

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 14 November 2024 at 7.30 pm in The Community Hub, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

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

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

121.24 Apologies for absence
Apologies were received from Cllr H Thomas.

122.24 Declarations of Interests
None declared.

123.24 Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 October 2024
Resolved: the minutes of the meeting (as circulated) were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

124.24 Public Participation
A resident advised Lancashire County Council had inspected a tree on Drapers Avenue, which was raised at the last meeting, and found no work is needed. The tree will be monitored.
Thanks were offered to the Councillors responsible for this year's display of Poppies.
A young resident asked for an environmental poster to be displayed in the notice boards.

125.24 Planning Matters
24/00862/FULHH Extension to existing detached garage at Oak House, Parr Lane
24/00863/FULHH Erection of detached double garage at Wood End Byre, Parr Lane
24/00864/FUL Erection of garage to serve Woodend Barn (Plot 3) and Orchard View (Plot 7) at Hodge Brook House, Parr Lane
24/00887/CLPUD Application for a certificate of lawfulness for two proposed single storey side extensions, proposed two storey rear extension and two proposed outbuilding at 14 Southport Road
24/00895/PDE Notification of a proposed single storey rear extension measuring 8m in depth, with eaves height of 2.5m, and a maximum height of 2.8m at 14 Southport Road
24/00903/FULHH Proposed single storey side/rear extension, front porch, and elevational alterations (following demolition of existing conservatory to rear) at
24/00928/FULHH First floor side/rear extension, single storey side/rear extension (following demolition of existing conservatory) at 11 Parr Lane
24/00939/AGR Agricultural determination for the locating of a rainwater storage tank at Land 400m NW of Roselands Tincklers Lane

There were no objections to these applications.

126.24 Financial Matters.

i) The financial monitoring statement was considered.

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

ii) The amount of the donation to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal was considered.

Resolved: a donation of £400 was agreed.

iii) Resolved: the following payments were approved:

£ 59.32	Everflow	Water/wastewater (Changing Rooms)
£ 53.17	British Gas	Electricity (Changing Rooms)
£ 7.09	British Gas	Gas (Changing Rooms)
£ 405.99	SSE	Electricity (Changing Rooms)
£ 80.96	Waterplus	Water/wastewater (Hub)
£ 30.36	Easy Websites	Website
£ 30.36	Vodafone	Broadband (Hub)
£ 350.00	St Agnes Church	Grant
£ 1387.20	Lancashire County Council	Speed indicator installations
£ 560.34	Lancashire County Council	Cleaning (Hub) Oct, Nov, Dec
£ 370.00	Rufford Printing Co	Newsletter printing
£ 542.75	A J Gallagher	Additional insurance premium
£ 2754.77	Staff costs	Salaries, deductions and reimbursements
£ 19.00	Chorley Council	Business rates (Changing Rooms)
£ 152.76	British Gas	Gas (Hub)
£ 95.50	Everflow	Water/wastewater (Changing Rooms)
£ 1239.57	Public Works Loans Board	Loan repayment Rooms)
£ 82.26	British Gas	Electricity (Hub)
£ 108.33	British Gas	Electricity (Changing Rooms)
£ 73.97	British Gas	Gas (Changing Rooms)

127.24 Eccleston Primary School

The request for assistance with the clearance of a pipe inlet located just beyond the boundary fence, which is obstructed by silt, leaves, and other debris. During heavy rainfall, a ditch overflows onto School property. Evidence was provided the ditch to the rear of properties on Newlands and The Green was outside the boundary of the Millennium Green however there was some confusion as to whether this was the ditch being referred to. It was agreed a meeting should be arranged with representatives from United Utilities, Lancashire County Council, the School, Parish Council and any homeowners who may be responsible for the ditch.

128.24 Bank Account Signatories

The appointment of additional signatories for the bank accounts was considered.

Resolved: Councillors R Bland and C Heath were appointed.

129.24 Chorley Council Draft Housing Strategy 2025-30

A Chorley Council consultation regarding the Draft Housing Strategy was considered. It was noted the Affordable Housing provision appears to contain no reference for disabled residents.

130.24 Use of Changing Rooms Showers

A request from the Bike the UK for MS Charity for use of the Changing Rooms showers on 10 July 2025 was considered.

Resolved: permission was granted.

131.24 Investment Accounts

Accounts for the investment of funds held by the Council were discussed. Details of rates available from the current bankers were provided. Alternative rates are to be obtained for the next meeting.

132.24 2025-26 Precept

Councillors were invited to provide suggestions for major items of expenditure for inclusion in the draft budgets. It was noted recent amendments to employer National Insurance Contributions are likely to add around £2000 to staff costs for 2025-26.

Suggestions put forward included drainage and a path to Ecclestone Primary School on the Millennium Green.

133.24 Clerk's Report

Speed Indicators - the devices have been installed. It was mentioned the devices are solar powered and will not operate to maximum efficiency during times of restricted daylight.

134.24 Reports from Outside Bodies

Lancashire Association of Local Councils Chorley Area Committee - the new Geographical Police Inspector for Chorley and South Ribble provided information on Police initiatives. A presentation was carried out regarding the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition which advised specific areas of a village will be able to enter rather than a whole village. An update and round up of LALC activities was also provided.

Members of the Council had attended the Remembrance Parade.

Chorley Liaison - Lancashire County Council Officers provided details of availability of High School places and information was provided on sports and leisure facilities with the borough.

135.24 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 12 December 2024.

136.24 Exclusion of the 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.

137.24 Personnel Matters

Staff salaries for the next financial year were reviewed.

138.24 Will Trust

Use of the funds will be considered at a future meeting.

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