

# ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING: Council Meeting, Thursday 14 November 2024, 7.30 pm.

VENUE: Eccleston Community Hub, Drapers Avenue, Eccleston.

## A G E N D A

- Apologies for Absence  
To receive apologies.
- Declarations of Interests  
Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or pecuniary interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda, or brought up at any point in this meeting, in accordance with the adopted Code of Conduct.
- Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 October 2024  
To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting distributed to Councillors.
- Public Participation  
The meeting will be adjourned.  
Members of the public may raise issues with the Council. No legal decisions may be taken.
- Planning Matters  
To consider planning applications.

Application	Proposed Development	Location
24/00862/FULHH	Extension to existing detached garage	Oak House Parr Lane
24/00863/FULHH	Erection of detached double garage	Wood End Byre Parr Lane
24/00864/FUL	Erection of garage to serve Woodend Barn (Plot 3) and Orchard View (Plot 7)	Hodge Brook House Parr Lane
24/00887/CLPUD	Application for a certificate of lawfulness for two proposed single storey side extensions, proposed two storey rear extension and two proposed outbuilding	14 Southport Road
24/00895/PDE	Notification of a proposed single storey rear extension measuring 8m in depth, with eaves height of 2.5m, and a maximum height of 2.8m	14 Southport Road
24/00903/FULHH	Proposed single storey side/rear extension, front porch, and elevational alterations (following demolition of existing conservatory to rear)	10 Banner Close
24/00928/FULHH	First floor side/rear extension, single storey side/rear extension (following demolition of existing conservatory)	11 Parr Lane
24/00939/AGR	Agricultural determination for the locating of a rainwater storage tan	Land 400m NW of Roselands Tincklers Lane

# ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

6. Financial Matters
  - i) To receive the finance update.
  - ii) To set the amount of the donation to the RBL Poppy Appeal.
  - iii) To consider requests for payment made to the Council.
7. Eccleston Primary School

To consider a request from Eccleston Primary School for assistance with clearance of a ditch.
8. Bank Account Signatories

To appoint additional signatories for the bank account.
9. Chorley Council Draft Housing Strategy 2025-30

To consider a response to a consultation.
10. Use of Changing Rooms Showers

To consider a request from Bike the UK for MS for the use of the Changing Rooms showers.
11. Investment Accounts

To select accounts for the investment of funds.
12. 2025-26 Precept

To consider information affecting the Precept calculations.
13. Clerk's Report

To note the Clerk's report.
14. Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)

To receive reports.
15. Date of Next Meeting

To confirm the date of the next meeting.
16. Exclusion of the Press and Public

To consider the exclusion of the press and public for the following items of business pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, in accordance with Part 1 (1, 2 and 3) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.
17. Personnel Matters

To consider matters relating to employees.
18. Will Trust

To consider suggestions for utilisation of the Will Trust funds.



CLERK

Published: 08/11/2024

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Minutes of Meeting held on 10 October 2024
4. Public Participation

#### 5. Planning

##### Permissions

Application	Proposed Development	Location
24/00779/FULHH	Single storey extension to side and rear	9 Lawrence Lane

Refusals: None

Withdrawn: None

#### 6. Finance

- i) Councillors will receive the monitoring statement.
- ii) The amount of the donation (inc the wreath) to the RBL Poppy Appeal will be agreed. Donations over previous 10 years were 2023 - £350, 2022 - £350, 2021 - £350 , 2020 - £350, 2019 - £320, 2018 - £300, 2017 - £250, 2016 - £200, 2015 - £200, 2014 - £200.
- iii) Requests for payment will be approved.

#### 7. Eccleston Primary School

Councillors will consider a request for assistance with financing of the clearance of a ditch (extracts from emails relating to the request below):

*Mr Platt please see the email from Eccleston School. I think we have had correspondence about this in the past but alas I can't find it. The ditch in question is on the other side of the school fence running towards Beechfields. Can you get a contractor to clear out the ditch please. I have met LCC on site and they say its not their responsibility*

*Alan Whittaker*

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*From: Bursar Eccleston*

*Hi Alan*

*I hope this message finds you well.*

*I am reaching out regarding the ongoing flooding issue affecting our school field. Following your recent visit where we looked at the issue and I showed you where the issue started, I have discussed this matter with United Utilities and learned that the pipe running under our field, which is causing the flooding, does not service the school but rather the Millenium Green. There is a ditch located just beyond our boundary fence, where the pipe inlet is situated. During heavy rainfall, this ditch fills with water; however, due to the pipe being obstructed by silt, leaves, and other debris, water cannot flow through it. Consequently, the excess water overflows onto our field.*

*United Utilities advised that clearing the drain inlet is essential to alleviate the blockage. They indicated that this responsibility falls to the landowner. I have informed them that Lancashire County Council (LCC) owns the land, though it is under a long-term lease to the Parish Council.*

## 7. Eccleston Primary School (cont.)

Could you kindly review the lease agreement to clarify whether the responsibility for resolving this issue rests with the Parish Council or remains with LCC as we are keen to get this matter sorted ASAP due to the length of time this issue has been going on for.

Kindest regards  
School Business Manager

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Copies of the plan attached to the lease agreement between LCC and the Eccleston Millennium Green Trust, demonstrating the ditch is outside the boundary of the Millennium Green, and a United Utilities drainage plan will be emailed to Councillors ahead of the meeting.

## 8. Bank Account Signatories

Additional authorised signatories are required for the mandate with NatWest Bank. It is suggested at least two signatories are required. Councillors will be asked to volunteer (the process would be simpler for anyone with current banking facilities with NatWest as they would be required to provide less information).

## 9. Chorley Draft Housing Strategy 2025-30

A response to a Chorley Council consultation will be considered (details emailed to Councillors 8 November).

## 10. Use of Changing Rooms Showers

A request from the Bike the UK for MS Charity for the use of the Changing Rooms showers will be considered (details below):

Dear Clerk,

*Firstly I would like to thank you for letting our team use your showers earlier this year, we are very grateful! We will be passing through Eccleston on the 10th July 2025 on our Lands End to John O'Groats ride next year fundraising for those living with Multiple Sclerosis in the UK, once again staying overnight with the local Scout group. Would you be able to help us again with access to showers for our riders? I look forward to hearing from you!*

Many thanks  
Charlotte Austin  
Bike the UK for MS

The Football Club has confirmed there is nothing planned for this date.

## 11. Investment Accounts

Accounts for the investment of funds will be selected. Rates available from the current bankers are:

NatWest Instant Access	1.36% AER (reducing to 1.26% 24 January 2025)
NatWest 35 Day Notice of Withdrawal	3.00% AER (reducing to 2.75% 24 January 2025)
NatWest 95 Day Notice of Withdrawal	3.75% AER (reducing to 3.49% 24 January 2025)

Details of alternative rates have been requested.

## 12. 2025-26 Precept

Ahead of the setting of the Precept at the January 2025 meeting, it is intended to produce a draft precept for discussion at the December meeting. Councillors are invited to provide suggestions for major items of expenditure for inclusion in the budgets. Councillors will also be able to provide suggestions after the meeting, in time for production of the December agenda.

Councillors should note the rate of employer Secondary Class 1 National Insurance Contributions (employer NICs) will increase from 13.8% to 15% from 6 April 2025. The Secondary Threshold is the point at which employers become liable to pay NICs on employees' earnings, and is currently set at £9,100 a year. The government will reduce the Secondary Threshold to £5,000 a year from 6 April 2025 until 6 April 2028, and then increase it by Consumer Price Inflation thereafter. Based on current employee's earnings, this is estimated to add approx £1900 to staff costs for 2025-26.

(cont.)

**13. Clerk's Report**

Speed Indicators - speed indicators have been installed at the locations on Towngate and Langton Brow. It should be noted the indicators are solar powered and the charging of the batteries is less effective during Winter months.

**14. Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)**

Councillors will provide reports from any outside bodies attended as a representative of the parish council.

**15. Date of Next meeting**

Thursday 12 December 2024.

