

# **WINDLE PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on  
Tuesday, 15 November 2005 at Eccleston Village Hall

**PRESENT:** Councillor K D Roughley (Chairman)  
Councillor Mrs K S Barton (Deputy Chairman)  
Councillor Mrs N J Ashcroft  
Councillor W Ashcroft  
Councillor R W Barton  
Councillor Mrs M P Fraser  
Councillor A F Rigby  
Councillor Mrs B Walsh

**Also in Attendance:** Mr P Blackburn (Assistant Chief Executive,  
St Helens Council)  
L J Kilshaw (Clerk to the Council)

122. Prayers

The Chairman welcomed everybody and opened the meeting with prayers for the work of the Council.

123. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Councillor Mrs E Uren – away on holiday.

124. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.

125. Parish Boundary Adjustments – Progress Report

With the Council's permission, the Chairman varied the agenda and invited Mr P Blackburn to address the Council.

Mr Blackburn outlined the events since 2001, when the Electoral Boundaries were examined and Wards were changed as per the Boundaries Commission recommendations. This was done in order to level-up the number of electors in each Ward. The next step would be a Parish Review. The decision of the Boundaries Commission, which had recommended that the Windle Parish boundary be the A580 (East Lancs Road), meant that the Windle Parish lost 54 houses in Moss Lane and Rainford Road, ie those in the northern tip of the Parish. At the moment this meant that this part of the Windle Parish was in Rainford Ward for Ward Elections, but in Windle Parish for Parish Elections. Last week St Helens Council, having considered the responses to the Public Notice in 2004, which invited comment, decided to make draft

recommendations and to publish them. Initially the report received drew attention to the northern end of the Windle Parish, some parts of Eccleston and Seneley Green.

Windle Parish Council had made some proposals to draw another part of the Windle Ward into the Windle Parish, to offset those being lost in Moss Lane, etc.

In effect, Mr Blackburn pointed out, this would actually mean the setting up of what would be a new Parish and would go to the Electoral Commission and then on to the Secretary of State for consideration.

St Helens Council had decided not to adopt this as part of its draft recommendation, which would be advertised and comments requested.

The three Ward Councillors on the Windle Parish Council would possibly have to declare a prejudicial interest and thus be prevented from involvement in any discussion or decision in the matter.

If there was no clear indication from a significant number of residents involved as to whether they were for or against the suggestions, then it is likely that Windle Parish Council would lose the residents in Moss Lane, etc without any compensatory adjustment. These residents would remain in Rainford Ward, but would come out of Windle Parish and would not go into Rainford Parish.

Mr Blackburn promised to provide an answer, after investigation, to a question raised by Councillors N J and W Ashcroft and K D Roughley regarding prejudicial interest.

The Chairman thanked Mr Blackburn for his invaluable input into this discussion. At this juncture he left the meeting.

Resolved that the matter be investigated further and any representations be made to St Helens Council as soon as possible, after seeking consultation via a newsletter with residents involved.

126. Chairman's Report

Nil report.

127. Parish Matters

(a) Bleak Hill School Buildings

Some efforts were being made to promote more usage by the local community of the buildings, including a possible new building for a morning and after school club.

Resolved that the Clerk express the Parish Council's interest and support for the objectives to Mr I Wellens, the Head Teacher, in the form of a letter.

(b) Notice Board

The Clerk reported that the repairs had been carried out to the Parish Council notice board in the school grounds and he had re-painted the same.

128. Minutes

The Council received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18 October 2005, which had been circulated previously.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2005 be confirmed as a true and correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

129. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

130. Planning Applications

The Clerk submitted

(a) Invitation to comment in respect of

- (i) P/2005/1318 – Tesco Stores Ltd, BP Safeway Service Station – erection of new signage
- (ii) P/2005/1329 – A Magowan, 1 Sackville Road – first floor extension over existing garage, including balcony to rear elevation, plus single storey rear extension to form shed, greenhouse and conservatory
- (iii) P/2005/1331 – F Morelli, 169 Rainford Road – conversion of the detached garage flat roof to a pitched roof
- (iv) P/2005/1351 – Mrs Collard, 24 Moss Lane – single storey rear extension incorporating a garage

(b) Approval in respect of

- (i) P/2005/1048 – S T Foster, 19 Padstow Drive – demolition of existing garage and the erection of new garage

- (c) Refusal in respect of
  - (i) P/2005/1580 – Trendtext Ltd, Bolton – erection of three retail units and access and parking, Windle Island, Rainford Road – as being contrary to Policy S5 Retail Development of the adopted St Helens Unitary Development Plan (1988). In addition the proposal would result in increased traffic and the danger of accident and be contrary to Policy GEN 1 Primacy of the aforementioned Unitary Development Plan (1988).

