

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 13 November 2014 at 7.30 pm in The Changing Rooms, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

Present Councillors M Frost (Chairman), A Barnes, D Bonney, K Brown, H Caunce, V Caunce and W Mason.

135.14 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors L Armstrong, D Holborn and C Lilley.

136.14 Disclosure of Personal/Pecuniary Interests

None declared.

137.14 Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 October 2014

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

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

138.14 Councillor Vacancy

Applications for co-option for a vacancy, from Simon Kenyon and Howard Thomas, were considered.

Howard Thomas was co-opted to fill the remaining vacancy.

139.14 Public Participation

A report of a fence obstructing the path to the rear of Bygone Times was received.

A meeting to provide residents with information regarding Neighbourhood Plans has been set for 11 February 2015.

The Council's support for a project with the two primary schools to investigate the existing casualties named on the village war memorial and produce a commemorative roll of honour booklet had been requested. The Head Teacher at St Mary's is to be contacted for an opinion on this issue.

A resident had mentioned the path around the Recreation Fields, and raised issues regarding the quality of the finish and queried why drainage had not been included in a particular area. The meeting was advised the top coat of stone was yet to be laid and that a soakaway had been installed in the area in question.

Resolved: Standing Orders were restored.

Agenda item 6 was brought forward.

140.14 Financial Matters

Councillors considered the financial update and bank reconciliation.

Resolved: the financial update was received and accepted and signed by the Chairman.

Councillors reviewed the use of variable direct debits for the payment of utility supplies and business rates.

Resolved: the continued use of variable direct debits for the payment of all utility supplies and business rates was approved.

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

£	670.60	Employee 1	Salary
£	447.46	Employee 2	Salary

£	490.22	Employee 3	Salary
£	236.62	HM Revenue & Customs	Tax/NI
£	33.75	Employee 2	Reimbursements
£	200.00	Royal British Legion	Donation and wreath
£	600.00	Argus Security Systems	Annual maintenance contracts
£	1.20	Metacre	Lease - Bradley Lane field
£	102.00	DWG	Emergency tree works
£	423.60	DWG	Spring planting/kissing gate alterations
£	9900.00	DWG	Interim payment - path
£	72.00	E.on	Electricity contract
£	27.94	United Utilities	Water/wastewater charge
£	54.26	United Utilities	Surface water charge
£	1239.57	Public Works Loan Board	Loan repayment

141.14 Planning Matters

The following application was considered:

14/01111/FUL Erection of single storey rear extensions following the demolition of the existing conservatory and kitchen and erection of a front porch 152 The Green.

14/01125/FUL Erection of a single storey rear extension following the demolition of the existing utility room and rendering the side gable wall at 75 Southport Road.

Councillors had no comments relating to these applications.

142.14 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 is to be appointed and the fee set at £100.

143.14 Neighbourhood Priorities

Items for inclusion in the next round of priorities for consideration at the Neighbourhood Group Meeting were discussed. A request for further improvements to Mill Lane is to be submitted.

144.14 2015-2016 Precept

Councillors were reminded of the need to provide suggestions for inclusion in the Precept.

145.14 Protocol for Recording of Council Meetings

Following the introduction of Statutory Instrument 2014 No. 2095 (The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014) the recording of parish council meetings is now permitted. Members considered a draft protocol relating to the recording of meetings. An article advising residents is to be included in the newsletter.

Resolved: the protocol was adopted.

146.14 Parish Council Communications

Councillors considered the use of social media by the Council. A Twitter account is to be set up and is to be used for factual information only.

147.14 Carol Singing

The date for the Carol singing was confirmed as Wednesday 17 December.

148.14 Chorley Local Plan 2012-2026 Schedule of Proposed Modifications October 2014

Councillors considered a consultation from Chorley Council regarding Gypsy and Traveller provision. Councillors had no objections to the proposed provision.

149.14 Lancashire County Council Rights of Way Improvement Plan

A consultation from Lancashire County Council was considered. Councillors had no comments.

150.14 Reports from Outside Bodies

PACT - there were 3 recorded burglaries, with access gained via conservatories.

151.14 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 11 December 2014.

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