

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Council Meeting held 12 March 2020 at 7.30 pm in The Community Hub, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

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

Also present 9 Members of the Public

33.20 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr V Counce.

34.20 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

35.20 Councillor Vacancies

The method of voting on the co-option was considered.

Resolved: it was agreed voting should take place by paper ballot.

Three applications for co-option were considered.

Resolved: Mr Mark Frost was co-opted.

35.20 Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 February 2020

Resolved: the minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2020 (as circulated) were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

36.20 Matters Arising

25.20 Gillcroft verges - Lancashire County Council had advised the position on tarmacking grass verges has not changed as the highway authority does not recommend the removal of grass verges for parking.

26.20 Langton Close play area - letter sent to developer advising the Council may reconsider the adoption if it is not finalised within the next two months.

Verge by Verdes - Chorley Council had intended the installation work of the planters, seats and notice board to be completed in February but had since advised this had been delayed as the seats had not been delivered. The work is scheduled to start shortly.

Resolved: Standing Orders were suspended.

37.20 Public Participation

A resident queried whether Verdes has been asked to tidy up the area over the fence.

A car left on the car park for a substantial length of time has suffered damage.

Resolved: Standing Orders were restored.

38.20 Planning Matters

20/00085/FULHH Two storey side extension and detached garage at 15 Balmoral Road

20/00115/MNMA Minor non-material amendment to planning permission 19/00538/FULHH (Part two storey, part single storey rear extension) involving addition of render to the approved extension, existing rear elevation, and (West) side wall of existing dwellinghouse at 73 Southport Road

20/00117/FULHH Front dormer at The Old Post Office, 106 Towngate

20/00229/FUL Erection of replacement dwelling and detached garage following demolition of existing dwelling and garage at Hope Cottage, Tincklers Lane

There were no objections to these applications.

39.20 Financial Matters

i) The financial monitoring statement was considered.

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

ii) A grant application from Eccleston Scout Group, towards the cost of replacement fire doors was considered.

Resolved: a grant of £250 was awarded.

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

£ 729.53	Total Gas and Power	Gas (Hub)
£ 3.63	E.ON	Christmas lights electricity
£ 112.00	Euxton Parish Council	Councillor training
£ 1.20	Northern Trust	Lease (Junior pitch)
£ 1253.03	Employee 1	Salary and reimbursements
£ 833.42	Employee 3	Salary and reimbursements
£ 37.29	HM Revenue and Customs	Tax/NI
£ 330.00	Rufford Print	Newsletter Printing
£ 71.78	Total Gas and Power	Gas (Changing Rooms)
£ 23.00	Vodafone	Broadband (Hub)
£ 66.00	Chorley Council	Business rates
£ 134.22	Total Gas and Power	Gas (Hub)

40.20 Risk Assessment

Councillors completed the annual review in accordance with guidance provided within Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England. The procedures and controls were found to be adequate.

Resolved: the adequacy of the controls was noted.

41.20 Community Hub Report

The Hub Committee Chairman had visited several village halls and a layout plan for a hall in Grimsargh was provided. The building is currently well used and an AGM has been set for April.

42.20 Committee Reports

The Activities Committee is looking into facilitating Neighbourhood Watch Schemes for the village. Members are working with Heskin Parish Council and Heskin Hall on a VE Day celebration event.

The Open Spaces Committee has been working on ideas to alleviate dog fouling and bag dispensers are to be produced. A flagpole is to be placed in the circular bed on the Village Green with the existing Best Kept Village plaque being moved to the stone behind.

43.20 Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition

Entry into the 2020 competition was considered. It was suggested entry should be put off until 2021 to allow various works around the village to be completed.

44.20 Reports from Outside Bodies

The crime figures for February were provided, which included 4 reported crimes.

45.20 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 9 April 2020.

46.20 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 comprises 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 item.

47.20 Personnel Matters

The Chairman of the Personnel Committee provided a verbal report on interviews conducted for the Caretaker position and provided a recommendation for the employment of one of the interviewees.

Resolved: the recommendation of the Personnel Committee was approved.

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