Resolved that no comments be made reference the four planning applications detailed in (a) and that the approval in (b) and the refusal in (c) be noted.

131. Other Correspondence

The Clerk submitted the following correspondence, to be dealt with as indicated.

- (a) “Contact” – November 2005 Issue – Received.
- (b) Letter from Martin Hughes, St Helens Council, outlining the Parish Review and decisions taken by St Helens Council on 9 November, as discussed in Minute 125 ante. Received and noted.
- (c) Letter from Mr T Ferguson, Development Plans Manager, St Helens Council, reference the consultation exercise on St Helens Local Development Framework – Statement of Community Involvement.

Resolved that the accompanying form be duly completed by the Clerk and Chairman and returned to Mr Ferguson.

132. Quality Parish Councils

Nil report.

133. Ecclesfield Sports Facility

Councillor A F Rigby, in his capacity as Chairman of the Management Committee, reported that moles were once again damaging pitches, etc. Also, roots from a tree were surfacing in the car park. There also appeared to be some dispute with United Utilities concerning a mystery water meter, which needed clarification.

134. LAPTC

The Clerk gave a brief summary of the AGM Report. Noted.

135. Parish Newsletter - Report

The November edition was being distributed successfully and despite an unfortunate 'spelling' error on the front page, much to the editor's embarrassment, it was being well received with favourable comment made. The editor was thanked by the Parish Council for his hard work in assembling the Newsletter.

136. Lynton Way Play Area

The Clerk reported that he had received a telephone call from St. Helens Council to inform that a replacement roundabout would cost £12,000. Further details were promised to follow.

137. Jim Malone Garden

The Clerk reported that the necessary repairs to the notice board (and a replacement lock) had been carried out.

138. Christmas Tree and Tree Lighting Ceremony

Peter Houlton of A1 Minibus Service had once again kindly agreed to provide transport for the contingent from Windleshaw School. Other arrangements were well in hand.

The Clerk took the opportunity to mention that, as the Bleak Hill School would not require any further planting of trees in the grounds, the Parish Council should give some thought as to providing a gift of something useful for the nature area behind the school. This would be made in February next year.

Resolved that the Clerk liaise with the school to determine suitable suggestions to the value of £60 approx.

139. Pre-Christmas Reception

The guest list was discussed and completed and it was

Resolved that, under the auspices of Councillor Mrs M P Fraser, the Council would provide buffet type refreshments, etc, catering for 35 – 40 people, at the Reception to be held after the conclusion of the December meeting on 20 December 2005.

140. Website

Councillor Mrs B Walsh left the meeting at this point whilst this item was discussed, as it included discussion of the level of remuneration to be paid to Mr B Walsh for his efforts over the last 12 months in establishing the website. Councillor Mrs B Walsh returned at the end of this item.

141. Finance(a) Balances

The Council noted the balances at 31 October 2005:

Current Account - £743.68

Capital Reserve Account - £11714.32

(b) Internal Audit 2005/6

The Clerk read out the Internal Audit Report to 30 September 2005, which was available for inspection. No matters were raised for discussion or attention.

(c) Payment of Accounts

Resolved that approval be given to the payment of the following accounts:

|                          |                                  | £      |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--------|
| BT                       | Purchase of Broadband Equipment  | 27.59  |
| Eccleston Parish Council | Room Hire                        | 18.00  |
| Mr B Walsh               | To setting up of Parish Website  | 100.00 |
| L J Kilshaw              | Post, Repairs, Engraving, Salary | 286.90 |

142. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 20 December 2005.

NB The Christmas Tree Lighting was on 2 December 2005, 2.00 for 2.15 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Date \_\_\_\_\_

LJK/SAH