

ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

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

Also present: 4 Members of the Public.

26.25 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors D Bonney and C Heath.

27.25 Declarations of Interests

None declared.

28.25 Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 February 2025

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

29.25 Public Participation

A representative from St Mary's Church PCC provided information in support of a request for assistance with the costs of works to trees along the public footpath.

A pothole at the entrance to the car park was reported. Arrangements for repair will be made.

The repair of the crossing over the culvert was queried. Councillors advised the work had been carried out.

30.25 Planning Matters

25/00085/FUL - Erection of a self-build, detached dwelling at Lydiate Farm, 12 Lydiate Lane

25/00156/FULHH Erection of detached garage at Grey Stone Cottage 18 Lydiate Lane

25/00157/CLPUD Application for a certificate of lawfulness for a proposed single storey rear extension at Grey Stone Cottage, 18 Lydiate Lane

25/00168/NOT Notice of intention to install 1no. temporary mast with associated cabinet equipment at Bygone Times, The Green

25/00210/FUL Construction of a 3 bedroom, self-build, dormer bungalow, following demolition of the existing dwelling at Sunnymead, Woodhart Lane

There were no objections to these applications.

The meeting was advised application 25/00143/PIP Permission in principle application for the erection of 5no. dwellings following the demolition of existing buildings at 14 Southport Road had been refused by Chorley Council's Planning Committee, together with application 25/00008/PIP Permission in principle application for the erection of up to five dwellings at Land North of Lydiate Farm Cottage, Lydiate Lane.

31.25 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 St Mary's Church PCC, for a grant towards the costs of works to trees either side of the Public Right of Way within the Church grounds, was considered. An award of £500 was proposed, followed by an amendment to award £1000. A further amendment to award £1200 was not seconded.

Resolved: a grant of £1000 was awarded.

iii) Resolved: the following payments were approved:

£	30.36	Easy Websites	Website
£	1.20	Metacre	Lease
£	2400.00	J L Hill and Son	Culvert repair
£	3299.53	Staff costs	Salaries, deductions and reimbursements
£	30.36	Vodafone	Broadband (Hub)
£	83.65	Waterplus	Water/wastewater (Hub)
£	19.00	Chorley Council	Business rates (Changing Rooms)
£	96.70	Everflow	Water/wastewater (Changing Rooms)
£	552.49	British Gas	Gas (Hub)
£	272.15	British Gas	Gas (Changing Rooms)
£	57.93	British Gas	Electricity (Hub)
£	123.35	British Gas	Electricity (Changing Rooms)

32.25 Risk Assessment

Councillors completed the annual review of the risk assessment in accordance with guidance contained within the publication 'Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance Practitioners' Guide 2024'. The existing procedures and controls were found to be adequate.

Resolved: the adequacy of the existing controls was noted.

33.25 Central Lancashire Local Plan

A response to a consultation regarding the preparation of a Joint Local Plan for Central Lancashire was considered. Councillors had no comments.

34.25 Banking Arrangements

NatWest Bank had advised that, due to increased annual credit turnover, the Parish Council is no longer eligible for free banking. Councillors felt that, as the anticipated amount of bank charges was not felt to be excessive, accounts should remain with NatWest.

35.25 Clerk's Report

Repairs to the culvert on the Recreation Park have been completed.

36.25 Reports from Outside Bodies

No reports.

37.25 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 10 April 2025.

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