

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Council Meeting held 12 January 2017 at 7.30 pm in The Changing Rooms, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

Present Councillors W Mason (Chairman), D Bonney, M Brown, H Caunce, V Caunce, C Mayor, M Miller and A Whittaker.

Also present County Councillor K Iddon and 3 Members of the Public.

01.17 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors L Armstrong, K Brown, M Frost and H Thomas.

02.17 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

Cllr Mason, as owner of a property adjoining the land, declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 10 (Assistance with Funding for the Purchase of Land). Cllr Miller, as a relative of an applicant for co-option, declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 3 (Councillor Vacancy).

03.17 Councillor Vacancy

Applications for co-option from Mr M Brown and Mrs D Miller were considered.

A paper ballot was held and the ballot papers checked under the supervision of a resident. M Brown was co-opted.

04.17 Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 December 2016

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

05.17 Matters Arising

176.16 The sandbag store is in place between the Youth Centre and the Scout Hut. Additional volunteers are needed to open the store in the event of major flooding.

Resolved: Standing Orders were suspended.

06.17 Public Participation

A member of the public queried Councillor's attendance details.

A resident mentioned a recent increase in the number of crimes in the village and advised residents had called the Police but received no response. A meeting with residents arranged by the Police in December was poorly attended and the Police are to be asked to publicise this type of event more widely in the future. A car wash scam, involving the theft of a vehicle, was also reported.

The latest crime figures for the village were provided, which confirmed an increase in reported crimes.

A resident queried whether commenting on planning applications relating to the discharge of conditions was worthwhile. Councillors advised there was little point as 'DIS' applications relate solely to the satisfying of conditions placed on developers. The resident queried whether a tree preservation order could be requested for some of the trees on the Tincklers Lane development.

A resident provided information relating to the sale of the land to be covered in agenda item 10, including reasons for a previous potential sale falling through.

The withdrawal of the C7 bus service by the operator was mentioned. A petition has been organised.

Fallen leaves were making the surface of Doctors lane, between the School and Beechfields slippery.

Resolved: Standing Orders were restored.

07.17 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

16/01119/DIS Application to discharge conditions 3 (external materials), 5 (levels), 6 (landscaping), 8 (Dwelling Emission Rate), 14 (footway scheme), 15 (surface water drainage scheme), 16 (foul water/drainage), 17 (hard surfacing), and 19 (road construction details) of application ref: 15/01246/FUL which was for the erection of seven residential dwellings at Land adjacent to 75 Towngate

16/01145/FULHH Erection of a first floor side extension at 107A Towngate

16/01166/FULHH Erection of a two storey side extension 31 Red House Lane

16/01181/DEMCON Application for prior determination of the proposed demolition of a detached bungalow at 203 The Green

Councillors had no comments relating to these applications.

16/01191/FUL Section 73 application to vary Condition 2 (which specifies the approved plans) of permission ref: 15/01246/FUL (which was for the erection of 7 no. residential dwellings and associated works - allowed on appeal) to allow plots 2, 3, 4 and 5 to be slightly re-sited at Land Adjacent to 75 Towngate

Resolved: a request for a Tree Preservation Order is to be submitted.

08.17 Financial Matters

The financial monitoring statement was considered.

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

A donation to Eccleston Brass Band for playing at the Carol Singing was considered.

Resolved: a donation of £200 was agreed.

Resolved: the following payments were approved, the invoices having been inspected in accordance with fidelity guarantee requirements.

| | | | |
|---|---------|------------------------|------------------------|
| £ | 690.71 | Employee 1 | Salary |
| £ | 461.44 | Employee 2 | Salary |
| £ | 446.60 | Employee 3 | Salary |
| £ | 120.33 | HM Revenue & Customs | Tax/NI |
| £ | 17.46 | Employee 2 | Reimbursements |
| £ | 100.00 | Eccleston Scout Group | Newsletter delivery |
| £ | 200.00 | Sprintprint | Newsletter printing |
| £ | 50.00 | Friends of St Mary's | Annual membership |
| £ | 117.24 | Galaxy Print | Workwear |
| £ | 4440.00 | J T and K J Waterworth | Annual mowing contract |
| £ | 282.49 | British Gas | Gas bill |
| £ | 29.80 | United Utilities | Metered water charge |
| £ | 59.31 | United Utilities | Surface water charge |
| £ | 65.00 | Chorley Council | Business rates |

09.17 Reductions in Local Services

Councillors discussed a suggestion from Chorley Council, for parishes whose residents might use the facilities at Eccleston Library, to provide funding from precepts to retain the Library. It was mentioned funding assistance from Chorley Council has resulted in the retention of the Library until March 2018. A meeting of parishes affected by the closure has been suggested.

Resolved: Parish Council representatives are to attend a meeting of relevant parishes.

10.17 Assistance with Funding for the Purchase of Land

A suggestion to assist with the acquisition of grassland off Bannister Lane (Long Meadows) for the village was considered. The land comprises two parcels linked by a strip of land with an advertised price of £120,000 and members of the Ecclestone Facebook Group have expressed an interest in crowd funding the purchase. Councillors discussed various aspects of the proposal including the price, and the fact that the land contains public rights of way.

Resolved: the Parish Council's interest in assisting with the acquisition is to be passed on to the members of the Group, with a request for further details relating to proposals to ensure future public access and ongoing maintenance.

11.17 2017-2018 Precept

The Precept for 2017-18 was considered. Councillors discussed items contained within a draft budget. Possible refitting of the Young People's Centre building was queried, together with funding requirements for the Library. The meeting was advised that, as the Library is funded until March 2018, this can be addressed in the 2018-19 precept calculations.

Resolved: the Precept for 2017 - 2018 was set at £44090, an increase of 2% in the cost of the Parish Council portion of council tax to residents, with the additional funds to be allocated to the Young People's Centre building.

12.17 Reports from Outside Bodies

No reports.

13.17 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 9 February 2017.

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

Eccleston Parish Council

Budgets 1 April 2017 - 31 March 2018

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Salaries | 22600 |
| General office expenses | 600 |
| Staff Costs | 300 |
| Training | 300 |
| Changing Rooms | 5500 |
| Subscriptions/entries | 600 |
| Repairs and replacements | 1500 |
| Annual audit | 400 |
| Grounds maintenance | 5000 |
| Millennium Green | 6000 |
| Newsletter | 1000 |
| Donations | 1500 |
| Flowers/planting | 750 |
| Christmas celebrations | 600 |
| Litter bins | 1000 |
| Play equipment | 5000 |
| Speed Indicator Device | 250 |
| Insurance | 3000 |
| Village activities | 1500 |
| Sundries | 1500 |
| Community Infrastructure Levy | 3890 |
| Earmarked Reserves | 5000 |
| General Reserve | 3600 |
| Young People's Centre | 9870 |
| Communications | 500 |
| | <u>81760</u> |
| Estimated Balance as at 12.01.17 | 45000 |
| Add: Anticipated income to 31.03.17 | 1960 |
| | 46960 |
| Less: Anticipated requirements to 31.03.17 | 10925 |
| Balance forward | 36035 |
| Add: Proposed precept | 44089 |
| Add: Proposed top up grant | 1636 |
| | <u>81760</u> |