

Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council, held on Tuesday, 15th July 2014, at the Eccleston Village Hall, Kiln Lane

Present: Councillor R. Barton (Chairman)
 “ Mrs. K. S. Barton (Deputy Chairman)
 “ Mrs. N. J. Ashcroft
 “ W. Ashcroft
 “ Mrs. A. Bate
 “ Mrs. M. McNulty
 “ K. D. Roughley
 “ Mrs. E. Uren

Also in Attendance: Mrs. J. Anderson (Clerk to Eccleston Parish Council) and Mr. P. Taylor, L. J. Kilshaw (Clerk to the Parish Council)

47. Prayers: The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayers for the work of the Council. Philip Taylor had been recommended by Philip Fairclough, the recently retired Internal Auditor to the Parish Council, as his successor and Janet Anderson had expressed an interest in taking over as the Windle Parish Clerk when Len Kilshaw retires later this year. Eccleston Parish Council had agreed that it would be in order for her to be employed by both Parish Councils. They were introduced to the Council and some informal discussion regarding their background and work experience followed.

48. Apologies; had been received from Cllr. S. A. Bligh due to a family bereavement.

49. Declarations of Interest; Declarations were made by Councillors N.J. and W. Ashcroft and K.D.Roughley concerning their connections with St Andrew’s Scout Group- see min. 33b ante and min 52b below.

50. Parish Matters ; a) Cllr. Mrs. A. Bate reported that the long awaited road and pavement resurfacing repairs had been carried out in Lawrence Road etc.

b) Cllr. W. Ashcroft informed the Council of the recent funeral of Mrs. Christine Hardman, a resident of Calderhurst Drive and a regular winning entrant in the Garden Competition together with her husband Neville.

c) Cllr. Mrs. Edna Uren informed that the resident of 21 Hamilton Road seemed to be having difficulty as the house and garden were unkempt and showing signs of disrepair. It may be possible to request St Helens Council to investigate and help under the terms of a special order.

d) Cllr. Ken Roughley advised that the newspaper shop in Coronation Road was now selling alcohol and staying open later.

51. Minutes : The Council received the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 17th of June 2014.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 17th June 2014 be accepted and signed by the Chairman, as a true and correct record.

52. Matters Arising : (a) Ref. min33a- Cllr. Marie McNulty said that Starbucks had refuted the events described in the local press concerning noise disturbance on their car park, but she believed the residents who had contacted her with the original complaints.

(b) Min 33b ; The District Commissioner of the Scouts had asked about a complaint that had been received by the St Helens Council saying that the boundary fence had been extended. Cllr. Roughley , en route to this meeting, had called in at Dartmouth

Drive and measured the fence , which he informed was the one that the St Helens Council had put up, and it had not been increased in length.

53. Planning Matters : There were no new applications to be considered, and one decision to be noted.i.e P2014/0491- 26 Lynton Way s.stry.rear extn-permission granted. Noted

54. Other Correspondence: (a) The Clerk reported on an email received from Mrs. K.Adamson , a resident of 5 Regal Drive , raising safety concerns about some tall trees on the brook that runs behind Regal Drive. He had visited the address and advised her that if the trees were in her garden, it would most likely prove to be her responsibility to have them reduced. However if they were actually on the bank of the brook, it may well be the responsibility of the water board i.e. United Utilities at Warrington. As it was not possible to discern the exact position of the trees the matter had been passed onto the Windle Ward Councillors with a request for help in the matter- a reply had been received informing that Cllr. S. Robinson had passed on the details to St Helens Council and would inform of any progress made.

55. Garden Competition 2014 – Cllr. Marie McNulty confirmed arrangements for the judging would carried out tomorrow.

56. Ecclesfield Sports Facility; Nil report.

57. NALC/LALC//MAPTC/SLCC- Nil report

58. Lynton Way Play Area- Report ; On 3/7/14, a meeting had taken place in Wesley House with Paul Sanderson (Director of the Environment) and Mick. Gornall, Head of St Helens Security Services and representing the Parish Council – the Chairman Cllr. Richard Barton , Deputy Chairman Cllr. Mrs. Sheila Barton, Cllr. Mrs. Nancy Ashcroft and the Parish Clerk, Len Kilshaw. Windle Ward Councillors had also been invited but were unable to be present, and also Cllr. W. Ashcroft had hoped to be there, but found that he already had to attend a meeting on the same morning. This meeting was to attempt to alleviate the heavy financial cost to the Parish Council (£ 2593.50 + £518.70 vat) for the opening and closing of the Play Area.

After a full and frank discussion and exchange of views, it was agreed that the Parish Council might consider a reduction in the usage of the Security Force in opening and closing i.e. the gates be left unlocked in the winter months etc and should the usage be reduced by 50% = £ 1297 on 2013/14 figure of £ 2593.50 Mr. Sanderson would consider a further reduction to £1000+ approx. The Security Force would still respond to emergency requests that might have to be made. These suggestions would be put before the full Parish Council for consideration.This matter was discussed and it was Resolved that the matter be considered further at the September meeting.

59.J.Malone Garden ; The Chairman had managed to obtain quotes for garden maintenance on a regular basis.. After consideration and discussion it was Resolved that the local firm of “Four Seasons Gardening & Landscaping” be employed, on a trial basis from now until the end of October 2014, to carry out fortnightly maintenance on the garden at a cost of £30.00 per visit of 2 hours duration. The Clerk was to write to confirm this, and to indicate that the matter would be reviewed at the end of this period.

60.Parish Newsletter: Cllr. Steve Bligh had done very well to produce the latest issue ,which had now been distributed

However two advertisements had not been printed.

Resolved (a) that the two advertisers should not be charged for their adverts. in the December issue by way of compensation.

(b) that Cllr. Bligh be thanked for his sterling efforts,

and he be paid his claim for £30 for his initial expense involved.

61. Bleak Hill CP School Awards; These had been presented to the pupils on Wednesday 9th July, by the Chairman Cllr. Richard Barton. As usual this had been an enjoyable occasion for all the children, teachers, parents and those members of the Parish Council attending.

Christmas Tree Lighting; The Clerk had now agreed the date with the School for this, i.e.; Friday 5th December 2014, and an invitation had been sent to the Mayor Cllr. Geoff Pearl and to the Mayoress, Mrs. Carol Pearl, for them to attend.

Pre-Christmas Reception; Resolved that this would again be held after the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 16th December 2014.

62. Reports from Other Bodies- No reports made or received.

63. Finance; (a) Balances The Clerk advised that the balances at the 4th July 2014 were Current A/c = £10,321. 67 and the Business Reserve A/c £6038.04

(b) Payment of Accounts : Resolved : that payment be made of the following

		£
NatWest Bank	(Dir.Dr.) Vchr. Statement Fees	3.25
S.A. Bligh	Initial expenses/ Newsletter preparation	30.00
B. Walsh	Website	35.00
Eccleston P.C.	Room Hire 15/07/14	21.00
Post Office	BT TEL A/C –dedicated line inc.B/Band	130.76
Bleak Hill CP School	Photo-copying services Apr-Jly.	16.32
Ecclesfield Project Rev. A/C	3 rd 1/4rtly. Payment	356.53
L. J. Kilshaw	3 months expenses, postage & stationery	19.86

64. Date of Next Meeting; This was scheduled for Tuesday 16th September 2014, to be preceded by the presentation of the Garden Competition Awards at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) _____ (Date)