

Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 19 November 2019 at Eccleston Village Hall, Kiln Lane at 7pm

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

Also in Attendance J Anderson (Clerk to the Council)
Mr Lloyd – resident
2 residents representing Eccleston Community Residents' Association working
with Windle (ECRA)

100 Prayers: The Chairman opened the meeting with prayers for the work of the Council.

101 Apologies: Councillor R Barton

102 Declarations of Interest: No declarations were made.

103 Parish Matters: (a) Cllr A Bate reported a 'CYCLISTS DISMOUNT' sign on Rainford Road that would appear to be on the wrong side of the road as this would indicate cyclists must dismount before heading towards St Helens. The Clerk was asked to report to St Helens Council.

(b) Cllr A Bate also reported that the concrete bin that had been on the paved area at the bus stop at Windle Island had been replaced with a mesh one that had been placed in the soil/garden area. The Clerk was asked to contact St Helens Council to ask for it to be replaced with a like for like and placed on the paved area.

(c) Cllr A Bate reported that it took approximately 4 minutes 40 seconds to cross Rainford Road at Windle Island from the Tesco side to the opposite side using the pedestrian signals. It was felt that it was unsafe as pedestrians or cyclists may take a chance and cross instead of waiting that length of time.

(d) St Helens Council had contacted the Clerk to report they would reduce the height of the bushes surrounding Lynton Way play area during the winter.

(e) Cllr Greatorex reported that a good job had been done replacing the flags at the bench area at Windle Island. The Clerk had asked for the bench to be replaced which should be in place by the end of the week. Cllr Greatorex also reported that bulbs had been planted in areas at Windle Island to replace the ones lost during the roadworks. The picket fence would also be replaced.

(f) Cllr Greatorex enquired whether anything had been arranged for Lancashire Day which was on 27 November. Councillors were not aware of the day but would consider it for next year.

(g) Cllr Dockerty raised the problem of cars parking on the grass verge on Bleak Hill Road outside the school. (Refer to 105 Matters Arising). He also reported that work on the first phase of the expansion of Bleak Hill School had started. He gave out to the meeting a copy of a leaflet that had been prepared by local residents raising issues objecting to the further expansion of the school and the parking problems they felt it would cause. Cllr Dockerty was asked to suggest to the residents' group that they send their leaflet to the Planning Department of St Helens Council objecting to any further planning applications that may be submitted.

(h) Cllr Ashcroft had been contacted by residents reporting large puddles on the pathways at St Helens Cemetery. Cllr Ashcroft had reported it to St Helens Council.

(i) Mr Lloyd enquired if there had been anything to report regarding the bus stop sign on Kiln Lane that he felt was blocking vision when exiting Hartington Road. The Clerk had received a reply from Windle Ward Cllr Baines asking the resident to report the issue to Merseytravel. The Clerk would forward the email to Mr Lloyd. Cllr Roughley also passed on information to Mr Lloyd that he had received from MP Conor McGinn's office asking Mr Lloyd to contact them after he reported at the July meeting that the planning inspectorate on line system had been faulty. This resulted in Mr Lloyd being unable to lodge his appeal against the planning permission for Bleak Hill School. Reported in July Ref 49f.

- 104 Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council: The council received the minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2019.
Resolved the minutes of the meeting be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.
- 105 Matters Arising: (a) Ref 86a (dog dirt) – Cllr Baines had replied and asked the resident to contact him directly. Clerk had contacted the resident with the reply.
(c) Ref 86d (cars parking on the grass verge) – an email had been received from the Traffic Dept at St Helens Council stating that any restrictions would displace vehicles onto the residential roads. Also by parking half on the verge would mean they would not be fully parked on the road which would cause an obstruction. If the complaint was about churning up of grass, Traffic suggest it could be changed to tarmac but would have to be funded. The Clerk was asked to contact Windle Ward Councillors for their views and to suggest that consideration be given to the environment and maybe trees or planters be put there to prevent cars parking on the grass verge.
- 106 Local Plan: Cllr Neal had been unable to attend the meeting. The representatives from ECRA updated the meeting and reported everything was going well. Their concerns over development on greenbelt land in the area were that there would be a considerable increase in traffic and no infrastructure in place, as well as the loss of open space.
- 107 Planning Matters: The Clerk gave an opportunity for comment on the following
a) Applications
159 Rainford Road Rear extension for master bedroom and alterations to conservatory roof
Resolved: that no objection be raised concerning the application
Bleak Hill School Construction of 4 classroom etc **Withdrawn 24/10/19**
b) Decisions:
16 Hamilton Road Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a part two storey part single storey rear extension **Granted 30/10/19**
7 Fairway Single storey side and single storey rear extension **Granted 5/11/19**
9 Malt House Crt Works to 2no trees covered by a TPO **Granted 15/11/19**
The decisions were noted
- 108 Other Correspondence:
(a) an email had been received from Merseytravel regarding cars parking on the pavement at the bus stop at Kiln Lane – Merseytravel would ask St Helens Council Enforcement Officers to observe. Also Merseytravel had requested bollards to be installed
(b) an email from Windle Ward Councillors agreeing to the £300 contribute towards the tree lighting ceremony at Bleak Hill School

(c) an invitation from Eccleston Parish Council to the Christmas tree lighting ceremony at Eccleston Library on Thursday 5 December 2019 at 11am

(d) an email from the joiner – the bench would be replaced at Jim Malone Garden by the end of the week

109 Ecclesfield Sports Facility: The next ordinary meeting would be 3 December 2019. Cllr A Bate along with the Clerk and Cllrs Pearl and Sims from Eccleston Parish Council made a site visit on Friday 15 November. The item would be moved to the end of the Parish meeting when a closed meeting would be held due to the confidential content.

110 SLCC: Nothing to report.

111 Lynton Way Play Area: Nothing to report.

112 J Malone Garden: The bench should be replaced by the end of this week.

113 Christmas Tree Lighting – Friday 6 December 2019, 2.15pm: Invitations had gone out and the tree would be delivered week commencing 25 November. Cllr A Bate had spoken to Mr Lewis Arnold who had kindly offered to carry out the role of Father Christmas. As Mr Arnold had to travel from Colwyn Bay **it was agreed to reimburse his travelling costs**. Cllr Roughley kindly agreed to comper the event.

114 Reports from Other Bodies: None reported.

115 Finance:

a) The Clerk advised that the balances at 31 October 2019 were:

Current Account £8,680.71

Business Reserve Account £6,059.53

TOTAL £14,740.24

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

Eccleston PC – room – Nov, phone – Oct, copier/service 49.86 2541

J Anderson – November salary + travel 265.68 2542

Ransons Gardening and Landscaping – 3 visits 96.00 2543

Receipts – none

(c) **Internal audit** – the accounts had been internally audited for the second quarter with nothing to report.

116 Date of Next Meeting:

To be held on Tuesday 17 December 2019 at 7.00pm at Eccleston Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.00pm

Signed:
Chairman

Date: