

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Council Meeting held 9 February 2023 at 7.30 pm in The Community Hub, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

Present: Councillors H Thomas (Chairman), D Bonney, K Brown, M Brown, D Graham, C Heath, D Miller, M Miller and A Whittaker.

Also present: Borough Councillor H Heaton and 7 Members of the Public

13.23 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors R Burns, M Frost and K-J Kelly.

14.23 Declarations of Interests

None declared.

15.23 Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 January 2023

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

16.23 Public Participation

A representative of Ecclestone Croquet Club provided information in support of a grant application. The Club has recently achieved promotion and improvements to facilities are required, including sightscreens, an all weather practice wicket and car parking.

Details were provided regarding the refusal of a planning application at 148 The Green. And a suggestion to look into the possibility of having the building listed was made. It was mentioned the local dental practice is no longer taking NHS patients. Residents of The Fields had mentioned roads being used as a rat run at school times. A suggestion for a litter bin on the path between Reeveswood and Beechfields was put forward. The meeting was advised this had been requested previously and Chorley Council had responded litter bins are not available for estate roads.

17.23 Planning Matters

23/00039/FULHH Single storey side/rear extension at 7 Lawrence Close

23/00059/FULHH Single storey rear extension (following demolition of existing conservatory) at 5 The Cedars

23/00078/FULHH Erection of single storey side and rear extension at 31 Richmond Road

There were no objections to these applications.

Plans were presented for the Tincklers Lane development. The following suggestions were put forward:

Four of the properties are to access directly onto Doctors Lane. It was suggested the plans should be reconfigured for access to these properties to be via the main entrance to the development due to the poor visibility splay on Doctors Lane.

The 30mph speed limit should be extended to the junction of Doctors Lane and Tincklers Lane.

The proposed boundary treatment comprising of a 1.8m wooden fence should be softened with planting, similar to the Cricketers Green entrance.

Measures should be put in place to deal with an open ditch running from Doctors Lane to Tincklers Lane, which regularly overflows, often flooding the proposed site.

Resolved: the suggestions are to be submitted to the Planning Officer.

Plans for the development off Parr Lane were also presented. A request for clarification of the proposed boundary treatment to be provided to occupiers of existing neighbouring properties and the views of the occupiers regarding the proposed materials are taken into account is to be submitted to the Planning Officer.

18.23 Financial Matters

i) The financial monitoring statement was considered.

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

ii) A grant application for a contribution towards improving facilities at Eccleston Cricket Club was considered.

Resolved: a grant of up to £4500 towards the costs of improvements was awarded.

iii) Resolved: the following payments were approved:

£ 234.86	British Gas	Electricity (Hub)
£ 68.35	Everflow	Water, wastewater (Changing Rooms)
£ 534.90	Croston Plumbing & Heating	Repairs - Changing Rooms heating boiler
£ 395.00	DWG (NW)	Repairs - kissing gate
£ 2218.77	Staff costs	Salaries, deductions and reimbursements
£ 973.64	Opus Energy	Gas (Hub)
£ 25.45	Vodafone	Broadband (Hub)
£ 33.00	Chorley Council	Business rates (Changing Rooms)

19.23 Central Lancashire Local Plan Preferred Options Consultation

Councillors considered a response to the consultation. A new mixed use employment/housing site is proposed for Bygone Times and the surrounding area and the meeting was advised of the inclusion of the Camelot site with over 500 houses. Concerns are to be raised regarding the impact on local infrastructure including school places, medical facilities and drainage.

20.23 Neighbourhood Priorities

Suggestions for priorities for the Western Parishes Neighbourhood Area meeting were considered. A second village entrance marker at the Heskin end of the village and assistance with the display of the steam pump donated by a resident are to be put forward.

21.23 Committee Reports

Village Activities Committee - the Lancashire Night event was a success with positive feedback from attendees. Plans for this year's event have begun to be drawn up. Commemorative items for local schoolchildren are to be decided ahead of a family event to be held on Sunday 7 May.

Open Spaces Committee - the Recreation Park fundraising is going well and a local company has offered to provide a sensory garden. Pond clearing works have been ordered and will commence when weather and ground conditions allow.

22.23 Clerk's Report

Meetings had taken place with the insurance assessor and consultants regarding the water damage to the Changing Rooms. The damage is extensive and will require major internal repairs. Reports are to be prepared by the assessor and consultants.

23.23 Clerk's Retirement

Details of the Clerk's retirement were provided. The process for the appointment of a replacement was discussed and it was agreed the vacancy should be advertised via the Lancashire Association of Local Councils. The Personnel Committee is to review applications and provide recommendations to full Council for approval.

24.23 Reports from Outside Bodies

Dial-a-Ride - financial information was provided revealing a relatively healthy position. A shortage of volunteer drivers remains a problem.

25.23 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 9 March 2023.

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