

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 11 January 2024 at 7.30 pm in The Community Hub, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

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

Also present: 4 Members of the Public.

01.24 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs D Bonney and H Thomas.

02.24 Declarations of Interests

None declared.

03.24 Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 December 2023

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

04.24 Public Participation

The restriction on the number of visitors allowed in the Library was, again, mentioned. A suggestion for the provision of an additional door to satisfy fire regulations has been put to Lancashire County Council.

The condition of the path around the Recreation Fields was mentioned. The meeting was advised this would be addressed once work on the play area had been completed.

Information was provided on a recent decision by the Secretary of State for applicants submitting major planning applications to have the choice of the application to be determined by either Chorley Council's Planning Committee or the Planning Inspectorate.

05.24 Planning Matters

23/01100/CLPUD Application for a certificate of lawfulness for a proposed single storey rear extension at 48 New Street

23/01107/FULHH Front porch and new vehicle access at 48 New Street

23/01116/FULHH Single storey side/rear extension, extension to front porch, and associated elevational alterations including rooflights to existing roof and replacement windows and doors (following demolition of existing conservatory) at 71 Beechfields

There were no objections to these applications.

06.24 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:

£ 736.43	Opus Energy	Gas (Hub)
£ 28.85	Vodafone	Broadband (Hub) - September
£ 583.20	Argus Fire and Security	Annual maintenance contracts
£ 472.96	Wernick Hire	Hire - temporary changing rooms
£ 516.00	J H Mayor and Sons	Christmas tree
£ 85543.59	Kompan	Play equipment
£ 16560.00	Stringfellow Building Contractors	Changing Rooms repairs
£ 3443.97	Staff costs	Salaries, deductions and reimbursements
£ 18.00	Chorley Council	Business rates (Changing Rooms)
£ 97.02	British Gas	Electricity (Hub)

07.24 2024-25 Precept

The Precept for 2023-24 was considered. A draft budget, requiring a 5% increase in council tax, was presented.

Resolved: the Precept for 2024 - 2025 was set at £50304, representing an increase of 5% to council taxpayers.

08.24 Lancashire Devolution

Further information regarding the consultation on the proposed Lancashire Combined Authority was provided. This included details of a proposed response to the consultation which will be considered at a Chorley Council Extraordinary Meeting. Concerns were raised regarding the shortness of the consultation period.

Resolved: support for the proposed response by Chorley Council is to be submitted to Lancashire County Council.

09.24 Chorley Liaison Meeting

Suggestions for agenda items for the next Liaison Meeting had been invited. There were no suggestions.

10.24 Clerk's Report

Changing Rooms - repair work has been completed. Removal of the temporary buildings has been requested.

Recreation Park Play Area - work is proceeding and confirmation of the completion date is awaited.

Request for parking restrictions at the Carrington Centre - Lancashire County Council Highways Officers had advised "Highway parking restrictions are provided at locations where parking related road safety concerns have been identified. New Mill Street has a good safety record with no recorded collisions within the last 5 years."

Speed Indicators - the Highways Officer has provided an alternative site on Towngate and Highways Engineers are to survey the proposed location in advance of installation of the mounting post. Chorley Council's Planning Department has been asked for information regarding outstanding applications in the vicinity of the Langton Brow site.

Will Trust - The Trust Management Company has confirmed receipt of the signed payment authority and tax details from the Parish Council and is waiting for confirmation of a valuation of the estate of the Deceased Life Tenant.

11.24 Reports from Outside Bodies

No reports.

12.24 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 8 February 2024.

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

Eccleston Parish Council

Budget 1 April 2024 - 31 March 2025

Budgets:

Salaries	33000
General office expenses	800
Staff Costs	500
Community Hub	6000
Changing Rooms	8500
Repairs and replacements	1000
Grounds maintenance	7500
Open Spaces	10000
Newsletter	1800
Donations	1500
Subscriptions/entries	700
Training	200
Christmas celebrations	800
Village activities	1000
Communications	500
Audit	500
Insurance	4500
Sundries	1000
CIL (balance of budget)	12000
General Reserve	500
Earmarked Reserves	<u>1600</u>
Budget totals	<u><u>93900</u></u>

Financed by:

Estimated balance as at 01.04.2024	10550
CIL due April 2024	31410
Proposed precept	50304
Top up grant	<u>1636</u>
	<u><u>93900</u></u>