.

91.11 Financial Matters

Councillors considered the financial monitoring statement.

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

Councillors considered revised insurance cover which provides an extension of the first year's insurance by four months, in return for the signing of a 3 year long term agreement.

Resolved: the extension to the first year's insurance be ratified.

Councillors considered a grant application from Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team for training for volunteer members. A proposal to award a grant of £100 was defeated.

Councillors considered a grant application from Vitalise towards the cost of respite care for disabled people. There was no proposer for the request.

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
£ 1268.13	Employee 1	Reimbursements
£ 21.30	Employee 2	Reimbursements
£ 187.00	Sprintprint	Newsletter printing
£ 100.00	Eccleston Scout and Guide HQ	Newsletter delivery
£ 400.00	BDO LLB	Audit fee
£ 200.00	Creative Minds	Grant
£ 225.00	DWG (NW)	Installation of bollards
£ 35.00	Information Commissioner	Notification fee
£ 300.00	DWG (NW)	Summer planting
£ 300.00	DWG (NW)	Summer planting
£ 538.49	British Gas	Gas bill
£ 29.00	CPRE	Annual subscription
£ 60.55	United Utilities	Water services charge
£ 46.32	United Utilities	Surface water charge

92.11 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

11/00455/FUL Change of use and alterations to domestic garage to form barbers shop at 226 The Green.

11/00479/FUL Erection of single storey side extension at 18 The Hawthorns.

11/00529/FUL Application to extend the time limit for implementation of extant permission 08/000483/FUL for the erection of a two storey rear extension at 251 The Green.

11/00562/FUL Proposed conversion of existing barn onto two dwellings (resubmission of withdrawn application 10/00962/FUL) at Dig Leach Farm, Parr Lane.

11/00563/FUL Proposed two storey side extension, dormer alterations to and front elevations with new pitched roof to front over existing flat roof area at ground floor level at 50 The Fields.

Councillors had no comments relating to these applications.

93.11 Annual Return 2010-2011

The report of the External Auditor was presented.

Resolved: the Annual Return be accepted and approved.

95.11 Data Protection Responsibilities

Information was considered regarding the requirement for councillors to notify the Information Commissioners' Office, in their own right, at a personal cost of £35 per annum, should data be processed as representatives of residents. To the future, residents contacting Councillors via email are to be advised to contact the Council, via the Clerk.

The Parish Council is a data processing body and there is a requirement for registration with a Notification Fee which currently stands at £35 per annum.

Resolved: the annual Notification Fee be approved.

96.11 British Telecommunications Pole

A request from BT to resite a telephone pole currently located in the grass verge at the entrance to the Recreation Ground car park to the verge outside the Youth and Community Centre was considered. A wayleave payment of £150 has been offered. A query on the termination clause of the wayleave agreement was raised and is to be queried with the agent.

Resolved: permission be granted.

97.11 Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

The appointment of Cllr Barnes to the Open Spaces Committee was considered.

Resolved: Cllr Barnes be appointed.

Councillors considered the appointment of a representative to the Chorley Equality Forum. It was decided that, as any Councillor is free to attend, no appointment was necessary.

98.11 Rationalisation of Household Waste Recycling Centres

Councillors considered a Lancashire County Council consultation on the rationalisation. The village and general local area will not be affected by the proposed closure of four centres.

99.11 Police Matters

Councillors considered a Lancashire Constabulary consultation on the future of local police premises. The proposals include the closure of facilities at Eccleston and Croston, which have not operated as traditional police stations in recent times. Councillors had no objections to the proposed closures provided local policing services were maintained. The police officer based in Croston, who has looked after the village in recent times, is to retire shortly.

Resolved: the Chief Superintendent be asked what the policing provisions are anticipated for the village in light of the retirement of the Croston Officer.

The logging of reported incidents was also discussed. Items reported to the local Police - vandalism to plants on the Village Green and the theft of drain covers on Red House Lane and Larkfield had failed to appear within the crime figures. Councillors had been advised to report incidents to the Control Room. Councillors were concerned residents may stop reporting incidents if they are to be ignored.

Resolved: Lancashire Constabulary be asked why certain crimes, reported to the local Police, are not logged and instead suggestions made to report via the Control Room.

100.11 Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)

The Eccleston Family Cycle Ride, arranged by the Intergenerational Group, proved a success.

101.11 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 11 August 2011.

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

..... (Chairman)