

## ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of the Annual Council Meeting held 11 May 2023 at 7.30 pm in The Community Hub, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

Present: Councillors M Miller (Chairman), D Bonney, R Bland, K Brown, M Brown, D Graham, D Miller, H Thomas and A Whittaker.

Also present: Borough Councillor Singh and 9 Members of the Public

### 51.23 Election of Chairman

Resolved: Cllr M Miller was elected as Chairman for 2023-24. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was received.

### 52.23 Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr Thomas was elected as Vice Chairman for 2023/24.

### 53.23 Delivery of Acceptances of Office

Councillors Declarations of Acceptance of Office were received.

### 54.23 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Heath.

### 55.23 Declarations of Interests

None declared.

### 55.23 Councillors Vacancies

Applications for co-option were considered.

Resolved: Mrs R Bland and Mr O Williams were co-opted.

### 56.23 Other Appointments

i) Committee appointments were as follows:

Open Spaces Committee - Councillors Bonney, Heath, D Miller, M Miller and Thomas.

Village Activities Committee - Councillors M Brown, K Brown, Graham, Heath, D Miller, M Miller and Thomas.

Personnel Committee - Councillors Bonney, Graham, Heath and D Miller.

ii) Appointments to Outside Bodies were as follows:

Chorley Liaison - Cllr Whittaker

Lancashire Association of Local Councils Chorley Area Committee - Cllr M Miller

Western Parishes Neighbourhood Area Meeting - Cllr M Miller

iii) Lead Member for Planning - Cllr M Miller.

### 57.23 Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 April 2023

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

## 58.23 Public Participation

A representative from Eccleston and Heskin FC raised concerns regarding the lack of progress in bringing the changing rooms back into use. The Club is hiring portable toilet facilities to enable juniors to play and is having to hire pitches outside the area to allow senior teams to fulfil fixtures. The insurance company is to be asked whether the hiring of portable changing rooms could be provided under the policy and the Club will obtain costings for these.

Representatives from the Ulnes Walton Action Group provided information regarding the Public Inquiry into the appeal against the refusal of the planning application for the new prison at the Wymott/Garth site. The Inquiry will consider only evidence relating highway safety and capacity issues. The Group has asked local parish councils, and both Chorley and South Ribble Borough Councils, for financial support to cover the costs of appointing a Transport Consultant to present evidence at the Inquiry on 19 September 2023. The Group also requested a representative of the Parish Council speak at the Inquiry.

A resident reported vegetation being placed behind a fence on the Millennium Green. The vegetation may have been placed by another property bordering the site. The Open Spaces Committee will take this up.

A representative of the Recreation Parks Group advised the Street Party in the Park was very successful, raising £1500 towards the project, and thanked the Councillors who assisted on the day. The representative was thanked for her efforts, as were the WI.

## 59.23 Planning Matters

23/00240/DIS Application to discharge condition no.20 (broadband strategy) attached to outline planning permission ref: 20/01193/OUTMAJ (Up to 34 dwellings and associated infrastructure) Appeal ref: APP/D2320/W/21/3284702) at Land South of Parr Lane

23/00371/CLEUD Application for a certificate of lawfulness for an existing rear dormer at 2 Middlewood Close

There were no objections to these applications.

## 60.23 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:

£ 1518.33	SSE	Electricity (Changing Rooms)
£ 262.51	Opus Energy	Gas (Hub)
£ 100.00	T' on The Green	Catering deposit
£ 1.20	Metacre	Lease (Junior pitch)
£ 36.00	CPRE	Annual subscription
£ 110.00	Internal auditor	Internal audit fee
£ 4800.00	JT & KJ Waterworth	Grass cutting 2022-23
£ 618.70	LALC	Annual subscription
£ 2317.21	Staff costs	Salaries, deductions and reimbursements
£ 810.00	Employee 1	Reimbursement – Coronation gifts
£ 28.85	Vodafone	Broadband (Hub)
£ 18.00	Chorley Council	Business rates (Changing Rooms)
£ 1239.57	Public Works Loans Board	Loan repayment
£ 195.74	British Gas	Electricity (Hub)

## 61.23 Asset Register

Councillors completed the annual review of the asset register.

Resolved: the Asset Register was approved and signed by the Chairman.

#### 62.23 Recreation Park

Councillors considered the replacement of play equipment for the Recreation Park play area, as recommended by the Open Spaces Committee.

Resolved: the replacement play equipment was approved.

#### 63.23 Committee Report

The revised plan for the replacement play area was agreed for recommendation to the Council.

Works to the Millennium Green pond area have been ordered and the path around the Recreation Ground is to be topped up. All other projects were put on hold until later in the financial year.

A request for a tree on the Millennium Green to be cut as it was interfering with a satellite reception was queried. In accordance with the Council's Tree Policy, the tree is not to be cut.

A request for bins on paths between Reeveswood and Beechfields and at the entrances to Church Walks was, again, raised. Chorley Council had advised bins would not be provided.

#### 64.23 Clerk's Report

A meeting with representatives of The Rainbow Hub regarding possible use of the Community Hub for a temporary period had taken place. As the organisation requires a dedicated space to leave out equipment those attending agreed it would not be possible to accommodate their requirements without displacing all other user groups.

Hub entrance door - proposals for repairs from contractors are awaited.

Changing Rooms - discussions are ongoing with the insurer's representatives and a meeting with the broker has been arranged.

#### 65.23 Reports from Outside Bodies

No reports.

#### 66.23 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 8 June 2023.

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