

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL held on  
TUESDAY 10 JANUARY 2023 at 7.30pm in ECCLESTON VILLAGE HALL, KILN LANE**

PRESENT: Cllr Sims (Chair)  
Cllrs Ashcroft, Johnson, C Pearl, G Pearl, V Taylor and Williams  
Janet Anderson (Clerk)

22.85 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Cass, Haw, Madine, Spencer and N Taylor. Cllr Cass joined the meeting via Zoom.

22.86 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr G Pearl Item 22.97 – Planning Applications.

22.87 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 8 NOVEMBER 2022

**One amendment was made to the minutes under item 22.77 Police Report to state ‘... fly tipping would be dealt with by local authority ...’. Resolved that the minutes be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.**

22.88 MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Ashcroft asked if there had been any update on the number 10 bus. Cllr Sims would be meeting with Carmel College students this week to discuss road safety.

22.89 RESIDENTS’ ISSUES

None reported.

22.90 POLICE REPORT

PCSO Dearing had sent the latest crime figures which were given to Councillors.

22.91 REPORTS

**Resolved to note the following:**

**Ecclesfield Tuesday 6 December 2022** at 7pm at Eccleston Village Hall – Cllrs C Pearl, G Pearl and Sims along with the Clerk attended. The following items were discussed:

- Cllr Barton, Windle PC had been appointed Chair for 2022-23.
- The Caretaker had reported no problems with the changing rooms except for empty gas cannisters being left around the changing rooms and field.
- No issues from the teams other than dog fouling on pitches.
- It was proposed Water Plus be paid by direct debit each month instead of a monthly cheque; also the caretaker be paid his salary each month using bank transfer from Eccleston PC’s account. The full amount would then be paid by cheque from Ecclesfield account to Eccleston PC. Both suggestions would save postage each month and would guarantee payment on time during postal disruptions. **Agreed**
- Proposed budget for 2023/24 was presented to Councillors – in summary: a large increase in Parish Council’s contribution to cover maintenance costs being charged by St Helens Council – possibly from £3499 to £8400; no increase in hire fees; a 5% increase in caretaker’s salary; no change to Secretary’s honorarium.

**Finance Sub Cttee, 10 January 2022** – Cllrs G Pearl and Sims along with the Clerk met to discuss the budget and the proposed precept (See Item 22.94).

**Smithy** – all Councillors had been given a copy of the Curators' Report. The following points were discussed:

- Curators were preparing for the new season and were in contact with Knowsley Archives to discuss the Stefan Skura exhibition.
- The Curators reported that loan boxes continued to be popular with Tudor items being used by a school in Prescott.
- The Smithy website domain name and hosting fees had been renewed. The Curators would keep the website up to date with information and images.

22.92      OPEN SPACES

Costs for the annual maintenance of the leased open spaces had been received from St Helens Council. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed to explore other options for some open spaces such as wild flower areas and increased charges for the use of Ecclesfield.

22.93      LOCAL GOVERNMENT PAY AWARD

The National Joint Council had agreed a pay award of a flat rate of £1925 on each pay scale for the year 2022-23. It was agreed to back-date the Clerk's pay to April 2022.

22.94      BUDGET FOR 2023/2024

**The budget was approved and it was resolved that a precept of £78,503.78 for 2023/24 would be requested. This would result in a cost to residents of £19.94 per year.**

22.95      ANNUAL MAGAZINE

Articles were requested for the next magazine. Emails would be sent to all schools, churches, local groups and the library, inviting articles. Articles should be sent to the Clerk by the end of January 2023.

22.96      RISK ASSESSMENT

The annual risk assessment was carried out. The Clerk had arranged a security review for safety of staff and visitors. The review had taken place on 4 February 2022 with no issues raised. **It was agreed to sign the risk assessment.**

22.97      PLANNING APPLICATIONS

**Resolved to note the following:**

**Delegated**

**9 Ellerslie Avenue**

First floor rear extension and garage conversion

**N/O**

**22 Nicholl Road**

Erection of a single storey side and rear extension

**N/O**

**134 Broadway**

Resubmission of P/2022/0353/HHFP for a single storey side extension and side boundary fence

**N/O**

**Colliery Cottage**

Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of a two storey dwelling and single storey outbuilding with associated landscaping

**N/O**

**72 Old Lane**

**Single storey side extension**

**N/O**

**57 Springfield Lane**

Erection of 1no dwelling following demolition of existing dwellinghouse, with new front gate with landscaping and associated works

**Ensure the balconies are not overbearing or overlooking neighbours. Also, there is concern at the removal of trees**

**11 Ansdell Drive**

Single storey rear extension with raised decking

**Ensure decking is not too high**

**Decisions****20 The Avenue**

Two storey rear and single storey side extensions

**Granted 9/11/22**

**32 Wokefield Way**

First floor front extension along with a single storey side and rear extension

**Granted 17/11/22**

**6 Hawthorn Drive**

Demolition of the existing rear conservatory and erection of a part two storey, part single storey front and side extension, along with a single storey rear extension

**Granted 15/11/22**

**17A Central Avenue**

Single storey side and rear extension and internal alterations to an existing dwelling for disabled use

**Granted 17/11/22**

**Land at Millwood Avene**

Removal/variation of conditions 2 (updated plans) and 8 (bird box locations) on application P/2019/0654/FUL (subsequently amended by S73 - P/2021/0823/S73). Increase new fencing between playing field from 1800mm to 2100mm and confirm bird box locations

**Granted 2/12/22**

**37 Laurel Drive**

Demolition of existing porch and erection a new porch

**Granted 6/12/22**

**6 Acacia Grove**

Erection of a front porch

**Granted 5/12/22**

**2 Holme Close**

Single storey side extension

**Granted 19/12/22**

**66 Brookside Avenue**

First floor side extension

**Granted 22/12/22**

## 2 Fiveways

Demolition of existing detached garage and erection of a granny annexe

**Granted 22/12/22**

## 3 Seddon Close

Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension

**Granted 19/12/22**

## 9 Ellerslie Avenue

First floor rear extension and garage conversion

**Granted 23/12/22**

## 22 Nicholl Road

Erection of a single storey side and rear extension

**Granted 19/12/22**

## 134 Broadway

Resubmission of P/2022/0353/HHFP for a single storey side extension and side boundary fence

**Refused 4/1/23**

## 22.98 ACCOUNTS

**Resolved to note the following:**

### **December –**

Received Village Hall Hire £1,296; R Kelsey PAYE £82.60; Interest Oct 0.15 and £22.78; Smithy loan box £20; WPC – phone £13.38

### **Total Receipts**

**£1,434.91**

### **Payments**

Water Plus – water 31.71

GPS Telecoms – clerk phone Oct 48.18

CF Corporate – change of copier 274.80

SSE – gas 77.87

Water Plus – water 31.71

J Chamberlain – December + bonus + expenditure 243.51

V Griffiths – December + bonus 239.17

L Poole – December + expenditure 436.98

J Anderson – December + petty cash 1405.24

Merseyside Pension Fund – employer and employee contributions 490.80

HM Revenue & Customs – PAYE & NI – Oct-Dec 1502.89

**Total Payments** **£4782.86**

**RECONCILIATION** - The Clerk reported that at 30 November 2022 the balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £64,047.30 and Capital Deposit Account £467.44.

### **January –**

Received: Village Hall Hire £281; RK PAYE £102.60; WPC phone £12.57; interest Nov and Dec 0.58 and £78.60

### **Total Receipts**

**£475.35**

**Payments**

GPS Telecoms – clerk phone Nov	45.25
ASL – copier service agreement	68.51
C Barber – VH grounds maintenance	240.00
SSE – gas	107.95
CF Corporate – photocopier lease	93.60
Water Plus	31.71
L Poole – January	432.90
V Griffiths – January	179.17
J Chamberlain – January	179.17
J Anderson – January	1387.74
Merseyside Pension Fund – employer and employee contributions	490.80
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£3256.80</b>

**RECONCILIATION** – The Clerk reported that at 31 December 2022 the balance in the Current Account was £6,500.00, Reserve Account £61,716.95 and Capital Deposit Account £468.02

<b>PETTY CASH</b> – Expenditure for the month of December 2022	£28.28
Balance at the end of December 2022	£13.80

22.99      CORRESPONDENCE

**Resolved to note the following:**

- **Letter from St Helens Council** – calculation of tax base, 3937 band D equivalent properties with proposed payment dates of 13 April 2023 and 15 June 2023.
- **Email from St Helens Council**, Community Governance Review Update – will present draft recommendations to St Helens Council in July.
- **Email from St Helens Council**, Budget Consultation documentation – consultation period ends Sunday 15 January 2023.

22.100      DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 14 February 2023      7.30 pm      Parish Council      Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

SIGNED .....

DATED .....