

Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 21 May 2024 at Eccleston Village Hall, Kiln Lane

Present Councillor Barton (Chair)
Councillor Almond
Councillor Barnes
Councillor Dockerty
Councillor Riley (Deputy Chair)

Also in Attendance 3 Police Officers
J Anderson (Clerk)

- 11 Welcome: Prayers had already been said at the AGM, which had preceded the meeting.
- 12 Apologies: Councillor Donnelly and Councillor Greatorex
- 13 Declarations of Interest: No declarations were made.
- 14 Parish Matters:
- (a) 3 police officers attended the meeting to discuss various issues raised by Councillors and residents:
- (i) Cllr Barton raised the issue of parking at the junction of Kiln Lane and Coronation Road. Cars often parked fully on the pavement blocking the ramps and bus stop and also on the yellow lines. The police explained that police could move cars on if they were obstructing the junction or parked on zig-zag lines but the local Council had to deal with cars on double yellow lines. The next opportunity the police could attend would be in 2 weeks. They would make every effort to take a look at the area.
 - (ii) Cllr Riley raised the issue of parking at the junction of Bleak Hill Road and Calderhurst Drive at school drop off and pick up times especially. Again the police would make every effort to attend the area to move cars on if necessary. Cllr Almond explained it was a safety issue for pedestrians not just a case of parking illegally. One police officer suggested the small statues of children that some schools put out on the pavement. Cllr Dockerty explained that Councillors had discussed this with the school who were considering the option.
 - (iii) Speeding on some of the roads was raised, especially approaching Windle Island from both St Helens and from Rainford.
- (b) Cllr Dockerty would list items that need action such as a sign for Windle.
- (c) Cllr Riley enquired about email addresses for Councillors. The Clerk was looking in to upgrading the website to .gov which would include email addresses.
- (d) Cllr Barnes reported that St Helens Council were going to re-turf/seed some of the areas of grass outside houses along Bleak Hill Road that had been destroyed by vehicles parking on them.
- (e) Cllr Barton reported the overgrown shrubbery on the bridge in Kiln Lane which was obstructing the footpath. The Clerk would report to St Helens Council.
- 15 Minutes of Meeting: The council received the minutes of the meeting held on 16 April 2024. **Resolved** the minutes of the meeting be accepted and signed by the Chair as a true and correct record.
- 16 Matters Arising: None

17 Planning Matters:

a) Applications:

129 Bleak Hill Road

Works to 2no sycamore trees covered by TPO

5 Prince Andrews Grove

Single storey side and rear wraparound extension

11 Windle Grove

Single storey side extension and replacement of flat roof to the existing single storey rear outrigger with a dual pitched roof

No objections raised

b) Decisions:

None

18 Other Correspondence: **Noted:**

(a) Email from Bleak Hill School asking if the Christmas tree lighting ceremony could be changed to Monday 2 December 2024 at 2pm – **agreed.**

- 19 Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Riley had received 8 replies to the questionnaire sent out with the Newsletter. Similar issues were raised in each ie speeding, parking. All liked the area they lived, especially the footpaths and were opposed to any new housing developments. They would like to protect wildlife. One suggestion was for a nature information board to be installed coming into Windle including the history of Windle and footpaths. Cllr Riley would contact St Helens Council with the responses and ask for guidance as to the next steps.

Cllr Riley was still waiting for the traffic survey to be carried out along Kiln Lane which should take place before the summer. He would raise the parking at the junction of Coronation Road and Kiln Lane.

- 20 Garden Competition: 5 entries had been received so far. The entry form would be posted on Facebook and the website
- 21 Silent Soldier Statue: Bleak Hill School would speak with Property Services at St Helens Council regarding moving the soldier statue to a location where it could be seen. Parish Council would pay for it to be moved.
- 22 Ecclesfield Sports Facility: It was agreed to recommend to Ecclesfield Ctte an increase to pitch fees of 10%. Open age from £506 to £557; juniors from £110 to £121 and under 10s from £44 to £48. The next meeting would take place on Tuesday 4 June 2024 at 7pm.
- 23 SLCC: Nothing to report.
- 24 Lynton Way Play Area: Cllr Riley had reported it looked untidy with cut grass left on the ground. The Clerk had contacted Grounds Maintenance at St Helens Council and they would cut it again later when the weather was not as wet which would remove the cut grass.
- 25 J Malone Garden: Darren Aspinall would try to paint the sign by end of May – weather permitting.

The Clerk had found details of Tommy statues with prices from Royal British Legion. The D-Day 80 Commemorative statue priced at £175. **Agreed to order.**

26 Reports from Other Bodies: None

27 Finance:

a) The Clerk advised that the balances at 26 April 2024 were:

Current Account	16,107.28
Business Reserve Account	<u>5,956.27</u>
TOTAL	£22,063.55

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

Eccleston Parish Council – room (May), phone (Apr), copier lease	55.69	Chq 2711
J Anderson – production of newsletter	191.10	Chq 2712
J Anderson – May, travel + expenditure	335.63	BACS

Resolved that the following receipt(s) be noted:

St Helens Council – first half precept	6119.18	BACS
Berrington Hall – advert	30.00	BACS
HMRC – VAT return	632.89	BACS

(c) Internal audit – Amanda Roberts carried out the quarterly audit with nothing to report. She had completed and signed the Annual Internal Audit Report for the External Audit.

28 Approval of Annual Governance Statement: **Resolved** that the Annual Governance Statement 2023/24 (Section 1) be agreed and signed by the Chair.

29 Approval of Accounting Statements: **Resolved** that the Accounting Statements 2023/2024 (Section 2) be approved and signed.

30 Certificate of Exemption: **Resolved** that the Certificate be agreed and signed.

31 Date of Next Meeting:

Tuesday 18 June 2024 7.00 pm Eccleston Village Hall

Meeting closed at 8.20pm

Signed:
Chair

Date: