

Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 18 June 2024 at 7pm at Eccleston Village Hall, Kiln Lane

Present Councillor Barton (Chair)
Councillor Almond
Councillor Donnelly
Councillor Riley

Also in Attendance J Anderson (Clerk to the Council)

32 Prayers: The Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayers for the work of the Council.

33 Apologies: Councillor Barnes, Councillor Dockerty and Councillor Greatorex

34 Declarations of Interest: None

35 Parish Matters: (a) Cllr Riley informed the meeting that the traffic survey was being carried out on Kiln Lane. He reported no further problems with the parking on the corner of Calderhurst Drive. A discussion took place regarding putting planters on the pavement. Cllr Riley would contact Rainford Parish Council to see how to go about installing and the upkeep of planters. Cllr Riley also reported that residents were mentioning telegraph poles that were appearing in the area. Councillors were unaware of the poles.

(b) Cllr Almond reported that the Public Footpath sign on the East Lancashire Road that had fallen down had been removed but not replaced. The Clerk would contact St Helens Council to enquire whether a new one would be put up. Cllr Donnelly reported that a public footpath sign towards the end of Moss Lane before Sadlers Lane was pointing in the wrong direction. The Clerk was asked to report to St Helens Council.

(c) Cllr Barton had received a telephone call from a farmer who reported people walking along his land on a path that was not a public footpath. Cllr Riley would put a notice on the Parish Council's Facebook page advising residents not to walk on private land. Cllr Barton also reported that the brook was being dammed preventing water from flowing down the brook. It was causing the farmer's field to flood. Cllr Riley would also add a post on Facebook. It was also suggested to contact Bleak Hill School to ask if they could remind pupils of the dangers of playing in water.

(d) Police crime figures were received and reported to the meeting.

36 Minutes of Meeting: The council received the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 21 May 2024 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: Cllr Almond enquired whether the website had been changed to a .gov address. It had not been changed but the Clerk would be working on this before the next meeting.

39 Planning Matters:

a) Applications:

None

b) Decisions:

None

Noted

40 Other Correspondence:

(a) Email from Traffic Dept at St Helens Council notifying of the installation of parking restrictions on the corner of Lawrence Road and Hamilton Road.

(b) an email from someone interested in becoming a Parish Councillor. The Clerk replied with information but had not heard anything back.

41 Bank Mandate: It was resolved that the Authorised Signatories in the current mandate for Windle Parish Council account be changed in accordance with Section 5 of NatWest form NWB50101 – to add Cllr Geoff Almond, Cllr Stephen Barnes, Cllr Richard Barton, Cllr Roger Greatorex and Cllr Ian Riley as authorised signatories. Also, to remove Cllrs Baines, Dickinson, Lloyd and Uddin. The current mandate would continue as amended.

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 Barton, Dockerty and Riley would attend the awards assembly on Friday 19 July at 9.30am. The Clerk would inform the school.

43 Soldier Statue – School Grounds: The quote received from the school to move the soldier statue was agreed. The Clerk would inform the school.

44 80th D-Day Silent Soldier Statue: It was agreed to contact the company moving the statue in the grounds of the school to obtain a quote for installing the 80th D-Day soldier statue in the garden at Windle Island.

45 Ecclesfield Sports Facility: 4 June 2024, 7pm, Eccleston Village Hall. Cllrs Barnes, Barton and Riley attended along with the Clerk.

- The Caretaker reported the inside door had been left unlocked on one occasion recently. He also said that the hot water was not put on each weekend. It was put on occasionally to keep the system working and for cleaning.
- Bleak Hill Rovers (BHR) reported a busy season with a waiting list of children to join the club. Mr Barratt added that their team did not need the hot water as they did not use the changing facility.
- Mr Barratt reported that someone was using the field for junior football training and was using the pitch areas. The Secretary was asked to contact the group to ask them to use an area of the field that was not marked out as a pitch.
- It was agreed to increase the pitch fees by 10%: open age to £557; juniors to £121 and U10s to £48 per team for the season.
- The FA's Service Level Agreement was looked at for the grant application for pitch maintenance. It was agreed the Secretary would complete and forward a copy to all Councillors for confirmation.
- Finances were reported.

46 Neighbourhood Planning: Cllr Riley had emailed Sara Manson from St Helens Council to arrange a meeting to look at other ways to promote the questionnaire to all residents. She was on annual leave but would arrange a meeting as soon as possible.

Cllr Donnelly said it was possible to build a questionnaire that could be put on the Parish Council's website. Cllr Riley would look into this after he had met with Ms Manson.

47 SLCC: An article produced by SLCC regarding replies to social media comments was issued to Councillors for information.

48 Lynton Way Play Area: The grass had been cut and the area looked neater.

49 J Malone Garden: The sign should have been painted the previous week. The Clerk would contact the painter to see when it would be painted.

50 Reports from Other Bodies: None.

51 Finance: a) The Clerk advised that the balances at 31 May 2024 were:

Current Account	£ 15,429.15
Business Reserve Account	<u>£ 5,971.42</u>
TOTAL	£21,400.57

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

HM Revenue and Customs – PAYE April-June	248.40	Chq 2713
Ransons Gardening and Landscaping – 5 visits	160.00	Chq 2714
Eccleston PC – room (June), phone (May)	33.90	Chq 2715
J Anderson – June + 80 th D-Day soldier statue	550.86	BACS
Bleak Hill School – awards towards books	120.00*	Chq 2716

* 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:

Phoenix Academy advert	30.00	PI 104
Dignity Funerals advert	20.00	PI 104
Hedges Funerals advert	20.00	PI 104
NatWest Interest – April	7.81	BACS
NatWest interest – May	7.34	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.

The garden competition would close on Friday 21 June and would be judged on Wednesday 26 June starting at 1.15pm.

52 Date of Next Meeting:

Tuesday 16 July 2024 7.00 pm Eccleston Village Hall

The meeting closed at 7.55pm

Signed:
Chair

Date: