

Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 20 June 2023 at 7pm at Eccleston Village Hall, Kiln Lane

Present Councillor Dockerty (Chair)
Councillor Barnes
Councillor Barton
Councillor Donnelly
Councillor Greatorex
Councillor Riley

Also in Attendance J Anderson (Clerk to the Council)

- 31 Prayers: The Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayers for the work of the Council.
- 32 Apologies: None
- 33 Declarations of Interest: None
- 34 Councillor Co-option: It was unanimously agreed that Mr Geoff Almond be co-opted as Councillor to Windle Parish Council.
- 35 Parish Matters: (a) Cllr Riley had taken photographs of cars parked fully on the pavement on the corner of Bleak Hill Road and Calderhurst Drive. Cllr Donnelly suggested that proposals were put to St Helens Council to prevent the parking such as planters or trees. He would investigate 'Living Streets' to see if there was any advice. Bleak Hill School had replied that they were working with Cllr Baines, the local authority and the police on the issue. The Clerk was asked to find out a contact for the police for the Windle area to raise the issue of obstructing the pavements and possibly discuss options.

Cllr Barnes joined the meeting.

(b) Cllr Greatorex informed the meeting that a pedestrian had been knocked down whilst crossing the road at the junction of Bleak Hill Road and Rainford Road. The pedestrian was not seriously injured. Cllr Greatorex asked that the issue of speeding traffic along Rainford Road could also be addressed with the police.

(c) Cllr Donnelly informed the meeting that he would like to get the litter picking activity started with possibly a monthly meet-up to start with concentrating on a certain area. He would investigate getting the necessary equipment through St Helens Council and let the meeting know the initial costs.

- 36 Minutes of Meeting: The council received the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 16 May 2023 and
- 37 Minutes of the Monthly Parish Council meeting held the same date.

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

- 38 Matters Arising: None
- 39 Planning Matters: The Clerk gave an opportunity for comment on the following:
a) Applications:
None
- b) Decisions:**
None
Noted
- 40 Other Correspondence: An email had been received from DAC Planning on behalf of St Helens Council inviting all parish councils to an online planning workshop on Wednesday 28 June from 6.30pm-8.00pm. Cllrs Donnelly and Riley would attend.
- 41 Public Footpaths: A resident had contacted the Clerk to let the Parish Council know that he had been informed that the British Horse Society had applied for footpaths to be upgraded to bridleways. The Clerk was asked to contact St Helens Council for any further information. Councillors also suggested that a map of footpaths in the Parish should be included in the Newsletter and on the website.
- 42 Bleak Hill School Awards: It was agreed to send a cheque for the value of £120 to Bleak Hill School, instead of book vouchers. Cllrs Dockerty, Barton and Riley would attend the awards assembly on Wednesday 19 July at 10am. The Clerk would inform the school.
- 43 Newsletter: A discussion took place and items for the next Parish Newsletter include: an item regarding safe parking around the junction of Calderhurst Drive; Bleak Hill School awards assembly and the financial contribution from the Parish Council; map of public footpaths in the area; the history of Bleak Hill Rovers and an historical article about Windle.
- 44 Social Media: Cllr Riley handed out examples of social media posts from Bold Parish Council. It was agreed that Facebook would be used to start with to inform residents of local information as it was felt it was the most useful way for the Parish Council to engage with the local community. Cllr Riley would contact Bold Parish Council to ask for advice on how they had set up their Facebook account and their experiences.
- 45 Ecclesfield Sports Facility: 6 June 2023, 7pm, Eccleston Village Hall. Cllrs Barnes, Barton and Riley attended along with the Clerk.
- The Caretaker reported a set of keys had been left in the door of the changing rooms. Both teams had been asked if they had misplaced them but neither had claimed them.
 - Bleak Hill Rovers (BHR) requested that the pitches be repaired during the summer break. St Helens Council would reseed and fill pot holes.
 - It was agreed to increase the pitch fees by 10%: open age to £506; juniors to £110 and U10s to £44 per team for the season.
 - The Football Foundation Grass Pitch Programme had been reported to both Parish Councils but unfortunately neither would be able to contribute financially to the maintenance plan.
 - Finances were reported.
 - A discussion took place regarding a website for Ecclesfield and possibly social media. The Chair requested that the item be discussed at the next meeting in September.

- 46 SLCC: An example of a social media policy had been obtained from the Society.
- 47 Lynton Way Play Area: Cllr Riley reported it was well kept.
- 48 J Malone Garden: Cllrs Barton and Greateorex met with the gardener. It was agreed the soil was poor and nothing had been growing in certain areas. Cllr Barton asked for a quote for improving the soil. It was agreed that money in the budget for the garden competition would be used to improve the Malone Garden. The sign needed painting. The Clerk would contact St Helens Council to find out who owned the sign.
- 49 Reports from Other Bodies: None.

- 50 Finance: a) The Clerk advised that the balances at 31 May 2023 were:

Current Account	£ 19,250.05
Business Reserve Account	<u>£ 5,877.28</u>
TOTAL	£25,127.33

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

Eccleston PC – room (June), phone (May)	33.14	Chq 2676
Ransons Gardening and Landscaping – 5 visits	160.00	Chq 2677
Bleak Hill School – awards towards books	120.00*	Chq 2678
HM Revenue and Customs – PAYE April-June	236.60	Chq 2679
J Anderson – June	319.48	BACS

* Resolved that the Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 & 139 of the Local Government Act 1972 should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.

Resolved that the following receipt(s) be noted:

Dignity Funeral advert	20.00	PI 102
Phoenix Academy advert	30.00	PI 103
St Helens Council – second half precept	6125.40	BACS

The Clerk reported the audit requirements had been completed. All documents had been published on the website as required and the Certificate of Exemption had been emailed to external auditors.

- 51 Date of Next Meeting:

Tuesday 18 July 2023 7.00 pm Eccleston Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

Signed:
Chair

Date: