

Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 17 December 2019 at 7pm at Eccleston
Village Hall, Kiln Lane

Present Councillor K Roughley (Chairman)
 Councillor N Ashcroft
 Councillor R Barton
 Councillor A Bate
 Councillor S Bate
 Councillor A Dockerty

Also in Attendance J Anderson (Clerk to the Council)
 1 resident

- 117 Prayers: The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayers for the work of the Council.
- 118 Apologies: Councillor R Greatorex
- 119 Declarations of Interest: No declarations were made.
- 120 Parish Matters: (a) Cllr A Bate reported that one of the traffic lights at Windle Island had been blown by the wind to face the wrong direction.
(b) Cllr S Bate reported that on 2 occasions when he had been turning right off the East Lancs Road at Windle Island towards St Helens, he had been left stuck across the Liverpool bound carriageway at the junction because of a queue of vehicles attempting to turn right into Bleak Hill Road. This then stopped traffic travelling towards Liverpool. The Clerk was asked to report the matter to St Helens Council.
(c) Cllr Ashcroft had been contacted by residents to thank her for reporting the flooding at St Helens Cemetery and it appeared work was being carried out.
(d) Cllr Ashcroft also warned of the restricted parking time allowed at Starbucks at Windle Island and fines that would be issued to anyone parking over the time limit.
(e) Cllr Dockerty suggested that signs be put on the grass verge on Bleak Hill Road to prevent parking.
(f) He also informed the meeting that the police had been patrolling the area around Fairway as a vehicle had parked on a resident's driveway to drop a child at school. The resident complained to the school and was advised to contact the local Community Police.
(g) The Clerk informed the meeting that the bench had been put back at Windle Island but not a rubbish bin.
- 121 Minutes of Meeting: The council received the minutes of the meeting held on 19 November 2019.
Resolved the minutes of the meeting be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.
- 122 Matters Arising: Ref 103(a) – St Helens Council had replied to explain that the 'cyclist dismount' sign was on the correct side of the road as it was to advise cyclists that there was no longer a cycle path
Ref 105(c) – Cllr Baines had replied regarding parking on the grass verge on Bleak Hill Road. Ward Councillors were happy to ask for costings for trees or planters and suggested it may be something the Parish Council could contribute to.
An email had been received from a resident regarding the dangerous parking and the churning up of the grass. The Clerk was asked to contact St Helens Council to request that the white zig-zag lines be extended or double yellow lines painted.

123 Local Plan: Nothing to report.

124 Planning Matters: (a) Applications

Bleak Hill School

Construction of 4no new classrooms including covered external teaching area, ancillary facilities and storage provision. External works to include the construction of a new drop off zone accessed via Fairway, additional playground provision and modifications to pedestrian access routes and playing fields and minor modifications to the existing staff / visitor car park to accommodate 8 no extra parking spaces

Parish Council had sent letter objecting to the planning application.

Cllr Roughley read out part of the Highway Observation report which referred to the Transport Assessment that had been submitted as part of the planning application. This report explained that the inclusion of a new drop off and pick up area within the school grounds, as well as the development of the Travel Plan over the coming months and years, would help to mitigate against the impact of the proposed expansion and increased activity. Therefore, Highway objection was not warranted. Councillors disagreed with the report.

(b) Decisions –

5 Windle Grove Two storey side extension, including garage conversion – **Granted 21/11/19**

8 Portreath Way Demolition of existing detached garage along with part two storey, part single storey side extension – **Granted 29/11/19**

Applications and decisions were noted

125 Other Correspondence: **Resolved to note**

(a) St Helens Council – proposed precept payment dates of 16 April and 18 June 2020 were agreed. A Finance Sub Ctte had been arranged for Monday 13 January 2020 at 7pm at Cllr Barton’s home.

(b) Christmas card from Mayor and Mayoress of St Helens.

(c) Invitation to St Helens Council’s Holocaust Memorial Service on Monday 27 January 2020 at 10am at the Town Hall.

(d) An email from a resident outlining the dangers of parking on the grass verge outside Bleak Hill School. The email was also sent to the school and Windle Ward Councillors. The Clerk had replied to confirm that the Parish Council had reported it to St Helens Council. (See 122 Matters Arising above.)

126 Ecclesfield Sports Facility: The meeting that had been scheduled for 3 December 2019 had been postponed as it had not been quorate.

Cllr Roughley read out a letter from Eccleston Parish Council. He was disappointed that the letter had not mentioned anything about the hard work over the years of the Councillors on Ecclesfield Management Committee.

It was felt that the suggestion from Windle Parish Councillors to better utilise the changing facility by allowing Bleak Hill Rovers to rent out part of the facility for storage was being blocked and Eccleston Parish Councillors were hoping that with repairs to the roof and car park would encourage more users to the facility.

Cllr Roughley explained that, at present, Windle Parish Council did not want to be represented on Ecclesfield Management Committee.

127 SLCC: Nothing to report

- 128 Lynton Way Play Area: Nothing to report
- 129 J Malone Garden: The bench had been replaced but no litter bin.
- 130 Christmas Tree Lighting: Councillors reported that the tree lighting ceremony had gone well and had been enjoyed by all. Cllr Barton thanked Cllr Roughley for doing an excellent job of being the Master of Ceremonies. Councillors also thanked Mr Arnold who had kindly carried out the role of Father Christmas. It was agreed to send a letter of thanks to Mr Arnold.

131 Reports from Other Bodies: None received

132 Finance:

a) The Clerk advised that the balances at 29 November 2019 were:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Current Account | £ 8,359.17 |
| Business Reserve Account | <u>£ 6,059.53</u> |
| TOTAL | £14,418.70 |

b) **Resolved** that the following payments be made:

| | | |
|---|--------|----------|
| Hearst Magazines – subscription (fraudulent DD to be refunded)* | 6.00 | DD |
| Eccleston PC – room hire and phone | 32.21 | Chq 2544 |
| J Anderson – December + travel and expenditure (refreshments) | 324.83 | Chq 2545 |
| HM Revenue and Customs – PAYE Oct-Dec | 196.20 | Chq 2547 |

*** Clerk been to NatWest to investigate the payment. The Clerk was told it was a fraudulent payment and should contact the Fraud Department of NatWest. The Clerk had contacted the magazine company who would refund the money. There was nothing further to report at present. An up to date bank statement showed no further payments had been taken.**

Resolved that the following receipt(s) be noted:

None

A meeting of the Finance Sub Committee would be held on Monday 13 January 2020 at 7pm at Cllr Barton's home.

133 Date of Next Meeting:

Tuesday 21 January 2020 at 7.00pm at Eccleston Village Hall

Cllr Roughley wished everyone a Happy Christmas.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed:
Chairman

Date: