

# ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING: Council Meeting, Thursday 14 August 2025, 7.30 pm.

VENUE: Eccleston Community Hub, Drapers Avenue, Eccleston, Chorley, PR7 5SY.

## A G E N D A

1. Apologies for Absence  
To receive apologies.
2. Declarations of Interests  
Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or pecuniary interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda, or brought up at any point in this meeting, in accordance with the adopted Code of Conduct.
3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 July 2025  
To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting distributed to Councillors.
4. Councillor Vacancy  
To consider applications for co-option to fill the single remaining vacancy from Mr John Elliot and Mr John Hart.
5. Public Participation  
The meeting will be adjourned.  
  
Members of the public may raise issues with the Council. No legal decisions may be taken.
6. Planning Matters  
To consider planning applications.

Application	Proposed Development	Location
25/00566/CLPUD	Application for a certificate of lawfulness for a proposed single storey rear extension	88 Richmond Road
25/00646/FULHH	Single storey rear extension, alterations to two storey rear projection and rendering of property (following demolition of existing conservatory)	66 Richmond Road
25/00656/DIS	Application to discharge planning conditions 10 (Natural England Licence - bats), 11 (scheme for access and off-site highway works) and 14 (Traffic Management Plan) of planning permission ref. 24/00811/FUL (Section 73 application to vary condition 3 (approved plans) of planning permission ref. 24/00811/FUL (Section 73 application to vary condition 3 (approved plans) of planning permission ref. 22/00210/FUL (Demolition of existing buildings and erection of three detached dwellings with associated works and landscaping) to add phasing and existing floor plans)	Wright's Garden Centre New Lane Nurseries New Lane

7. Financial Matters
  - i) To receive the finance update.
  - ii) To consider a request from Eccleston Cricket Club for a contribution towards the costs of improvements to the facilities.
  - iii) To consider requests for payment made to the Council.

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8. Open Spaces Committee Terms of Reference  
To consider a proposal to amend the terms of reference of the Open Spaces Committee
9. Community Hub Management Committee  
To consider terms of reference.
10. Tree Policy  
To consider the suspension of the Tree Policy to enable works to trees on the Millennium Green.  
To consider the adoption of amendments to the policy, in line with revisions to Chorley Council's policy.
11. Use of Community Hub  
To consider a request from the Men's Shed for the use of The Hub at no cost until December 2025.
12. Committee Reports  
To note a verbal report from a meeting of the Activities Committee held on 6 August 2025.  
To note a verbal report from a meeting of the Open Spaces Committee held on 6 August 2025.
13. Clerk's Report  
To note the report.
14. Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)  
To receive reports.
15. Date of Next Meeting  
To confirm the date of the next meeting.



**CLERK**

Published: 8 August 2025

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Minutes of Meeting held on 10 July 2025
4. **Councillor Vacancy**  
Applications for co-option for the one remaining vacancy from Mr John Elliott and Mr John Hart will be considered (private details enclosed).
5. Public Participation
6. **Planning**

Permissions:

Application	Proposed Development	Location
25/00085/FUL	Erection of a self-build, detached dwelling	Lydiat Farm 12 Lydiat Lane
25/00350/FULHH	Erection of outbuilding (greenhouse and store)	Marl Barn Parr Lane
25/00440/TPO	Application for works to a protected tree, Chorley BC TPO 3 (Eccleston) 1991. T2126 - Monolith to 3.5 metres	12 Reeveswood
25/00459/ADV	Application for advertisement consent for the display of 1no. non illuminated free standing sign	Eccleston Cricket Club Doctors Lane
25/00534/FUL	Change of use of land to domestic garden (retrospective)	45 New Street

Refusals: None

#### 7. Finance

- i) Councillors will receive the finance update.
- ii) A request from Eccleston Cricket Club for a contribution towards the costs of improvements to the facilities will be considered (enclosed). For information, a grant of £4500, towards improvements to the facilities, was paid in January 2024.
- iii) Requests for payment will be approved.

#### 8. Open Spaces Committee

A proposal to remove delegated powers from the Open Spaces Committee will be considered.

The Local Government Act 1972 s101 Arrangements for discharge of functions by local authorities states:

"Subject to any express provision contained in this Act or any Act passed after this Act, a local authority may arrange for the discharge of any of their functions by a committee, a sub-committee or an officer of the authority"

This does not include issuing of the precept, which must be a Council decision.

For Members information, a number of local parish councils, including Clayton-le-Woods, Coppull, Euxton, Whittle-le-Woods, operate an appointed committee system with devolved powers.

#### 9. Community Hub Management Committee

Terms of reference for the appointed committee will be considered. Members of the Committee are meeting with a view to putting forward suggestions, which will be forwarded to Councillors when received.

## 10. Tree Policy

Member will consider amendments to the Tree policy in line with revisions to Chorley Council's policy.

Chorley Council's revised Action on Requests for Tree Works are as follows:

Dangerous Trees	Made safe within 48 hours
Non-Urgent Requests	Scheduled based on available budgets.
Overhanging Branches	As a good neighbour, the Council will investigate overhanging branches from Council-owned trees on a case-by-case basis and where:  A branch poses an unacceptable risk to people or property  Branches are in physical contact with a structure (e.g., rubbing against roofs/ gutters).  The work is beyond the reasonable maintenance means of the property owner that is causing an issue (e.g., large/ high branches).
Trees Blocking Light	The Council does not prune or fell trees solely to improve natural light to private properties. However, action may be taken if:  Light restriction is severely impacting other Council-managed trees or vegetation  There is evidence of a significant detriment to a private property  'Significant' is assessed case-by-case, considering factors like property use, duration of issue, and environmental balance.
TV/Satellite Reception	The Council will not trim or remove trees to improve TV or satellite signal.
Solar Panels	The Council will not trim or remove trees to improve sunlight to solar panels.
Seasonal Debris	The Council will not trim or remove trees to reduce leaf fall, fruit, or other debris. Exceptions may be made in cases of anti-social behaviour.
Large/Tall Trees	The Council will not trim or remove trees solely because they are large or tall.
Tree Roots	The Council will not trim or remove trees to prevent root spread into gardens. Property owners may trim roots back to the boundary but must ensure this does not harm the tree. If the tree is harmed, the owner may be liable.
Private Funding for Works to Council-Owned Trees	The Council will not accept private funding for tree works. Private individuals or companies do not have the right to undertake tree works on Council land.

## 11. Use of Community Hub

A request from the Men's Shed for the use of The Hub at no cost until December 2025, to enable the Group to become established, will be considered (details below):

I am writing on behalf of the Eccleston Men's Shed Association. The group was formed recently and drawing on the success of similar groups in Croston, Chorley and Bamber Bridge.

*We currently have about 15 members and its objectives are to provide health and wellbeing for members by meeting to chat and carry out practical projects. These projects would, hopefully, be of benefit to the whole community of Eccleston*

*We are currently putting together a structure for the group but we need a regular meeting place in the village. At present the group has no funds and we would like to ask the Parish Council if it would kindly allow the group to use the Eccleston Community Hub on a weekly basis, free of charge, until the end of 2025?*

*We would be very grateful if this request could be placed before the Parish Council at their August meeting? If this is possible we would be happy for a couple of our members to attend the meeting and answer questions. Thanking you for your consideration.*

Yours sincerely,

Bill Mason

cont.

**12. Committee Reports**

A verbal report from a meeting of the Activities Committee held on 6 August 2025 will be provided.

A verbal report from a meeting of the Open Spaces Committee held on 6 August 2025 will be provided.

**13. Clerk's Report**

A verbal report will be provided.

**14. Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)**

Councillors will provide reports from any outside bodies attended as a representative of the parish council.

**15. Date of Next meeting**

Thursday 11 September 2025.

**Forthcoming Events**

Meetings usually begin at 6:30pm at Chorley Town Hall. Confirmation will be sent as and when received.

Chorley Liaison -      Wednesday 15 October 2025  
                                 Wednesday 21 January 2026  
                                 Wednesday 18 March 2026

Western Parishes Neighbourhood Area meeting - Monday 23 March 2026

**MINUTES** of the Meeting held 10 July 2025 at 7.30 pm in The Community Hub, Drapers Avenue, Eccleston.

Present: Councillors M Miller (Chairman), D Biggs, E Biggs, R Bland, S Bland, M Brown, A Dempsey, D Graham, H Thomas and A Whittaker.

Also present: Borough Councillor Singh and 5 Members of the Public.

79.25 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr D Bonney.

80.25 Declarations of Interests

None declared.

81.25 Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 June 2025

Resolved: the minutes of the meeting (as circulated) were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

82.25 Councillor Vacancy

A application for co-option from Mrs Annette Dempsey was considered.

Resolved: Mrs Annette Dempsey was co-opted.

83.25 Public Participation

Resident of Newlands complained about trees on the Millennium Green shading a garden. This was referred to the Open Spaces Committee.

Representatives from the Eccleston Institute advised the facility, having been in existence for over 100 years, is facing financial difficulties and queried whether the Parish Council might be able to assist. The status of the institute as a members club was clarified. As the request related to possible improvements to the facilities to encourage additional customers, the representatives were asked to submit details of any improvement projects the Parish Council might be able to consider assistance for. Once these details have been provided, an item will be included on the agenda for a future meeting

84.25 Planning Matters

25/00530/CLPUD Application for a certificate of lawfulness for the use of a (Use Class C3a) dwelling house as a children's home for a maximum of two children (up to 18 years in age), with 24hr care provided by not more than two carers on site, working on a shift basis, and a Manager present 09:00 to 17:00 up to five days a week (Use Class C2) at Brook View, Preston Nook

25/00534/FUL Change of use of land to domestic garden (retrospective) at 45 New Street

There were no objections to these applications.

25/00577/OUTMAJ Outline planning application (with all matters reserved save for the principal means of access) for a residential development of up to 350 homes (Use Class C3) and a 186.9 sqm (2,012 sqft) community hub (Use Classes C3, E and F), with associated habitat creation, landscaping, open space, parking, footpaths/cycleways, drainage and other infrastructure at Camelot Theme Park, Park Hall Road, Charnock Richard. Concerns were raised regarding the impact of the suggested number of proposed vehicle movements on the suitability of the vehicular access onto Park Hall Road and impact on local infrastructure and services.

Resolved: an objection, on the grounds of the inadequacy of the proposed access, is to be submitted.

## 85.25 Financial Matters

i) The financial monitoring statement was considered.

Resolved: the monitoring statement was received and accepted and signed by the Chairman.

ii) A suggestion to contribute towards a memorial for a former St Mary's Primary School pupil was considered.

Resolved: a contribution of £250.00 was awarded agreed.

iii) A request, from a member of the Friends of Eccleston Primary School, for a contribution towards the costs of replacement of an existing playground structure and provision of a garden area aimed at children with additional sensory needs was considered. The applicant advised the school has no budget for this work. Concerns were raised regarding the costs of the proposed work and lack of provision of quotations. A meeting is to be arranged with the School to discuss the request further.

iv) A request from Heskin Parish Council for a contribution towards the costs of an independent Planning Consultant to formulate an objection to the Camelot Theme Park planning application was considered

Resolved: a contribution of £100.00 was awarded, to be paid when required.

v) Resolved: the following payments were approved:

£	110.05	British Gas	Electricity (Changing Rooms)
£	30.36	Easy Websites	Website
£	106.26	Waterplus	Water/wastewater (Hub)
£	50.00	LALC	Conference place
£	3927.72	Staff costs	Salaries, deductions and reimbursements
£	31.42	Vodafone	Broadband (Hub)
£	49.46	British Gas	Gas (Hub)
£	52.00	Chorley Council	Business rates (Changing Rooms)
£	66.17	British Gas	Electricity (Hub)

## 86.25 Will Trust Committee

Draft terms of reference for the Committee set up to award grants from the interest arising from the capital investment were presented.

Resolved: the draft terms of reference were approved.

## 87.25 Community Hub Management Committee

A proposal to form a committee to oversee the operation of the facility was considered. Councillors S Bland, D Biggs, Bonney and Dempsey offered to form the Committee.

Terms of Reference will be approved at the next meeting.

Resolved: Councillors S Bland, D Biggs, Bonney and Dempsey were appointed to the Committee.

## 88.25 Website and Councillor Email Addresses

Councillors considered the migration of the existing website to a .gov.uk website, in line with the Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Panel best practice guidance, to ensure all communications are readily identifiable as coming from the parish council.

Resolved: the existing website is to be migrated to a .gov.uk domain, at a monthly cost of £30.80 (+VAT).

The provision of individual .gov email addresses for Councillors was also considered. This will provide Councillors with an official means of contact for residents.

Resolved: .gov.uk email addresses are to be provided for Councillors at a monthly cost of £2.20 (+VAT) per email address.

89.25 Clerk's Report

The Central Lancashire Local Plan 2023-2041 has been submitted.

The Will Trust Administrator had advised of issues with the Life Tenant's estate and the issuing of a clearance certificate by the executors which is delaying settlement of the trust.

90.25 Reports from Outside Bodies

No reports.

91.25 Date of Next Meeting

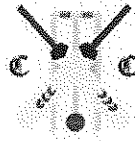
Thursday 14 August 2025.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

..... ( Chairman)



## ECCLESTON



President: Dr. C. Norris  
Tel: 01257 452332  
Chairman: I. Bradley Esq  
Tel: 01257 453983  
Secretary: A. Moon Esq  
Tel: 01257 450562

**Eccleston Cricket Club**

Tel: 07708 672957

Date: 8th June 2025

The Clerk  
Eccleston Parish Council

**Dear Sir**

We have recently been made aware of some money which has been bequeathed to the village, a proportion of which may be available to sports clubs within the village, and therefore, hopefully the Cricket Club.

In previous correspondence and discussions with the PC, I have outlined some of the projects which the Cricket Club are looking to fund, and I expanded on this recently when (with Cllr Whittaker's support) seeking CIL funding from Chorley Council with regard to the Redrow development on Doctors Lane. These are:

- a) A new practice net facility to replace our existing artificial practice track ~ £35k to £40k  
The existing track has been in place since we moved to the field in 1996 and is no longer fit for purpose.
- b) A new outfield mower ~ £12k. Though our current mower has served us well, the annual servicing and repair bill is increasing year on year as the mower gets older. (Note, we currently have 4 different mowers, each for a different purpose).
- c) An overhaul of our drainage system for the field ~ £5k. Over the course of the past 20 years, the bottom end of the field has become prone to flooding. We need to review what is causing the problem, and incorporate further drainage if necessary.

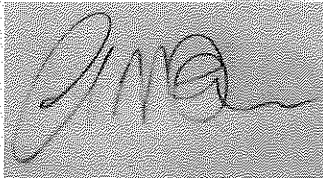
We are of course pursuing our own fund-raising activities for these projects (just as we did for the recent purchase of new sight-screens, covers, digital scoreboard and replacing the pavilion facias and guttering, when we got assistance from the Lancs Council LCSF - Lancs Culture & Sport Fund - crowdfunding initiative) as well as a generous donation from the Parish Council. However, it seems there is always "the next thing" which needs to be funded, and so any contribution the Parish Council is able to offer would be very gratefully received, and put to very good use.

With 2 senior teams and 4 junior teams, the club is a fundamental hub of our community, as evidenced on any Friday evening when we host our All Stars and Dynamo programmes (age 5 to 11) and the field is full of 80 kids, their parents and grandparents, all making use of our facilities (as evidenced by the photos below).

We take our responsibility to the continuing development of the club for the benefit of the next generation of Ecclestone cricketers very seriously, and will always make every effort to continue to improve the facilities we have at the cricket club.

If the PC would like the club to make representation to a future PC meeting, then we'd be happy to oblige. In the email relating to this letter, I've cc'd in our Chairman, President/Treasurer and Director of Cricket/1st XI Captain, who would all be happy to attend a meeting and explain our plans.

Many thanks, in anticipation of your ongoing support.



**Tony Moon**  
**Hon Secretary**  
**Ecclestone Cricket Club.**

