

Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 15th June 2010, at Eccleston Village Hall, Kiln Lane

Present: Councillor K.D. Roughley (Chairman)
Cllr. S. A. Bligh (Deputy Chairman)
Cllr. Mrs. N. J. Ashcroft
Cllr. W. Ashcroft
Cllr. Mrs. K. S. Barton
Cllr. R. W. Barton
Cllr. Mrs. A. Bate
Cllr. Mrs. M. McNulty

Also in Attendance : L. J. Kilshaw (Clerk to the Council)

32. Prayers

The Chairman welcomed everyone, and opened the meeting with prayers for the work of the Council.

33. Apologies – had been received for Cllr. Mrs. E. Uren – away on holiday.

34. Declarations of Interest

Councillors Mrs. N. J. and W. Ashcroft amended their previous forms .
Cllr. K. D. Roughley and Cllr. Mrs. A. Bate declared an interest in two of the planning applications to be considered, and would, therefore, not take part in any discussion concerning them.

35. Parish Matters

a) Mrs. Jane Dearden, a well known resident of Moss Lane, had been awarded an M.B.E. in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours List for her services to carers.
Resolved that a letter of congratulation be sent to Mrs. Dearden from the Council.

b) Cllr. Mrs. N. J. Ashcroft informed Council that a resident, Mr. R. Greatorex, had complained about an advert. for XL Garages , which was being displayed on a vehicle at Windle Island. The matter had been reported to St Helens Council but the offender has to be given 10 days notice to remove it.

c) Mr. Palfrey had complained that the brown refuse-bins were not being collected from the cul de sac. St. Helens Council had promised to take the matter up with the crew concerned in order to solve the problem.

d) There was a need for new anti dog fouling signs to be posted at both ends of Stuart Way .
Resolved that a letter be sent to the Dog Warden to request this action.

36. Minutes

The Council received the minutes of both the :-

1.) Annual Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 18th May 2010 and

2.) the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the same date – both of which had been circulated previously .

Resolved that both sets of minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

37. Matters Arising –

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the Annual Meeting, but ref. the ordinary meeting minutes:

Ref. min 16d – it was reported that the situation remained the same on the footpath. Highways Dept. to be informed.

Resolved that a letter be sent to Highways Dept. to request removal of the grit etc. And ref.min.25. the Clerk reported that the Meerkat garden ornaments had been purchased and delivered :

Resolved that these be presented to the School on Tuesday 29th June at 1.00pm .

38. Planning Matters:

The Clerk gave an invitation to comment in respect of :

A) Planning Applications

1. P/2010/0447 – Mr. A. Breakley, 39 Queens Drive WA10 6HE – 2stry.extn. to side & rear plus porch to front.

Resolved that there were no points to raise.

2. P/2010/ 0459- Topaz Embroidery, Lynton Way- Retro application for advert. fascia sign on the gable elevation.

Resolved that the Council considered the sign to be reasonably neat and inobtrusive. However it is necessary to point out that some previous tenants of these shops had erected advertising signs and banners at this gable end, and especially on the boundary wall, which items had to be removed following complaints from residents living on Bleak Hill Rd. and facing the gable end.

Should any such complaints be made the Council would feel obliged to support them, on the grounds that this is primarily a residential area.

*3. P/2010/0476 – Mr. D. Whittle, 2 Prince Andrew's Grove, Windle, WA10 6HA- Demolition of existing detached garage and erectn. of new single stry.side & rear extn.

*4. P/2010/0477- Mr. D. Cathcart – 4 Prince Andrew's Grove, Windle WA10 6HA- Single stry. rear extn. with new pitched roof over existing flat roof.

Resolved that there were no objections to be made concerning these two applications.

(* Councillors K.D. Roughley and A. Bate, having declared an interest in both these applications, did not take part in the discussion and decision concerning them.)

B. The Clerk informed Council an appeal had been made to the Planning Inspectorate regarding the refusal decision against;

P/2009/0879- Hollytree Barn, Rainford Rd. – installation of pvcu windows and fascia etc. in a grade2 listed bldng.

Resolved that no additional comment be made to the original reply by the Council, but that the Council were still in favour of the refusal decision.

39. Other Correspondence

The Clerk submitted the following items of correspondence, to be dealt with as indicated;

a) Letter from LALC (plus minutes of the last meeting) to give advice of the North West Allotments Officers' Forum to be held on Thursday 6th July 2010 in Preston. Received and Noted.

b) Details received from Gill Pinder (St Helens Council) concerning "Consultation on Preferred Options Report – Joint Merseyside Waste Development Plan Document"

A public meeting has now been arranged for Tuesday, 29th June 2010 at the Sankey Suite, World of Glass, Chalon Way St Helens commencing at 6pm.

Received and Noted.

40. Ecclesfield Sports Facility

Nil report.

