

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 14 November 2013 at 7.30 pm in The Changing Rooms, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

Present Councillors M Frost (Chairman), L Armstrong, A Barnes, D Bonney, K Brown, H Counce, B Harrison, D Holborn, C Lilley, W Mason and M Miller.

Also present 5 Members of the Public.

140.13 Apologies for absence

None received.

141.13 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

142.13 Minutes of the Meeting held 10 October 2013

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

143.13 Councillor Vacancies

Applications for co-option for a vacancy, from Valerie Counce and Alan Whittaker, were considered.

A paper ballot was held and the ballot papers checked under the supervision of a resident. Valerie Counce was co-opted to fill the remaining vacancy.

Resolved: Standing Orders were suspended to allow Members of the Public to speak.

144.13 Public Participation

A resident advised works had been carried out to improve the ditches around the junior football pitch.

A resident mentioned the Oak tree on the Drapers Avenue verge, which had been reported to Lancashire County Council by the Parish Council, had been inspected by an Officer and was found to be healthy. The resident was referred to the local County Councillor.

A resident provided information on the potential sale of a piece of land on Tincklers Lane. A concern was expressed that the land may be purchased by Travellers.

Resolved: Standing Orders were restored.

Agenda Item 8 was brought forward.

145.13 Draper Avenue Drainage

The Chairman provided an update for residents. The Council's solicitor is not able to provide a legal opinion on the ditch/hedge presumption. The solicitor can only provide an opinion on legal issues and documents. The Land Registry search clearly defines the land to the rear of the private dwellings, under which the piped drain lies as being in the ownership of Northern Trust. Residents queried the boundary line of the drain and were advised that, whilst the search was undertaken on land which borders the Recreation Ground, the route of the drain to the rear of the properties was also defined.

The Chairman and Clerk are to visit Northern Trust to view the drain survey.

Residents were advised any future queries or issues regarding the drain should be directed to Northern Trust.

146.13 Financial Matters

Councillors considered the financial monitoring statement.

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

A grant application from Lancashire Constabulary towards the costs of an educational project for nursery age children was considered. Councillors were of the opinion the issues covered within the project were not a problem within the village. There was no proposer for the request.

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

£ 653.56	Employee 1	Salary
£ 449.48	Employee 2	Salary
£ 489.68	Employee 3	Salary
£ 257.10	HM Revenue and Customs	Tax and NI
£ 17.55	Employee 2	Reimbursements
£ 192.50	Employee 1	Reimbursement of planning fee
£ 1.20	Employee 1	Reimbursement of lease payment
£ 1239.57	Public Works Loans Board	Loan repayment
£ 309.60	DWG (NW)	Spring planting
£ 600.00	Argus Security Systems	Annual maintenance contracts
£ 175.00	RBL Poppy Appeal	Donation and wreath
£ 53.00	E.on	Electricity charge
£ 35.40	United Utilities	Water services charge
£ 52.09	United Utilities	Surface water charge

147.13 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

13/00937/FUL Internal alterations and refurbishment and minor exterior alterations to the existing building associated with the change of use from (Use Class A1) to Private Holistic Health Clinic (Use Class D1) and specialist coffee shop and cafe (Use Class A3) at Nevins Lawrence Lane.

13/01023/FUL Proposed all weather ball court enclosed by 3m high fencing and four floodlighting columns (6.1m high) at Play Area, Drapers Avenue.

13/01031/TEL Notice of intention to install 1no. BT Openreach High Speed Broadband cabinet at Footpath Adjacent to 237 Red House Lane.

13/01034/TEL Notice of intention to install 1no. BT Openreach High Speed Broadband cabinet at Footpath Adjacent to 145 The Green.

13/01035/TEL Notice of intention to install 1no. BT Openreach High Speed Broadband cabinet at Footpath Adjacent to 49 Red House Lane.

13/01046/TEL Notice of intention to install 1no. BT Openreach High Speed Broadband cabinet at Footpath Adjacent to 173 The Green.

13/01047/TEL Notice of intention to install 1no. BT Openreach High Speed Broadband cabinet at Footpath Adjacent to 87 Towngate.

Councillors had no comments relating to these applications.

148.13 Internal Audit

The annual review of the effectiveness of the internal audit was carried out.

Resolved: the current system of internal audit was found to be adequate.

Councillors considered the appointment of the Internal Auditor for the current financial year and the internal audit fee.

Resolved: Mr J Lawson was appointed and the fee set at £80.

149.13 Carol Concert Arrangements

The date for the Carol Concert was confirmed as Wednesday 18 December.

150.13 Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)

PACT Meeting - There were 7 recorded crimes. Future meetings will take place on a two monthly basis.

Lancashire County Council Town and Parish Conference - items discussed included 20mph zones and the enforcement of 20mph speed limits and NHS changes including the localisation of care provision.

Lancashire Association of Local Councils Chorley Area Committee - 20 mph zones were discussed, together with timing issues for consultations from county and borough councils resulting in problems for parish councils responding.

Lancashire Association of Local Councils - Officers were elected. The Police and Crime Commissioner advised of further reductions to the Police budget with resultant cuts to PCSO numbers likely. Local NHS Trusts are to increase awareness of blood cancer. Issues with potholes throughout the county were raised and proportional representation discussed.

3 Tier Forum - the next meeting will not be a closed meeting and will be open to Parish Councils to attend.

Borough/Parish Council Liaison meeting - issues raised included grass cutting and winter gritting.

151.13 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 12 December 2013.

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