

Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 19 May 2015 at 7pm at Eccleston Village Hall, Kiln Lane

Present Councillor R Barton (Chairman)
Councillor K S Barton (Deputy Chairman)
Councillor N Ashcroft
Councillor A Bate
Councillor K D Roughley
Councillor E Uren

Also in Attendance J Anderson (Clerk to the Council), W Ashcroft, S Bligh

- 1 Prayers: The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayers for the work of the Council.
- 2 Apologies: Councillor M McNulty
- 3 Acceptance of Office/Declaration of Interest: All Councillors completed Acceptance of Office and Declaration of Interest forms with the exception of Cllr McNulty.
- 4 Election of Chairman: Cllr Richard Barton, the outgoing Chairman, expressed his thanks for all the help, guidance and support offered to him by his fellow members of the Council and the Clerk during his year in office.
It was proposed, seconded and resolved that Cllr Sheila Barton be appointed Chairman for the forthcoming municipal year 2015/16 and having accepted her appointment was installed as Chairman.

Cllr S Barton in the Chair

Cllr Sheila Barton thanked the Councillors for voting her in as Chairman. She thanked the retiring Chairman Cllr Richard Barton for the excellent work he had carried out in his year in office. Cllr S Barton also thanked Councillors and the Clerk for their continued support.

- 5 Election of Deputy Chairman: **It was proposed, second and resolved** that Cllr Nancy Ashcroft be appointed as Deputy Chairman for the forthcoming municipal year 2015/16.
- 6 Council Procedures and Appointment of Committees: **Resolved that:**
 - (a) meetings, generally, to be held on the third Tuesday of each month to commence at 7.00pm, except in August, when there would not be a meeting, and also that the Annual Assembly be held in March 2016.
 - (b) a Finance Ctte should continue for 2015/16 to give initial consideration to appropriate matters, and to make recommendations to the Parish Council. The Ctte should comprise of the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, immediate past year's Chairman plus substitute membership, at the discretion of the Chairman.
 - (c) for those planning applications requiring early attention there be delegated powers to the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and a Parish Councillor resident in the vicinity of the site in question to consider the application.
 - (d) regarding public footpaths within the Parish, residents should be urged to walk them at all times and to report any damage or obstruction of the paths to Cllr Bate in order that any necessary action may be taken.

- 7 Standing Orders: **Resolved that** the model standing orders, issued by NALC, be adopted as appropriate for the meetings of the Parish Council, with the provision for the termination of ordinary business at 9.39pm, and with the opportunity for the discussion of 'Parish Matters' on the agenda.
- 8 Banking Accounts and Financial Procedures: **Resolved that:**
(a) the NatWest Bank be the Council's bankers and that the bank be authorised to honour cheques drawn on the current account held in the bank, which should be signed by 2 members of the Council plus the Clerk to the Council in accordance with the current mandate.
(b) the latest model financial regulations be adopted and be subject to any further study and recommendations by the Finance Ctte for consideration at a subsequent meeting of the Council.
(c) the responsibility for the financial affairs of the Council be vested in the Clerk to the Council, as the Responsible Financial Office (RFO).
(d) there be delegated the authority to sign cheques in accordance with the management agreement to those Cllrs on the Ecclesfield Sports Facility Management Ctte.
(e) Mr Philip Taylor continues as internal auditor for 2015/16.
- 9 Code of Conduct: **Resolved that:** the model Code of Conduct be adopted for 2015/16
- 10 Lancashire Association of Local Councils/National Association of Local Councils/ Merseyside Association of Local and Parish Councils: **Resolved that:**
(a) the Council retain membership for the year 2015/16 but notice be given of non-renewal of membership as of April 2016.
(b) the representatives on the LALC Area Ctte be Cllrs R and S Barton
- 11 Representation on Other Bodies: **Resolved that:** the following members of the Council be approved as representatives on the following bodies:
(a) Bleak Hill Governors – Cllr N Ashcroft and Cllr S Barton
(b) Police and Community Forum – Cllr K Roughley
(c) Windle United Charities – Cllr N Ashcroft
(d) St Helens District Sports Council – To be confirmed
(e) Age UK – Cllr M McNulty and Cllr E Uren
(f) Crime Prevention – To be confirmed
(g) Halton and St Helens VCA – Cllr N Ashcroft
(h) Ecclesfield Management Ctte – Cllr S Barton, Cllr R Barton and Cllr Bate

The meeting closed at 7.45pm

Signed:
Chairman

Date: