

Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 15 November 2022 at Eccleston Village Hall, Kiln Lane at 7pm

Present Councillor Dockerty (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Barton
Councillor Greatorex
Councillor Lloyd

Also in Attendance J Anderson (Clerk to the Council)

88 Prayers: Councillor Dockerty opened the meeting with prayers for the work of the Council and welcomed Councillor Richard Barton back to Parish Council.

89 Apologies: Councillors Donnelly and Uddin
Cllr David Baines had sent an email resigning as Parish Councillor on Windle Parish Council.

90 Declarations of Interest: No declarations were made.

91 Parish Matters:

(a) Cllr Lloyd had contacted Traffic Department, St Helens Council, for an update on the parking situation at Kiln Lane/Coronation Road. The Traffic Engineer had been seconded short-term but should have an update in December.

(b) Cllr Greatorex had spoken to United Utilities employees on site in the field that borders the East Lancashire Road. They informed him they were cutting back trees to gain access to check points in the field.

(c) Cllr Dockerty informed the meeting that the Environment Agency had cleared shrubbery from Windlebrook and the water was now flowing freely. Cllr Dockerty would inform the resident that had reported the problem, that the brook had been cleared. Cllr Greatorex suggested that in future correspondence on behalf of residents should be sent to the Environment Agency when the brook required work.

92 Minutes of Meeting: The council received the minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2022 and

Resolved the minutes of the meeting be accepted and signed by the Chair as a true and correct record.

93 Matters Arising:

(a) An officer from St Helens Council had requested a site visit regarding landscaping on the grass verge at Bleak Hill Road. A possible date of Wednesday 16 November had been agreed with Cllrs Donnelly and Lloyd.

(b) St Helens Council had responded to the Parish Council's report that trees were obstructing street lights in Stuart Way. St Helens Council suggested either the Parish Council contact the tree owner or St Helens Council could issue notice to cut them back. The Clerk had replied that St Helens Council should issue notice to the owner as the street light and passageway were the responsibility of St Helens Council.

- 94 Planning Matters: The Clerk gave an opportunity for comment on the following:
(a) Applications:
19 Windle Grove
Part single, part two storey side and rear extensions
Abbeyfield House, 51B Rainford Road
Works to 3no trees protected by TPO (2no lime and 1no oak)
Resolved: no objections be raised concerning these applications.
- (b) Decisions:**
10 Malt House Court
Works to 2no lime trees (T1 & T2) covered by TPO
Granted 7/11/22
Noted
- 95 Other Correspondence:
(a) An email had been received from St Helens Council regarding maintenance of land leased by Windle Parish Council from St Helens Council. One open space was leased, Lynton Way Play Area. St Helens Council had proposed a cost of £6,984 per year to maintain the open space from April 2023. The Clerk was asked to request a full breakdown of tasks, frequency and cost of each task.
- 96 Ecclesfield Sports Facility: Cllr Barton offered to represent Windle Parish Council on Ecclesfield Management Committee and to take on the role of Chair until September 2023.
- 97 Society of Local Council Clerks: The Local Government pay offer had been accepted from April 2022. The offer was for a flat rate payment of £1,925 on each scale point with effect from April 2022. The Clerk's salary was pro rata of the scale. It was agreed to pay the increase and back date to April 2022.
- 98 Lynton Way Play Area: St Helens Council would be charging for the maintenance of the leased land as of April 2023. To be discussed at the next meeting.
- 99 J Malone Garden: Councillors reported that the area was looking tidy.
- 100 Newsletter: The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr Dickinson to establish progress on the newsletter and to ask Cllr Dickinson to bring what had been done so far to the December meeting.
- 101 Remembrance Day: Cllr Dockerty had laid the wreath on behalf of Windle Parish Council at the Remembrance Service at St Helens Town Hall on Sunday 13 November 2022.
- 102 Christmas Tree Lighting: The Clerk was asked to contact Bleak Hill School to arrange a meeting of Cllrs Barton and Dockerty with the headteacher and office manager to discuss the arrangements and programme for the event.
A smaller Christmas tree had been ordered and would be delivered on Friday 25 November.
- 103 Financial Projects: Cllrs Donnelly and Lloyd were arranging a meeting with an officer from St Helens Council to discuss landscaping or flower beds on the grass verge at Bleak Hill Road.
- 104 Reports from Other Bodies: None received.

105 Office Equipment: In July 2021 the laptop belonging to Windle Parish Council failed to work and could not be repaired. The Clerk had been managing with one from Eccleston Parish Council since then. The Clerk requested to purchase a new laptop for Windle Parish Council. It was agreed the Clerk should purchase a Lenovo laptop at a cost of £299 plus Microsoft Office.

106 Finance: (a) The Clerk advised that the balances at 31 October 2022 were:

Current Account	£20,103.78
Business Reserve Account	<u>£6,173.36</u>
TOTAL	£26,277.14

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

		Chq
NetWise UK – website upgrade	22.97	2654
Eccleston PC – room – Nov, phone – Oct	34.37	2655
J Anderson – salary + travel and expenditure	300.23	2656
Vinylite Ltd – lettering on honour board at Bleak Hill School	66.00	2657

Resolved that the following receipt(s) be noted:

None

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

Online banking had been set up with NatWest. It was agreed to pay the Clerk by bank transfer each month.

107 Date of Next Meeting:

Tuesday 20 December 2022 Eccleston Village Hall 7pm

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Signed:
Chair

Date: