

# WINDLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on  
Tuesday, 17 May 2005 at Eccleston Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillor K D Roughley (Chairman)  
Councillor Mrs K S Barton (Deputy Chairman)  
Councillor Mrs N J Ashcroft  
Councillor W Ashcroft  
Councillor R W Barton  
Councillor Mrs M P Fraser  
Councillor A F Rigby  
Councillor Mrs B Walsh

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

13. Prayers

Prayers for the work of the Council had been said previously on the opening of the Annual Meeting.

14. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Councillor Mrs E Uren, who was recovering from injuries sustained in a road accident.

15. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.

16. Parish Matters

- (a) It was reported that the sun bed shop on Kiln Lane had ceased to operate and current rumours suggested that it may re-open as a sandwich shop. Youths continued to congregate outside the premises.
- (b) Police had acted to pursue parking offenders in Regal Drive, but Peter Houlton continued to disturb residents on occasion with overnight bus parking.

17. Proposed Parish Boundary Changes

No further developments had been announced.

18. Minutes

The Council received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19 April 2005, which had been circulated previously. It was pointed out that with reference to minute 229, the residents had voted against the painting of a mural at Ecclesfield. After this amendment had been made it was

Resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19 April 2005 be confirmed as a true and correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

19. Matters Arising(a) Minute 222 (b)

Councillor Mrs M P Fraser thanked Councillor W Ashcroft for visiting Mr John Ellison, the Stuart Road resident who had celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on 26 April 2005.

(b) Minute 227

With reference to the letter from the Campaign to Protect Rural England, Councillor Mrs N J Ashcroft apologised to the Council for not dealing with the matter raised, as promised.

20. Planning Applications

The Clerk submitted an invitation to comment in respect of the following planning applications:

P/2005/0428 – J K Nuttall & S Sims, 8 Malt House Court, Rainford Road – protected trees.

This was, in fact, an amendment to P/2005/0428 (see minute 226 (iii) at 19.4.05 meeting, when the application had requested permission to cut back the two trees involved. Now the applicants were requesting permission to remove the trees altogether. The Clerk had consulted with the Planning Officer involved and had asked whether the two trees would be replaced. He had been informed that the Tree Inspector had given his opinion that, as there were numerous similar trees at the site, it would not be necessary to replace the offending trees, which needed to be cut down.

Resolved that no comments be made regarding P/2005/0428.

21. Other Correspondence

The Clerk submitted the following correspondence, to be dealt with as indicated.

- (a) 'Contact' – latest issue – Received.
- (b) Letter from Mayor's Office, giving details of arrangements for Mayor's Sunday, 22 May 2005 – Noted.
- (c) Notice of Annual Meeting of the Borough Council on Wednesday, 18 May 2005 – Received.

22. Quality Parish Councils

No further developments.

23. Insurance Cover 2005/06

The invitation to renew at a cost of £431.69 (cf £366.31 last year) with Allianz Cornhill was submitted and discussed.

The Clerk reminded the Council that it was always necessary to use only tools owned and provided by the Parish Council when carrying out tasks such as garden maintenance at the Jim Malone Garden, in order to ensure insurance cover.

The current cover did not provide cover for computer equipment, but the Clerk had ascertained from Allianz Cornhill that the additional premium to cover, say, £1500 worth of computer equipment would be less than £7.00.

Resolved that the renewal of the cover be approved.

24. Ecclesfield Sports Facility

Nil report.

25. LAPTC

- (a) The NALC Annual Conference was scheduled for 23 – 25 September 2005 at Eastbourne Winter Gardens – Noted.
- (b) The Clerk informed that the annual subscription covering membership of the LAPTC/MAPTC was now due. After discussion, it was

Resolved that membership be maintained and to include two subscriptions only for NALC Magazine – one for the Clerk and one for Councillors K S and R W Barton.

26. Windle Parish Website

The Clerk confirmed that matters were coming to fruition and the computer purchase, etc should be made within the next month or so.

27. Footpath Walks

A total of 9 people had taken part in the last walk, but it was hoped to increase the number after the publicity in the forthcoming Parish Newsletter. The next walk would be on Sunday, 12 June.

28. Garden Competition

Councillor Mrs M P Fraser agreed to organise the Poster Competition at Bleak Hill School.

29. Parish Newsletter

The new edition was due for printing this week and distribution planned for early June.

30. Lynton Way Play Area

Councillor W Ashcroft reported that as a result of complaints from residents, who lived close to the play area, he, together with his two fellow Ward Councillors, had called an emergency action meeting.

This meeting had been attended by three residents, a police representative, David Bielowski (St Helens Council, Parks & Leisure Department), the Ward Councillors and the Clerk to the Parish Council.

In an effort to combat youth misbehaviour, it had been provisionally agreed to request early closure of the play area at 6.30 pm, as opposed to the normal summer closure time of 8.30 pm.

This announcement provoked some heated discussion by the members of the Parish Council. Some opposition was raised and adverse comments made. The question of protocol was raised in that Lynton Way Play Area was surely a Parish Council matter.

Councillor W Ashcroft stoutly defended the emergency action proposed, as it was at the behest of long-suffering residents and something needed to be done immediately.

David Bielowski had taken note of various other suggestions made regarding fencing, etc to pursue with Brian Johnson (St Helens Council, Parks & Leisure Manager).

The measures regarding closure were only a temporary emergency action and, whilst he agreed about the protocol concern, he thus requested ratification of the action by the Parish Council. To improve matters it was suggested that the residents might be invited to attend a Parish Council meeting to present their case and help determine the best course of action, along with other personnel such as David Bielowski and a police representative.

After further discussion it was

Resolved that the Parish Council would ratify the decision for the temporary action taken reference earlier closure (on a vote – 6 in favour, 1 against).

Councillor Mrs N J Ashcroft requested that her objection to the word “disgusting”, used by fellow Councillor Mrs M P Fraser in describing the early closing action, be placed on record.

31. Jim Malone Garden

Councillor W Ashcroft reported that he had carried out early season maintenance at the Jim Malone Garden, ie necessary trimming and the application of weedkiller, etc.

32. Reports From Other Bodies

No reports made.

33. Finance

(a) Balances

The Clerk reported that the balances at 30 April 2005 were as follows:

Current Account - £6446.52\*

Capital Reserve Account - £6122.06

\*This high figure due to receipt of first half of the precept on 30 April 2005, which was subsequently transferred to the Capital Reserve Account.

(b) External Audit

The Clerk informed that the date for the External Audit was to be 29 July 2005.

(c) Internal Audit Report

The Clerk presented the satisfactory report received from Mr John Friar, the Internal Auditor.

(d) Payment of Accounts

Resolved that approval be given to the payment of the following accounts:

		£
LAPTC	Annual Subscription	424.17
Eccleston Parish Council	Room Hire 17.5.05	18.00
Allianz Cornhill Insurance Co plc	Annual Premium	431.69
L J Kilshaw	Salary & Post	239.46
J Friar	Internal Audit Fee Year ended 31.3.05	115.00

34. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 21 June 2005 at 7.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Date \_\_\_\_\_

LJK/SAH