

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Council Meeting held 11 August 2016 at 7.30 pm in The Changing Rooms, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

Present Councillors W Mason, (Chairman), L Armstrong, D Bonney, H Caunce, V Caunce, C Mayor, M Miller, H Thomas and A Whittaker.

Also present 8 Members of the Public.

108.16 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors K Brown, M Frost, and G Thomas.

109.16 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

Cllr Miller, as owner of a neighbouring property, declared a pecuniary interest in applications 16/00667/FUL and 16/00675/FUL contained within agenda item 5 (Planning matters).

110.16 Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 July 2016

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

Resolved: Standing Orders were suspended.

111.16 Public Participation

Residents queried the lack of an agenda item "Matters Arising". The residents were advised of the guidance which led to the omission of this item and that it may be reinstated should the Council decide to do so.

Residents asked whether they could receive meeting agendas and minutes via email.

A resident thanked two members of the Council for speaking against a planning application at a recent Chorley Council Development Control Committee meeting.

A member of the public requested the Council to express its concerns relating to the closure of the Accident and Emergency Department at Chorley Hospital until April 2017 to the local MP's, the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for Health and the Chief Executive of the NHS Trust. A suggestion was made to contact other parish councils in the area and ask them to make representations.

Residents advised of their wish to keep the Young People's Centre open.

Resolved: Standing Orders were restored.

Agenda item 7 was brought forward to allow members of the public to take part in discussions.

112.16 Ecclestone Young People's Centre Building

The meeting was advised the building is currently used by the Duke of Edinburgh Awards scheme, Guides, a keep fit class, crafts and the youth club.

The Parish Council has submitted an expression of interest in taking over the building to Lancashire County Council. The details of other organisations which have also submitted expressions of interest in the building to Lancashire County Council have been requested and are awaited.

Councillors considered a suggestion to submit a request to register the building as an asset of community value.

Resolved: the building is to be nominated as asset of community value.

113.16 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

16/00537/FULHH Conversion of existing barn and stables outbuilding to swimming pool and the provision of first floor storage at Eccleston Hall, Lydiate Lane

16/00545/FULHH Proposed single storey rear extension at 21 Red House Lane

16/00654/FULHH Erection of a two-storey side extension with first floor rear balcony and driveway alterations at Winter View Farm, Parr Lane

16/00667/FUL Erection of 3no. dwellings and associated works at Land to the South West of Ricmarlo, Preston Nook

16/00668/FUL Demolition of existing store and stables and erection of dormer bungalow at Stables West of Verona, Wrenalls Lane

16/00670/TPO Request to top a sycamore and oak tree in the hedgerow due to excessive shading of whole of garden at 21 Chaucer Close

16/00675/FUL Retrospective planning application for the conversion of the existing detached garage to an independent 2 bedroom dwelling with separate access on Preston Nook at Nook View, Preston Nook

16/00709/TPO Pruning one oak tree at Mapleleaf, 65 Red House Lane

Councillors had no comments relating to these applications.

114.16 Financial Matters

The financial monitoring statement was considered.

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

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

£ 690.71	Employee 1	Salary
£ 461.64	Employee 2	Salary
£ 505.00	Employee 3	Salary
£ 246.53	HM Revenue & Customs	Tax/NI
£ 16.18	Employee 2	Reimbursements
£ 304.88	Employee 1	Reimbursement - commemorative plates
£ 59.31	United Utilities	Surface water charge
£ 65.00	Chorley Council	Business rates

115.16 Langton Close Play Area

Councillors considered options for the adoption of a play area on Langton Close which, due to an historical oversight, had remained in the ownership of the original developer. Chorley Council is to arrange for refurbishment works, funded from developer's contributions designated for Eccleston, to be carried out. Following these works the options considered were for either Chorley Council to take responsibility for the area or for the Parish Council to adopt the area.

Resolved: the Parish Council is to adopt the area following completion of the refurbishment works.

116.16 Presentation of Commemorative Plates

Councillors discussed a venue for the presentation of the additional commemorative plates for local businesses.

Resolved: an approach is to be made to Verdes.

117.16 Communications with Residents

Suggestions for requirements for features of a revised website had not been forthcoming and it was suggested, to speed up matters, a working group should be set up.

Resolved: a working group is to be set up comprising of Councillors Mayor, Miller and H Thomas and interested residents.

118.16 Reports from Outside Bodies

Police report - the latest crime figures were provided.

119.16 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 8 September 2016.

120.16 Exclusion of the Press and Public

Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, Councillors considered the exclusion of members of the press and public for the following items on the grounds that the item comprised information relating to negotiations in respect of labour relations matters arising between the authority and employees which, in accordance with Part 1(4) and of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, are exempt from public disclosure.

Resolved: due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, Members of the press and public were excluded for the consideration of the following items.

121.16 Personnel Matters

Councillors considered arrangements for the employment of a replacement Lengthsman.

Resolved: the position of Lengthsman is to be advertised on the same terms as the existing position.

The formation of a Personnel Committee is to be included on the agenda for the September meeting.

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