

## **ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the Meeting held on 14 January 2016 at 7.30 pm in The Changing Rooms, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

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

Also present 6 Members of the Public.

### 01.16 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor M Frost.

### 02.16 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

### 03.16 Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 December 2015

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

Resolved: Standing Orders were suspended.

### 04.16 Public Participation

The issue of potholes along Drapers Avenue was raised. The meeting was advised the issue had been reported to Lancashire County Council.

A resident suggested trees on Drapers Avenue should be pollarded.

Problems with bus services not keeping to scheduled times were reported.

Problems with flooding during the Christmas period were reported. An elderly resident of The Green had experienced problems with a drain to the front of their property. Enquiries are to be made to ascertain the responsibility for the problem drain and a drain running to the rear of properties on Drapers Avenue (odd no's). Increased visits by the gully cleansing unit and sweeper are to be requested. The lay by near Verdes was also mentioned.

Resolved: Standing Orders were restored.

Resolved: agenda item 9 was brought forward.

### 05.16 Trees on Drapers Avenue

A response from Lancashire County Council regarding the requested tree survey was considered. The response was not considered to be adequate.

Resolved: Lancashire County Council is to be requested to arrange an inspection by a Highways Officer and an Arboricultural Officer to provide a report on each individual tree as to its type and condition and to inspect the impact of root growth on adjacent pavements and road surfaces.

Resolved: an item forming part of agenda item 13 was brought forward.

### 06.16 Consultations

A consultation from Lancashire County Council regarding the Lancashire Parish Based Public Transport Scheme was considered.

Issues with existing with bus services failing to keep to scheduled times were raised.

Bus services will not be subsidised from April 2016 and the bus operators will decide which services to maintain. Chorley Council is trying to work with other borough councils and Lancashire County Council to provide some form of service. Concerns were raised regarding

the effects of the withdrawal of services on isolated rural residents and these concerns are to be passed on to Lancashire County Council.

Resolved: agenda item 11 was brought forward.

#### 07.16 Drainage Ditch adjoining the Recreation Ground

A Councillor had viewed a camera survey of the piped ditch from No 2 Drapers Avenue to a point roughly behind the Scout Hut. The landowner has agreed to clear the ditch running towards Bradley Lane once the weather improves.

Resolved: agenda item 10 was brought forward.

#### 08.16 Access from the Madison Chase development to the Recreation Ground

The Developer is unwilling to meet with members of the Council. A Councillor had contacted the developer separately and been advised they had no time for a meeting. It was reported different messages regarding health and safety were being given to purchasers of the properties.

The response from the Developer was felt to be totally inadequate, with the health and safety issues raised not genuine.

Resolved: The Developer is to be asked to attend the next Parish Council meeting.

#### 09.16 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

15/01205/FULHH Erection of single storey rear extension to existing garage at Horstone House, Parr Lane

15/01212/FULHH Erection of a two storey front extension at Radley House, 196 The Green

15/01217/FULHH Erection of two separate single storey rear extensions at The Willows, 73 Doctors Lane

15/01243/FULMAJ Section 73 application to vary conditions 1 (approved plans) and 3 (list of approved plans) attached to planning approval 15/00687/FULMAJ to change the approved house type on plot 27 at The Carrington Centre, New Mill Street

15/01245/FULHH Erection of a two storey side extension and a single storey rear extension including proposed alterations to the roof height at 31 Red House Lane

16/00007/OUT Outline application for the demolition of the existing buildings and the erection of up to two dwelling houses (all matters reserved) at Lydiate Farm, 12 Lydiate Lane

16/00024/FULHH Erection of a two storey rear extension including proposed alterations to the roof height at 163 The Green

Councillors had no comments relating to these applications.

15/01246/FUL Proposed erection of 7 no. residential dwellings and associated works at Land Adjacent to 75 Towngate. Chorley Council is to be asked to apply a condition requiring the reinstatement of the hedge adjoining the verge at the entry to The Hawthorns. Councillors requested clarification on trees which are proposed to be removed.

#### 10.16 Financial Matters

Councillors considered the monthly financial monitoring statement.

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

Donations to Eccleston Brass Band for playing at the Carol Singing and Eccleston St Mary's CE Primary School for the reservation of the Hall in case of bad weather were considered.

Resolved: donations of £200 to Eccleston Brass Band and £20 to St Mary's CE Primary School were approved.

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

£ 684.67	Employee 1	Salary
£ 471.07	Employee 2	Salary
£ 513.61	Employee 3	Salary
£ 249.36	HM Revenue & Customs	Tax/NI
£ 17.55	Employee 1	Reimbursements
£ 100.00	Eccleston Scout Group	Newsletter delivery
£ 50.00	Friends of St Mary's	Membership
£ 60.00	St Agnes Eccleston	Hire of building
£ 4800.00	J T and K J Waterworth	Annual mowing contract
£ 54.66	Norfolk China	Commemorative plate
£ 4.88	Royal Mail	Freepost delivery
£ 242.38	British Gas	Gas bill
£ 204.00	E.on	Electricity contract
£ 103.29	United Utilities	Metered water charge
£ 56.48	United Utilities	Surface water charge
£ 70.00	Chorley Council	Business rates

#### 11.16 2016 - 2017 Precept

The Precept for 2016-17 was considered. A draft budget was presented, which would result in no increase in the Parish Council portion of council tax to residents. A request was made to ring fence £250 of the Donations budget for Eccleston Library to enable the booking of visiting speakers.

Resolved: £250 is to be earmarked for Eccleston Library.

Resolved: the Precept for 2016 - 2017 was set at £41264, which will result in no increase in the cost of the Parish Council portion of council tax to residents.

#### 12.16 Commemorative Plate Purchase and Presentation

Councillors considered the purchase of additional commemorative plates for businesses not included within the original order. Additional businesses coming forward were D and W Motors and The Cottage Loaf. Attempts are to be made to indentify others meeting the criteria.

Resolved: further commemorative plates will be obtained for businesses identified as trading for a minimum of 20 years, in either sole or family ownership.

Arrangements for the presentation of the plates was considered. Options of presenting plates, which have already been received, to the five businesses or waiting until additional businesses had been identified were discussed.

Resolved: a presentation event is to be arranged at Verdes on 13 February 2016, with invitations to be sent to R Bamford Guns, Roy Christopher and Sons, Lisa Jackson (Eccleston Post Office, J & A Rigbye & Sons and Gabriel Valenzuela (Verdes Restaurant).

#### 13.16 Public Right of Way FP12

A timescale for works to the path had been requested from Lancashire County Council Countryside Services but had not been provided. Countryside Services are to be contacted again and advised the issue was raised by residents and the Parish Council needs to advise the residents of a timescale. The path is also to be added to the Chorley Council Neighbourhood Projects.

#### 14.16 Consultations

A consultation from Lancashire County Council on its proposed budget options was considered.

Information containing details of the proposed reductions in budgets was tabled at the meeting. School and public transport will be affected, libraries closed and the Countryside Services department will cease to exist by March 2018.

Resolved: a response is to be submitted Lancashire County Council advising that the Parish Council acknowledges the situation regarding budgetary constraints but would request serious consideration to be given to the adverse effects resulting from any reduction of services within the village of Eccleston, namely the Library, Young People's Centre, bus services and highway maintenance.

A motion to contact the MP expressing the Parish Council's concerns that the severe reduction in funding could have serious effects on the services provided within the village of Eccleston, eg the Library, Young People's Centre, bus services and highway maintenance was tabled at the meeting. The MP is to be advised of the Council's concerns.

#### 15.16 Reports from Outside Bodies

Police report - the latest crime figures were provided.

#### 16.16 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 11 February 2016.

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

Eccleston Parish Council

Budgets 1 April 2016 - 31 March 2017

Salaries	22500
General office expenses	600
Staff Costs	300
Training	300
Changing Rooms	5500
Subscriptions/entries	600
Repairs and replacements	1500
Annual audit	400
Grounds maintenance	6000
Millennium Green	6000
Newsletter	1000
Donations	1500
Flowers/planting	750
Christmas celebrations	600
Litter bins	1000
Play equipment	5000
Speed Indicator Device	250
Insurance	3000
Village activities	2000
Sundries	1250
Community Infrastructure Levy	1115
Earmarked Reserves	5500
General Reserve	6630
	<u>73295</u>
Estimated Balance as at 14.01.16	28400
Add: Anticipated income to 31.03.16	9325
	37725
Less: Anticipated requirements to 31.03.16	8230
Balance forward	29495
Add: Proposed precept	42164
Add: Proposed top up grant	1636
	<u>73295</u>