

Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2010 at Eccleston Village Hall, Kiln Lane

PRESENT; Cllr. R. W. Barton (Chairman)  
 Cllr. K. D. Roughley (Deputy Chairman)  
 Cllr. Mrs. N. J. Ashcroft  
 Cllr. Mrs. K. S. Barton  
 Cllr. S. A. Bligh  
 Cllr. Mrs. M. McNulty

Also in Attendance : L. J. Kilshaw (Clerk to the Council)  
 P.C. M.Pender } Merseyside Police  
 P. C. Kelly } “ “

151. Prayers

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

152. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllrs. Mrs. A. Bate (on holiday) and Mrs. E. Uren. Cllr. W. Ashcroft was attending another meeting, but hoped to be able to arrive later.

153. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.

154. Parish Matters

a ) The pavement outside the shop at 84 Kiln Lane was damaged and in an unsatisfactory condition. It was believed that Cllr. W. Ashcroft was dealing with the matter.

b ) The Clerk reported that local footpath walkers had complained that the footpaths, affected by the construction of the massive water- pipe line from Precot to Bury were still closed to them, and were asking how long would this situation continue. Cllr. W. Ashcroft had set up a meeting with the residents concerned, the Clerk, and Mr. James Widdop -St Helens Council Footpaths Office. He had visited the area concerned with Mr. Harry Mansfield, a concerned resident, and the Clerk. No solution had been found and the company doing the work, had until March 31<sup>st</sup> 2011 to complete the contract. Further discussion was intended with St Helens Council.

155. Minutes

The Council received the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010, which had been circulated previously.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> Jan.2010 be accepted and be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

156. Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising.

### 157. Planning Matters

a ) Applications - No new applications received except for one at Windleshaw School , which is not in the Windle Parish Area.

### b ) Decisions

As a result of the refusal decision re-P2009/1009 Mrs. G. Foster 84 Kiln Lane ( see min141 19/01/2010) a site meeting had been held between Cllrs. R. W .Barton, K. D. Roughley, W. Ashcroft and two members of Planning Dept. plus Mrs. G Foster, the applicant.

Mrs. Foster had been advised to submit a new application .

### 158. Other Correspondence

The Clerk submitted the following item of correspondence, to be dealt with as indicated :

1. Letter from NSPCC –promoting the NSPCC Helpline + relevant poster. Received and Noted- Cllr. Roughley proposed to include a feature in the next Newsletter.

### 159. Ecclesfield Sports Facility

The next committee meeting was scheduled for early March.

### 160. LALC/MAPTC/ NALC/SLCC

LALC were arranging their annual draw for the winning Parish Council Chairman and guest to attend the Buckingham Palace Garden Party in July. The Deputy Chairman, Cllr. K. Roughley stated that he would probably be attending as a St Helens Councillor, and consequently, he felt that Cllr. Richard Barton ,the current Chairman, should be entered in the LALC Draw. He was handed the necessary entry form by the Clerk and thanked Cllr. Roughley for his kind gesture.

### 161. Lynton Way Play Area

The St Helens Council Security Force would not recommence closing the Play Area on Friday and Saturday evenings and opening it on Sat.and Sun. mornings until April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2010 i.e.Good Friday.It was hoped to reduce this practice as much as possible in the year 2010 -2011. After more discussion it was :

Resolved that the Play Area be left open permanently after the EasterHolidays, for a trial period.

### 162. J. Malone Garden

The offending Rowan Tree mentioned in min.146 had been tackled by Cllrs. Mrs. McNulty and W.Ashcroft. In the event, it had not been necessary to uproot the tree, but merely to partially cut it down and it was now planned to attach two bird boxes to it.

### 163. Christmas Tree Lighting 2010

A further email had been received from Bill May- St Helens Council- Lighting Engineer- confirming that it would not be permitted to connect the tree lighting to No.8 lighting post on Bleak Hill Road.

The Chairman and the Clerk had been to see Mr. Ian Wellens (Head Teacher at Bleak Hill School and to advise him of the situation and to request help in overcoming this problem (see min. 149 16/02/10). He, although wishing to retain the status quo situation, had proved helpful but further investigation would be necessary.

#### 164. Roll of Honour Glass Plaques

As discussed at the last meeting -16<sup>th</sup> Feb 2010-this would seem to be a feasible project, but, once again, further research would be necessary.

#### 165. Reports from Other Bodies

A ) Police Report – P.C `s. Pender and Kelly had attended briefly earlier this evening ,in order to give a short report and consultation on current police activity to the Council.

#### B. Local Standards Board

Cllr. R. W. Barton informed that he had attended a meeting of the sub –committee today.

#### 166. Finance

(a) Balances :The Council noted that the bank balances at, 16<sup>th</sup> Feb.2010,were :

Current A/c £780.79      Capital Deposit A/c    £7822.69

#### ( b ) Payment of Accounts

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

		£
Eccleston Parish Council	Hire of Room 16/02/2010	20.00
L. J Kilshaw	Salary & Postage	306.02

#### ( c ) Mins . of the Finance Committee Meeting

A meeting of the Finance Committee had been held on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> February,2010 at 54,Brookside Avenue and the Council received the minutes of this meeting,which had been distributed earlier.

Resolved that these minutes be ratified as a true and correct record, and be signed by the Chairman.

#### (d) Budget /Precept 2010-2011

The Council was advised in a report by the Clerk of the anticipated position on the balances :

		£
	Balance at 1.4.2009	10,026
Plus	Receipts(projected) for 2009/2010	12,702
		<hr/> 22728
Less	Payments ( projected) for 2009/2010	14706
		<hr/> Balance (projected) at 31/03/2010 <u>8022</u>

St Helens Council had previously advised that the Council Tax Base for 2010 – 2011 for the Parish had been set at£1.003(Band D equivalent properties) and the Parish Precept for £12,000 = £11.96, for £11,850= £11.47 and for £11,000=10.97.

The Finance Committee had recommended a level of £12,000 for the amount of the Precept for 2010-2011.

The suggested dates for payment viz. 50% on April 23<sup>rd</sup> and the same on June 25<sup>th</sup> 2010 had previously been agreed – see min. 151.c 19/01/10 – and a confirmatory letter had been sent to R. Anders Asst. Treasurer- Accounts & Payments, St Helens Council.

The Council was advised of the budget provision necessary to maintain existing levels of service, and the report identified other items to be considered for inclusion for precept purposes.

The Finance Committee had given initial consideration to the proposed necessary budget in order to maintain existing levels and incorporate any possible projects and anticipated items of expenditure.

Resolved that the following broad based budget be accepted for 2010-2011 :

<u>Payments(Net of VAT)</u>	<u>£</u>
Fees & Ins. {Bank £39/ Ins.£520/Int. Audit £130/ Ext.Audit £135/NALC/LALC/SLCC/MAPTC £472	1296
Salary	3650
Election Costs	1000
Post & Tel. -incl.Broadband	420
Website	140
Printing & Stny.& Publications	390
Room Hire	220
Advertising	000
Donations	40
Newsletter	960
School Awards	140
New Shields	80
Maitenance – Ecclesfield	1570
Maintenance- J.Malone Gdn.	40
Lynton Way Play Area Security	1500
Engraving- incl.Chmns.Chn. & Gdn.Comp.Trophies	60
Garden Competition	225
Christmas Tree Lighting	400
Hospitality	320
VAT-estimated	400
Contingency	000
Project- Roll of Honour	500
Computer replacement	600
Bulbs/ Plants (J.Malone Gdn.).	25
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>13976</u></b>
<u>Receipts –estimated 2010-2011</u>	<u>£</u>
Precept	0000
Bank Interest	10
VAT	860
Advertising	375
Matching Funding	000
Miscellaneous	000
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>1275</u></b>

The Council will need to consider any other items of expenditure to be taken into account;

( a ) recognizing that the balances held in respect of LWPA equipment should be kept to £2500.

( b ) the balances include a provision of £1600 towards Election costs( plus a further provision of £1000 this year),- provision of a replacement computer £600( plus a further £600 this year), -and also £500 for Quality Parish Council Training.

( c ) Additionally consideration has been given for making provision for the “ Roll of Honour Project” at £500, which may replace the practice of adding name links to the Chairman's Chain pending further investigation.

( d ) The cost of opening and closing the LWPA, using St Helens Security Force is the major item of Council expenditure and this year it was used more selectively without mishap.. The matter is constantly under review, and further reduction in its use will be considered in the year 2010-2011 to bring about the required reduction in cost.

The Council will again need to be prudent in the preservation of adequate balances.

#### Audit Regulations

The Council is reminded that the regulations introduced procedures which require the identification of specific provision( other than contingency) made within the balances, and the need to have a budget based on expenditure and income features ,which must be contained within the resolution of the Council accepting the precept requirement.

This does not preclude the use of virement during the year, but this must be approved by the Council. The “audit trail” must be clear to follow, particularly in relationship to the accumulation of balances.

The Council ;

Resolved that the proposed budget be accepted and that the precept for 2010-2011 be set at £12,000 and that this decision be communicated to St Helens Council tomorrow, as is required.

#### 167. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2010, following on from the Annual Assembly, which starts at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Signed; \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairman)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_