

## Windle Parish Council

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 18 April 2023 at 7pm in Eccleston Village Hall

Present: Councillor Dockerty (Chair)  
Councillor Barnes  
Councillor Barton  
Councillor Donnelly

Also in Attendance: J Anderson (Clerk to the Council)

182 Prayers: The Chair opened the meeting with prayers for the work of the Council.

183 Apologies: Councillor Greateorex and Councillor Uddin

184 Declarations of Interest: No declarations were made.

185 Parish Matters: (a) Cllr Barton raised again the issue of parking on the yellow lines at the end of Coronation Road. The Clerk had reported it previously.  
(b) Cllr Donnelly and Cllr Barnes suggested carrying out a regular litter picking session. Cllr Donnelly would make enquiries as to how to get the necessary equipment. The Clerk would check insurance cover.  
(c) Cllr Donnelly mentioned the potholes that require attention in Lawrence Road and Stuart Road. Cllr Donnelly would report this to St Helens MBC.  
(d) Cllr Greateorex had spoken to one of the contractors carrying out the work laying the cables at Windle Island. The contractor had reported that St Helens Council would inspect the area and arrange to rectify any problems with the grass verges, hedges and trees.

186 Minutes of Meeting: The council received the minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2023.

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

187 Matters Arising: Cllr Donnelly had been in touch with the resident about the allotments at Alder Hey Road. The allotment holders had sent the deeds for the land to a solicitor for legal advice.

188 Councillor Co-option: It was unanimously agreed to co-opt Mr Riley as Parish Councillor.

189 Planning Matters:

a) Applications:

**18 Coronation Road**

Single storey ground floor rear extension and single storey first floor rear extension

Resolved: that no objections be raised concerning the application.

b) Decisions:

**41 Windle Grove**

Part 2 storey, part single storey side extension

**Granted 11/4/23**

**Noted**

- 190 Other Correspondence: (a) Zurich Insurance renewal – £300.00 same as last year.  
(b) Invoice from J Anderson for producing newsletter £182.00  
**Approved.**

- 191 Newsletter: The newsletter had been printed and was ready for distribution by Councillors.  
Cllr Dockerty requested articles for the next newsletter. Cllr Barnes suggested an article on the history of Bleak Hill Rovers.  
The Clerk was asked to put the Newsletter as an item on the next meeting's agenda.

- 192 Ecclesfield Sports Facility: Cllrs Barton and Barnes attended on Tuesday 28 March 2023 along with the Clerk. The following was discussed:

- A wheelie bin had been set on fire on the tarmac outside the changing rooms. Bob would like the area to be fenced off. Cllrs agreed to consider some options and discuss again at the June meeting.
- Pitch fees – agreed to refer to Parish Councils.
- Budget was agreed with pitch fees to be considered in June.

In December, at the Ecclesfield budget meeting, it was decided that the fees would remain the same but since then the charges for maintaining the field had been introduced. At March's Ecclesfield meeting it was decided to re-visit the cost of hiring the pitches.

Football Foundation – grass pitch grants The Clerk attended a webinar held by the Football Foundation on 15 March 2023, giving information about their grass pitch grants now available to Town and Parish Councils.

- 10 year maintenance plan.
- 6 year grant if criteria is met - £3,200 for 11v11 for first 2 years tapering over the 6 years.
- FF pay 100% for years 1 and 2, then 67% for years 3 and 4, 33% for years 5 and 6 then Parish would have to pay full amount for years 7-10 to maintain the standard.
- A pitch inspection report has to be submitted with permission from land owner – taking photographs, measurements of where grass meets soil. Inspections to take place twice a year.

- 193 Society of Local Council Clerks: The annual subscription of £236 was due. It was resolved that one third would be paid by Windle Parish Council.

- 194 Lynton Way Play Area: A Customer Request for Work form had been received. The maintenance would cost £1543.33 + VAT from April 2023-March 2024. It was agreed to sign the Customer Request.

- 195 J Malone Garden: The pavement around the garden has been dug up for the laying of cables making the area is inaccessible. The Clerk would enquire whether maintenance had started.

- 196 Reports from Other Bodies: None

197 Finance:

a) Balances: the Clerk advised that the balances at 31 March 2023 were:

Current Account	£16,562.52
Business Reserve Account	<u>£5,877.28</u>
TOTAL	£22,439.80

b) Payments:

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

		Chq
HMRC – PAYE Jan-Mar	236.80	2667
Eccleston Parish Council – phone (Mar) and room hire	33.57	2668
Society of Local Council Clerks – membership	70.80	2669
A Roberts – internal audit	150.00	2670
Ecclesfield Project – first half contribution	1935.50	2671
Zurich Municipal – insurance	300.00	2672
J Anderson – April + Lynton Way open space lease	324.39	BACS

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

NatWest – interest Jan 4.34, Feb 4.27 and Mar 5.17	13.78
St Helens Council – first half precept	6125.40

c) HMRC statement: The Clerk presented the HMRC statement showing no payments due as of 17 April.

d) Signing off the Receipts and Payments Book/VAT Return: resolved that the Receipts and Payments be signed off for the year 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 by the Chair and Clerk. The VAT return for 2022/23 had been completed online 14 April 2023.

e) External Audit: The deadline for the external audit was 3 July 2023 and would be carried out by PKF Littlejohn, London.

198 Date of Next Meeting: To be held on Tuesday 16 May 2023 at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 7.55pm

Signed:  
Chairman

Date: