

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 8 August 2024 at 7.30 pm in The Community Hub, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

Present: Councillors M Miller (Chairman), R Bland, M Brown, C Heath, A Marsh, A Whittaker and O Williams.

Also present: Borough Councillor Singh and 3 Members of the Public.

84.24 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs S Bland, D Bonney, D Graham, D Miller and H Thomas.

85.24 Declarations of Interests

None declared.

86.24 Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 July 2024

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

87.24 Public Participation

The bus stop sign and post on Towngate, opposite the Tincklers Lane junction is missing. This has previously been reported to Lancashire County Council.

A resident had reported five Chorley Council refuse collection vehicles parked along New Mill Street on the day of the meeting, causing problems for drivers accessing the properties and exiting the Carrington Centre car park. This is to be reported to Chorley Council.

A resident queried a previous suggestion for a defibrillator for the Carrington Centre. The Managing Agents are to be reminded of the enquiry..

88.24 Planning Matters

24/00563/FULHH Detached garage and conversion of existing integral garage to habitable accommodation at 6 Lawrence Close

There were no objections to this application.

89.24 Financial Matters.

i) The financial monitoring statement was considered.

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

ii) Resolved: the following payments were approved:

£ 108.91	Everflow	Water/wastewater (Changing Rooms)
£ 44.71	British Gas	Gas (Changing Rooms)
£ 30.36	Easy Websites	Website
£ 80.96	Waterplus	Water/wastewater (Hub)
£ 97.70	British Gas	(Electricity (Changing Rooms)
£ 560.34	Lancashire County Council	Cleaning (Hub) April, May, June
£ 300.00	JT & KJ Waterworth	Shrub cutting - Hawthorns Play Area
£ 2750.17	Staff costs	Salaries, deductions and reimbursements
£ 30.36	Vodafone	Broadband (Hub)
£ 77.29	British Gas	Gas (Hub)
£ 19.00	Chorley Council	Business rates (Changing Rooms)
£ 69.10	British Gas	Gas (Hub)

90.24 Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were reviewed. National Association of Local Councils Model documents had been provided in advance of the meeting.

Resolved: with the removal of non - applicable items, the NALC model standing orders were adopted.

Resolved: with amendments, the NALC model financial regulations were adopted.

91.24 Committee Report

A verbal report from a meeting of the Open Spaces Committee was provided. Following the works carried out on The Hawthorns Play Area, a recommendation to adopt Chorley Council's Hedge and Shrub maintenance policy is to be put to the Parish Council. The specification for the grass cutting contract was reviewed and several queries were raised. Once these are answered, the specification will be confirmed at a future meeting of the committee.

92.24 Clerk's Report

No report.

93.24 Reports from Outside Bodies

Chorley Liaison - Chorley Council Officers provided details of improvements to Chorley Bus Station and Home Energy Support.

94.24 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 12 September 2024.

95.24 Exclusion of Press and Public

Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the exclusion of members of the press and public for the following item was considered on the grounds that the item comprises information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) 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 item.

96.24 Will Trust

The management company administering the will trust had enquired as to whether the remaining investments should be liquidated and the funds transferred to the Parish Council.

Resolved: the Clerk is to instruct the Management Company to liquidate the remaining investments.

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