

## Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 15 June 2021 at  
Eccleston Village Hall, Kiln Lane

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

Also in Attendance J Anderson (Clerk to the Council)

31 Prayers: The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayers for the work of the Council.

32 Apologies: Councillor A Dockerty and Councillor R Greatorex

33 Declarations of Interest: No declarations were made.

34 Parish Matters: (a) Cllr S Bate had been asked what the rules were for burning rubbish in gardens. He had recently encountered a resident in Bleak Hill Road burning rubbish that had been creating flames higher than the garden fence. The Clerk was asked to contact St Helens Council and Merseyside Fire Service for advice.

35 Minutes of Meeting: The council received the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 18 May 2021 and

36 Minutes of the Monthly Parish Council meeting held the same date.

**Resolved the minutes of both meetings be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.**

37 Matters Arising: None

38 Planning Matters: The Clerk gave an opportunity for comment on the following:

**a) Applications:**

None

**b) Decisions:**

**30 Lynton Way** Extension to existing boundary wall

**Withdrawn 14/5/21**

**11 Lynton Way** Single storey rear extension

**Granted 11/5/21**

**16 Lawrence Road** Single storey rear extension

**Granted 24/5/21**

**161 Bleak Hill Road** Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension; alterations from flat to pitched roof on the existing garage and porch along with a new boundary fence and wall

**Granted 27/5/21**

**27 St Georges Avenue** Two storey side extension

**Granted 27/5/21**

- 39 Other Correspondence: (a) a reply from Cllr Lynn Clarke thanking Parish Councillors for the email of congratulations. She would be happy to join a forthcoming Parish Council meeting.
- 40 Bleak Hill School Awards: It was agreed to send a cheque for the value of £120 to Bleak Hill School, instead of book vouchers, as the school would like to present a Progress Award trophy to a child in every class in the school. The Shield of Endeavour would still be presented to 2 children in Y6.
- 41 Ecclesfield Sports Facility: A meeting had taken place on 1 June 2021, 7pm, via Zoom. No Councillors from Windle Parish Council had been able to attend. Therefore, all points were noted to be reported to each Parish Council.
- Nothing to report from the Caretaker
  - No one in attendance from user group
  - Revised Conditions of Hire document had been emailed and approved
  - Cost of a sign would be £312 plus £66 advertising consent
  - No update on the storage unit
  - Windle PC had not paid their first half contribution – waiting until the storage was resolved
  - Finances were reported

Cllr S Bate expressed concern that an 11v11 pitch had been hired out to adults and not to Bleak Hill Rovers (BHR) without consulting BHR. He explained that he felt that if the team was not in the area then children from the area would not be able to play.

Cllr Barton explained that the field was a facility for all and other teams should be given an opportunity to use the pitches.

Cllr Roughley added that he felt that the pitch had been allocated to the adult team in order for them to use the changing rooms therefore stopping Bleak Hill Rovers being able to use it for storage.

The meeting became quite hostile as Cllr S Bate added that storage had been promised, he felt, just before elections and nothing yet had been done.

Cllr A Bate said that years ago there were several adult teams that were no longer running and felt that the Management Committee should move with the times and provide more for the youngsters, but that nothing was being done about the storage issues BHR had.

Cllr A Bate asked which part of the Management Agreement stated that the changing rooms could not be used for storage. The Clerk explained that the Management Agreement stated that the objective was to provide a changing facility. Cllr A Bate concluded that the agreement did not state it could not be used for storage.

Cllr Barton explained that the members of Ecclesfield were meeting regularly, both on-site and via Zoom, and were receiving several emails trying to resolve the issue. He tried to explain that several options had been looked at. The Planning Department had not agreed with a metal structure attached to the changing rooms, therefore plans for a metal storage container were being submitted to planning.

Cllr S Bate was quite irate and said this was not good enough and that BHR should be allowed to use the changing rooms to store their equipment in the meantime.

At this point, Cllr Barton as Chairman, explained that he would be tendering his resignation, with immediate effect, from Windle Parish Council, as he and other Councillors had put in a lot of time and effort to try to resolve the issue and felt it was not appreciated.

After some persuasion, Cllr Barton retracted his resignation and agreed to continue as Chairman of Windle Parish Council.

The Clerk explained that information that BHR were publishing on social media was not all true and that Councillors from both Eccleston and Windle Parish Councils were trying to resolve the problem as quickly as possible. She had copies of emails and minutes of meetings held to try to provide a storage container.

It was agreed to conclude the discussion.

42 SLCC: Nothing to report.

43 Lynton Way Play Area: Cllr Roughley had been asked by a resident whether adult fitness equipment could be considered for the play area. Councillors agreed that the site was unsuitable for gym equipment as the play area was surrounded by resident properties and the gates were locked each evening to prevent any disturbances. It was suggested that Ecclesfield playing field may be more suitable. The Clerk was asked to suggest the idea to Eccleston Parish Councillors.

44 J Malone Garden: Cllr A Bate had purchased some plants that she was nurturing to full size before planting in the garden. The bench still required staining. The Clerk was asked to contact the gardener and St Helens Council to obtain quotes for the work.

45 Reports from Other Bodies: None.

46 Finance: a) The Clerk advised that the balances at 31 May 2021 were:

Current Account	£15,548.89
Business Reserve Account	<u>£ 6,069.11</u>
TOTAL	£21,618.00

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

Eccleston PC – room (June), phone (May)	32.72	Chq 2607
J Anderson – June	285.52	Chq 2608
HM Revenue and Customs – PAYE April-June	214.00	Chq 2609

**Resolved** that the following receipt(s) be noted:

HMRC – VAT 2020-21	30.38	BACS
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47 Date of Next Meeting:

Tuesday 20 July 2021      7.00 pm      Eccleston Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.00pm

Signed:  
Chairman

Date: