

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 12 December 2024 at 7.30 pm in The Community Hub, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

Present: Councillors M Miller (Chairman), R Bland, S Bland, M Brown, C Heath, D Miller, H Thomas and A Whittaker.

Also present: 1 Member of the Public.

139.24 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors D Bonney and D Graham.

140.24 Declarations of Interests

None declared.

141.24 Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 November 2024

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

142.24 Public Participation

No matters were raised.

143.24 Planning Matters

24/00844/FUL Erection of 4no. dwellings (following demolition of existing buildings) at Sarscow Farm, Sarscow Lane

24/00943/DIS Application to discharge conditions 4 (car park and manoeuvring), 5 (storage of materials outside RPA), 6 (trees and shrubs clearance), 7 (retain trees on site) and 8 (landscaping) of planning permission ref: 24/00485/FUL (External alterations at the rear to provide a new timber framed external shelter, the addition of new timber construction external fixed seating, the addition of new festoon lighting and timber support posts, and the re-lining of the existing car park area to provide sixteen car parking spaces) at The Brown Cow Inn, The Green

24/00971/DIS Application to discharge conditions 5 (Programme of archaeological recording) and 6 (window details) of planning permission ref: 23/00840/FUL (Change of use of existing barn, to stables, tack room and home office.) PL.00.03 - Window details at Ecclestone Hall, Lydiate Lane

24/01022/FULHH Single storey side/rear extension (following demolition of existing conservatory) at 15A Reeveswood

There were no objections to these applications.

144.24 Financial Matters.

i) The financial monitoring statement was considered.

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

ii) Resolved: the following payments were approved:

£ 30.36	Easy Websites	Website
£ 83.65	Waterplus	Water/wastewater (Hub)
£ 316.16	British Gas	Gas (Hub)
£ 30.36	Vodafone	Broadband (Hub)
£ 560.34	Lancashire County Council	Cleaning (Hub)
£ 35.00	LALC	Councillor training
£ 1122.00	Argus Fire and Security	Maintenance contracts/repair
£ 100.00	Ecclestone Scout Group	Newsletter delivery

£ 200.00	Eccleston Brass Band	Donation - Carol singing
£ 400.00	RBL Poppy Appeal	Donation and wreath
£ 3593.94	Staff costs	Salaries, deductions and reimbursements
£ 19.00	Chorley Council	Business rates (Changing Rooms)
£ 85.44	Everflow	Water/wastewater (Changing Rooms)

145.24 2025-26 Precept

A draft budget was provided for discussion purposes. Clarification was provided on certain items including the Community Infrastructure Levy receipts and budget and future spending. Updated budgets will be provided for the precept setting at the January meeting.

146.24 Deposit Accounts

Investment of funds held by the Council were discussed. A suggestion to place the funds in a 95 day notice deposit account with NatWest was put forward. An alternative suggestion to place the funds for a longer term was made.

Resolved: funds are to be placed in a 95 day notice account with NatWest Bank whilst research is carried out into long term investment accounts.

147.24 Remote Attendance and Proxy Voting at Local Authority Meetings

A response to a consultation by HM Government regarding remote and hybrid attendance and proxy voting at council meetings was considered. It was felt the current system of in person attendance should be retained.

150.24 Clerk's Report

The Carol singing will take place on Tuesday 17 December.

An inspection of the flooding problems on the field at Eccleston Primary School had been carried out. The problems have been queried with the Estates Department at Lancashire County Council, which had previously been involved with a sink hole on the field.

151.24 Reports from Outside Bodies

Information was provided on an upcoming local government review which could see changes to the format of Lancashire County Council and the borough councils.

153.24 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 9 January 2025.

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