

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Council Meeting held 8 September 2016 at 7.30 pm in The Changing Rooms, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

Present Councillors K Brown, (Chairman), H Counce, V Counce, M Frost, W Mason, M Miller, H Thomas and A Whittaker.

Also present 1 Member of the Public.

122.16 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors L Armstrong, D Bonney, and G Thomas.

123.16 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

124.16 Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 August 2016

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

Resolved: Standing Orders were suspended.

125.16 Public Participation

Cllr Whittaker expressed his disagreement with Members of the Council attending an informal meeting with a developer at which information relating to a potential planning application was provided to Members. Cllr Whittaker requested his exit prior to the commencement of the informal meeting to be noted. The Chairman offered the opinion Parish Councillors are there to represent residents and members attending the meeting had acted in the best interests of the residents. A suggestion for an agenda item to discuss this matter was made.

The dumping of concrete by a resident of New Street in a parking bay on the Lord Street car park was reported. Chorley Council is to be contacted. It was also mentioned children were playing football in the car park area.

Resolved: Standing Orders were restored.

126.16 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

16/00774/FULHH Erection of a first floor side extension at 1 Westminster Place

16/00822/FULHH Erection of a detached garage at Red Barn, Red House Lane

Councillors had no comments relating to these applications.

127.16 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
£	461.44	Employee 2	Salary
£	505.20	Employee 3	Salary
£	246.53	HM Revenue & Customs	Tax/NI
£	24.23	Employee 2	Reimbursements
£	368.42	Employee 1	Reimbursements

£	35.00	Information Commissioner	Annual registration
£	360.00	BDO LLP	Audit fee
£	2553.77	Came and Co	Insurance premium
£	59.31	United Utilities	Surface water charge
£	65.00	Chorley Council	Business rates

128.16 Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2016

The completed annual return was presented to Councillors. The External Auditor had raised no issues relating to the Return

Resolved: the Annual Return, including the External Auditor's certificate was approved and accepted.

129.16 Personnel Committee

The setting up of a Personnel Committee was considered. The Committee will conduct interviews for the Lengthsman vacancy and appoint a replacement. Terms of reference for the committee were covered, including the number of members and its remit.

Resolved: the Personnel Committee will comprise of three Councillors and will deal with all matters relating to personnel. Councillors Frost, Mason and Miller were appointed.

130.16 Ironman UK

Chorley Council had requested comments relating to the Ironman UK event.

Information was provided on previous disruption caused within Heskin, including serious disruption for residents and loss of trade for commercial premises, which had lead to alterations to the course to avoid the village.

Councillors had no positive comments on the event. Comments were made relating to the restricted access for residents, the attitude of the Stewards and a suggestion for compensation for local businesses and farmers was raised.

131.16 Agenda Item - Matters Arising from the Minutes

A request to include an item 'Matters Arising from the Minutes' on future agendas was considered. Guidance from reference bodies regarding vague agenda items was presented.

Resolved: an item 'Matters Arising from the Minutes' will be included on future agendas. The item will cover matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting which are not otherwise covered on the agenda. No decisions may be made under this item.

132.16 Committee and Working Group Reports

Verbal reports from recent meetings were provided.

Village Activities Committee - the Fun Day was cancelled and arrangements for Lancashire Night and a live music event were confirmed.

Communications Working Group – an action plan was drawn up to look into improvements to the newsletter and website and social media.

133.16 Reports from Outside Bodies

The Friends of St Mary's had thanked the Council for the donation towards damage caused by flooding and had invited Councillors to an event to mark the completion of the works.

Police report - the latest crime figures were provided. The Neighbourhood Policing Team had asked to use the meeting room to hold a PACT meeting to discuss recent problems with gangs of young people.

134.16 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 13 October 2016.

135.16 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 item on the grounds that the item comprised information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person and, in accordance with Part 1 (3) of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, is 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.

136.16 Workplace Pension Scheme

The selection of a Workplace Pension Scheme was carried out.

Resolved: the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) Scheme was selected as the chosen Workplace Pension Scheme.

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