

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Council Meeting held 13 February 2020 at 7.30 pm in The Community Hub, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

Present Councillors H Thomas (Chairman), D Bonney, R Burns, V Counce, C Heath, D Miller, M Miller and A Whittaker.

Also present 6 Members of the Public

18.20 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors K Brown and M Brown.

19.20 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

20.20 Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 January 2020

Resolved: the minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2020 (as circulated) were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

21.20 Matters Arising

168.19 Verge by Verdes - Chorley Council had advised the installation work was scheduled to be completed in February but had since mentioned this was delayed as the seats had not been delivered.

Resolved: Standing Orders were suspended.

22.20 Public Participation

Bulbs have been planted on the Village Green. Dog fouling signs have been erected on the path from Larkfield to Bannister Lane and Bradley Lane.

A resident mentioned the large amount of land designated for housing put forward in the Local Plan. The process of the site submissions was explained by Councillors and the meeting was advised of the sites which were likely to be taken forward.

Resolved: Standing Orders were restored.

23.20 Planning Matters

19/01200/FUL Section 73 application for the variation of conditions 3 (approved drawings), 5 (landscaping scheme), 11 (sample materials), 13 (dwelling emission rates), 18 (biodiversity enhancements), 20 (temporary fencing) and 23 (street management and maintenance) and to remove condition 24 (phasing plan) attached to planning permission ref. 16/00667/FUL at Land to the South West of Ricmarlo, Preston Nook

20/00044/TPO Application for works to a protected tree - Chorley BC TPO 1 (Ecclestone) 2013 T1 Oak - Prune branches overhanging shops by a maximum of 3 metres at The Carrington Centre, New Mill Street

LCC/2020/0010 Construction of a 2 metre wide tarmac path and timber footbridge providing new rear access to school at Ecclestone Primary School, Doctors Lane. An informal survey of parents had been carried out and the consensus was the path would not be used. It was pointed out the Governors were keen to alleviate the congestion in the area and encourage walking to the school. Based on planning grounds, there were no reasons for an objection.

There were no objections to these applications.

24.20 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, the invoices having been inspected in accordance with fidelity guarantee requirements.

£ 215.89	Total Gas and Power	Electricity (Hub)
£ 250.01	Total Gas and Power	Electricity (Changing Rooms)
£ 3000.00	H Grainger Landscapes	Millennium Green works
£ 380.40	Earth Anchors	Seat
£ 45.00	DWG (NW)	Seat installation
£ 4440.00	JT & KJ Waterworth	Grass cutting contract
£ 480.00	G Schofield Associates	Hub report
£ 252.00	Croston Plumbing and Heating	Heating system repair (Changing Rooms)
£ 727.59	Employee 1	Salary
£ 899.70	Employee 3	Salary and reimbursements
£ 55.00	HM Revenue & Customs	Tax/NI
£ 23.00	Vodafone	Broadband (Hub)
£ 66.00	Chorley Council	Business rates
£ 239.48	Total Gas and Power	Gas (Hub)

25.20 Grass Verges on Gillcroft

A resident had complained regarding the poor condition of the verges which are badly rutted. Vehicles, especially refuse wagons, cannot navigate the tight bends without using the verges and parents dropping off children at the school also park on the verges. It was mentioned an increase in the number of cars had resulted in a lack of available parking and a suggestion for the verges to be tarmaced over was put forward.

Lancashire County Council had advised the footways on Gillcroft have been put forward for a potential scheme in 2021/22 and details of these proposals are to be requested. Photos of the damage are to be sent to the Highways Officer.

26.20 Langton Close Play Area

The long standing issue regarding the proposed adoption of the play area was discussed. Neighbouring residents had advised of problems caused by tree roots from the play area and a Councillor questioned whether the Parish Council should be taking on this liability.

Resolved: a letter is to be sent to the developer advising that, if the issue is not resolved within two months the Parish Council will not take up the adoption.

27.20 Community Hub Report

The Hub Committee had discussed a report on the premises which had been carried out. Options of repair, replacement or relocation of the building had been discussed together with alternative methods of construction and materials. Village Halls in the vicinity are to be visited and information on construction options and costs and running costs is to be obtained.

28.20 Hawthorns Open Space/Play Area

A recommendation from the Open Spaces Committee for replacement of the play equipment, safety surfacing and works to the planted areas was considered. From 3 alternative contractor's proposals a quotation from Wicksteed Leisure had been selected by the Committee. The selection was subject to confirmation of the availability of s106 funds from Chorley Council to cover the entire cost of the project.

Resolved: the recommendation was approved, subject to confirmation of the funding from Chorley Council.

29.20 Village Activities Committee Terms of Reference

A request to extend the Terms of Reference of the Village Activities Committee. beyond simply arranging events was considered. This was intended to enable the Committee to encourage initiatives such as local Neighbourhood Watch schemes.

Resolved: the remit of the Committee was extended to cover the instigation of other projects for the benefit of the village.

30.20 Chorley Council 2020-21 Budget Consultation

Details contained with the consultation were noted.

31.20 Reports from Outside Bodies

The Planning in Practice workshop arranged by Chorley Council covered development in the Green belt.

Attendees at recent Councillor training session provided positive reports. Suggestions for further training to include a session on precept and finance was made.

The Community Cars Scheme is still in need of volunteer drivers. An article is to be included in the next newsletter.

32.20 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 12 March 2020.

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