**16. Exclusion of the Press and Public**

Councillors will resolve the exclusion of members of the press and public for the following item.

**17. Personnel Matters**

See private reports.

**18. Will Trust Funds**

See private reports.

**Forthcoming Events**

Meetings usually begin at 6:30pm at Chorley Town Hall. Confirmation will be sent as and when received.

Chorley Liaison - Wednesday 22 January 2025

Wednesday 19 March 2025

Western Parishes Neighbourhood Area meeting - Monday 17 March 2025

## ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 10 October 2024 at 7.30 pm in The Community Hub, Drapers Avenue, Ecclestone.

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

Also present: 4 Members of the Public.

108.24 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs D Bonney, M Brown, C Heath, A Marsh and D Miller.

109.24 Declarations of Interests

None declared.

110.24 Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 September 2024

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

111.24 Public Participation

A resident queried a problem with a tree on Drapers Avenue, which was raised at the last meeting. This had been reported to Lancashire Council Council.

Wires across the road on The Green were queried. The meeting was advised the wires were likely to be traffic counters.

Details of the amounts of Community Infrastructure Levy funds due to be received were provided.

112.24 Planning Matters

24/00779/FULHH Single storey extension to side and rear at 9 Lawrence Lane

24/00780/TPO Application for works to protected trees - Chorley BC TPO 3 (Ecclestone) 2022: Oaks 32T, 33T, 34T and Oak within 16G - Crown raise at Land at Tincklers Lane

24/00811/FUL Section 73 application to vary condition 3 (approved plans) of planning permission ref. 22/00210/FUL (Demolition of existing buildings and erection of three detached dwellings with associated works and landscaping) to add phasing and existing floor plans) at Wright's Garden Centre, New Lane Nurseries, New Lane

24/00770/PIP Permission in principle application for two dwellings following the demolition of an existing dwelling at Park Dene, 428 Langton Brow

There were no objections to these applications.

113.24 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 for a contribution towards the provision of a public access defibrillator at St Agnes Church was considered.

Resolved: a grant of £350.00, from the Community Infrastructure Levy budget, was awarded.

iii) Resolved: the following payments were approved:

£	95.50	Everflow	Water/wastewater (Changing Rooms)
£	30.36	Easy Websites	Website
£	72.86	Waterplus	Water/wastewater (Hub)
£	756.00	PKF Littlejohn	Audit fee

£ 4784.83	A J Gallagher	Annual insurance premium
£ 2750.17	Staff costs	Salaries, deductions and reimbursements
£ 30.36	Vodafone	Broadband (Hub)
£ 35.00	Information Commissioner	Data Protection Registration
£ 19.00	Chorley Council	Business rates (Changing Rooms)
£ 122.18	British Gas	Gas (Hub)
£ 57.73	British Gas	Electricity (Hub)

114.24 Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2024  
The report of the External Auditor was noted. Confirmation of the publication of the notice of conclusion of audit was provided.

115.24 Internal Audit Review

The annual review of the effectiveness of the internal audit was carried out.

Resolved: the current system of internal audit was found to be adequate.

Councillors considered the appointment of the Internal Auditor for the current financial year and the internal audit fee.

Resolved: Mrs A Partington was appointed and the fee set at £150.

116.24 Polling Place Review

A Chorley Council consultation concerning the suitability of polling places was considered.

Councillors reported there had been no issues regarding access to the current polling stations raised by residents.

117.24 Remembrance Parade

Details of the arrangements for the Remembrance Parade were confirmed.

118.24 Clerk's Report

Speed Indicators - sites have been approved and the devices are awaiting installation by Lancashire County Council Highways Officers.

Councillors were advised of the need for additional signatories on the bank account. An item to appoint additional signatories will be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

Will Trust - funds being processed and an item will be included on the November agenda to discuss investment of funds and proposals for use.

2025-26 Precept - Councillors were asked to provide the Clerk with details of suggestions for possible large items of expenditure to be factored into the draft budgets.

119.24 Reports from Outside Bodies

No reports.

120.24 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 14 November 2024.

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

..... ( Chairman)