

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 13 February 2025 at 7.30 pm in The Community Hub, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

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

Also present: 4 Members of the Public.

14.25 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor S Bland.

15.25 Declarations of Interests

None declared.

16.25 Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 January 2025

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

17.25 Councillor Vacancy

A application for co-option from Mrs Dianne Biggs was considered.

Resolved: Mrs Dianne Biggs was co-opted.

18.25 Public Participation

A resident queried the operation of the new bakery on The Green. Councillors advised it is an artisan bakery however the Parish Council has received no information relating to this.

The path around the Recreation Park was mentioned. The meeting was advised a contractor is to be appointed to repair the crossing over the culvert.

Dogs owners have been seen taking their dogs into the play area.

The operation of the speed indicator device at the Ecclestone Bridge entrance to the village was queried. As the device is solar powered, the operation will be intermittent during Winter months as, the batteries do not receive sufficient charge to function fully.

19.25 Planning Matters

24/001078/TPO Application for works to a protected tree - Chorley BC TPO 1 (Ecclestone) 2020: T1 Oak - Reduce side branches overhanging garden back by a length of 2 metres and remove deadwood. Half the tree is overhanging garden, so to reduce impact on garden, and to reduce weight out of heavy branches at 21 The Hawthorns

25/00020/TPO Application for works to protected trees - Chorley BC TPO 5 (Ecclestone) 2005: G1 Crown reduction of Beech and remove dead wood. T3 and T4 reduction in height to Yew trees at The Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Towngate

25/00040/FUL Change of use of a building from agriculture to mixed agriculture and B8 storage use and an extension to the building at Glendale, Tincklers Lane

25/00145/FUL Erection of detached double garage at Wood End Barn, Parr Lane

25/00146/FUL Erection of detached double garage at Orchard View, Parr Lane

There were no objections to these applications.

25/00143/PIP Permission in principle application for the erection of 5no. dwellings following the demolition of existing buildings at 14 Southport Road

Resolved: an objection is to be submitted on the grounds of inappropriate development within the Green Belt

20.25 Financial Matters.

i) The financial monitoring statement was considered.

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

ii) A request from the Ulnes Walton Action Group, for a pledge towards the costs of the legal fees associated with the legal challenge to the approval of the application for the Third Prison at Wymott, was considered. The pledge will be payable only if the challenge were to fail.

Resolved: a pledge of £500 was agreed.

iii) A request from St Mary's Church PCC, for assistance towards the costs of tree works in the graveyard, was deferred pending receipt of further information.

iv) Resolved: the following payments were approved:

£ 77.50	Everflow	Water/wastewater (Changing Rooms)
£ 58.20	British Gas	Electricity (Hub)
£ 110.72	British Gas	Electricity (Changing Rooms)
£ 83.65	Waterplus	Water/wastewater (Hub)
£ 30.36	Easy Websites	Website
£ 30.36	Vodafone	Broadband (Hub)
£ 5760.00	J T and K J Waterworth	Grass cutting 2024
£ 2799.98	Staff costs	Salaries, deductions and reimbursements
£ 736.99	British Gas	Gas (Hub)
£ 19.00	Chorley Council	Business rates (Changing Rooms)
£ 71.64	Everflow	Water/wastewater (Changing Rooms)
£ 546.24	British Gas	Gas (Changing Rooms)
£ 111.72	British Gas	Electricity (Hub)
£ 170.28	British Gas	Electricity (Changing Rooms)

21.25 Millennium Green

A report from a meeting with a Lancashire County Council Officer regarding problems with flooding on the School's playing field was provided. It was noted the problem appears to be due to a blocked drain in a private garden and the homeowner is to be contacted. The blockage may also have caused silting up of the ditch. A request was made for the Open Spaces Committee to discuss an access path to the rear of the School via the Millennium Green.

22.25 Clerk's Report

A burst pipe had caused further damage to ceilings two of the Changing Rooms. Quotations are being sought.

A resident with concerns regarding eviction from a property had been referred to Chorley Council's new Social Prescribing Service, which had provided assistance.

23.25 Reports from Outside Bodies

Chorley Liaison - details of the Social Prescribing Service and information on diversionary activity throughout Chorley Council Wards to assist with anti-social behaviour were provided.

24.25 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 13 March 2025.

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