41. LALC/MAPTC/NALC/SLCC

The proposed offer of a visit to Lancaster Castle-see min.22- 18th May 2010- was still open.

Noted

42. Lynton Way Play Area

There did not appear to have been any further incidents at the play area, but the opening and closing arrangements, at weekends only, were currently being continued.

43. J. Malone Garden – Report

Cllr. Mrs. McNulty reported that the garden was flourishing at the present time, and apart from a few weeds, seemed to be in order.

44. Parish Newsletter

The June 2010 edition had now been distributed and early reports suggested that it had been well received by the readership.

The editor, Cllr. Ken Roughley, was congratulated on his excellent work in compiling the magazine, and he in turn thanked everyone concerned in its prompt distribution.

45. Parish Clerks Meeting – Report

The Clerk gave a report on a meeting of the Parish Clerks in St Helens, held at the Town Hall, with Peter Blackburn and John Skinley summarising points raised;

a) Appointment of Parish Council representatives on the Local Standards Committee- the arrangement that had been in use since 2002 was that each of the

seven Parish Councils would, in turn, be invited to put forward a representative. The order in which the Parish Council would be invited was decided by lot. Thus only Eccleston and Rainhill are the only ones yet to be invited to propose a representative on this basis. It had been agreed, by the Standards Committee, that this system be retained for the next two vacancies to arise, in order to retain equity between the Councils, after which the process would be revised.

The Standards Committee is currently composed of 5 members of St Helens B.C. + 3 Parish Councillors + 3 independent members.

However the Bold Parish Councillor has resigned from the Standards Committee. The Windle and Billinge Chapel End representatives have still, approximately, two years to run.

The proposal for selecting parish council representatives by the Standards Committee is that all Parish Councils would be invited to put a candidate forward to fill the vacancy. Applications would be considered against the identified skills and competencies for the post, and interviews conducted by the sub-committee approved by the Council in the Independent Member appointments.

(Peter Blackburn requested that the parish councils should let him have any comments on this proposal, which could be fed back to the Standards Committee in due course.)

b) Code of Conduct and Standards for England

Peter Blackburn reported that at the end of 2008 Standards for England consulted on proposed amendments to the code of conduct with a view to introducing a new code by the Spring of 2009. This code had never materialised and as new code was awaited no training for elected members had been arranged since 2007, except for newly elected members.

Since it was now unclear when or even if a new code would be issued the view of the Standards Committee was that training should be arranged on the basis of the existing code. The uncertainty regarding the revision code of conduct was exacerbated by the fact that the Government had indicated that Standards for England was soon to be abolished. The proposed training would also be made available to Parish Councillors and Clerks, as was the case previously.

c) St Helens Council Administration – following the local elections on the 6th May 2010 and the resultant change in administration- no changes had yet been announced.

d) Parish Council Elections 2011- John Skinley circulated information on the basis of costs and actual charges made to parish councils, arising from the 2007 parish council elections, in order to give some indication as to the likely costs involved in 2011.

46. Christmas Tree Lighting 2010 and Glass Plaque Roll of Honour Project

Further consultations with the School had produced the following:

a) Agreed date for the ceremony Friday, 3rd December 2010

b) Possible alternative sites and arrangements for the tree etc. - to be explored further.

(In addition Peter Blackburn and Andy Dempsey had been supplied with copies of email correspondence with St Helens Council Lighting Dept. and had promised to try to alleviate the existing situation.)

c) Mr. Ian Wellens (Head Teacher- Bleak Hill School) had kindly confirmed his agreement with the placement of Roll of Honour Plaque and agreed possible sitings in the School.

d) The Meerkat Garden ornaments were to be presented to the School, by the Chairman, on Tuesday 29th June 2010 at a short ceremony at 1.00pm. All Councillors are invited to attend .

47. Garden Competition 2010 – Report

Judging to be carried out Wednesday 30th June. Some complaints from residents that they were assuming from the entry form that there was no front garden category.

Resolved that in future it should be made clear that all gardens were to be considered in the competition.

48. Reports from Other Bodies

No reports.

49. Finance:

(1.) Balances – The Clerk reported that the balances, at 1st June 2010, were-

Current Account £4263.29
Capital Deposit Account £7823.69

(2.) Payment of Accounts :

Resolved that approval be given for payment of the following accounts;

	£
DSG Retail Ltd. (PC World) Ink cartridges, stationery	62.35
Eccleston Parish Council Room hire 15/06/2010	20.00
L. J. Kilshaw Salary, Postage, Stationery	313.38
L. J. Kilshaw Reimbursement for purchase of W.H.Smith gift cards for School Prize Awards on 22/07/10	130.00

Date of Next Meeting.

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, 20th July 2010, commencing at 7.00pm at Eccleston Village Hall. Kiln Lane.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) _____ (Date)