

Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Windle Parish Council, held on Tuesday 17th
September 2013, at the Eccleston Village Hall, Kiln Lane

Present: Councillor W. Ashcroft (Chairman)

Cllr. R.W. Barton (Deputy Chairman)

Cllr. Mrs. N. J. Ashcroft

Cllr. Mrs. K.S. Barton

Cllr. Mrs. A. Bate

Cllr. S. A. Bligh

Cllr. Mrs. M. McNulty

Cllr. K. D. Roughley

Cllr. Mrs. E. Uren

66.) Prayers: The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with a prayer for the work of the Council.

67.) Apologies: None made.

68.) Declarations of Interest: None made.

69.) Parish Matters

a) Cllr. M.McNulty informed that one car was still being parked on Bleak Hill Road near the brow of the hill, and the junction with Stuart Road. And also

b) A resident of Windle Grove was complaining of a dangerous manhole cover near "Starbucks" on Rainford Road. The relevant contact numbers were supplied for requesting further action by St Helens Council.

c) Complaints of dog-fouling being prevalent in both Hamilton and Coronation Roads.

Resolved to request further dog-fouling prevention signs to be posted in the Parish

d) There seemed to be a deterioration in some road surfaces in the Parish, notably Regal Drive.

70.) Position of Deputy Chairman 2013-2014

Cllr. Ken Roughley reiterated the reasons why he felt the need to resign from this position, and so, his resignation was reluctantly accepted by the Parish Council. The Chairman expressed thanks for his services to the Council.

It was proposed – by Cllr. N. J. Ashcroft -and seconded – by Cllr. Ken Roughley- that Cllr. Richard Barton be appointed to the post, and this was carried unanimously, and Cllr. R. Barton was pleased to accept the position of Deputy Chairman.

71.) Parish Clerk – Salary Increase

The Clerk informed that there had been a National Salary Increase agreed, which would be back-dated to 1st April 2013, and he would give details, at a later meeting, for consideration and agreement by the Council.

71.) Minutes: The Council received the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Council, held on Tuesday, 16th July 2013, copies of which had been circulated previously.

Resolved that these minutes be accepted, and be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

72.) Matters Arising:

Ref. min55- The Planning Presentation at the Town Hall had been attended by Cllr. Roughley and the Clerk, and a brief report was given to the Parish Council. The main points emerging concerned the possible intention to build on green belt sites. There

was concern expressed about land-banking by builders of such sites. It had been confirmed that builders would still be able to renew planning applications every three years, and thus, retain them in their land-banks.

73.) Planning Matters; The Clerk gave opportunity for comment on the following:

(A) Applications-

a) P/2013/0594- - 132 Bleak Hill Rd.- Erection of green-house

b) P/2013/ 0692 42 Rutherford Rd.- Amended proposal – Replacement of existing polycarbonate roof on rear conservatory to a tiled roof.

(B) Approvals – P/2013/0438- 26 Coronation Rd. 1st Flr. Rear extn, over kitchen

P/2013/0441- 79 Rainford Rd. – Conversn. of garage into an habitable room, along with a detached outbuilding to form a hobby-room.

P/2013/0566- 16 Calderhurst Drive- 1ST Flr.Rear Extn.

P/2013/0570- 31 Hamilton Rd.- s./stry.side & rear extn.

P /2013/0581- 91 Windle Grove- s/stry. rear extn.projecting 4m.ex the rear, 3.75m high overall & 2.4m. to the eaves

Resolved that no objections or comments be made concerning the two applications in A, and that the five approvals in B be noted.

74.) Other Correspondence -The Clerk submitted the following items of correspondence, to be dealt with as indicated:

a) Statement of Licensing Policy Consultation from St Helens Council- Cllr Mrs. N.J. Ashcroft, as a former Chair of the Licensing Committee- St Helens Council, undertook to study the review and any proposed changes and report back to the Parish Council.

b) An email had been received from a gentleman (P. Duffil), now living in Spain after retiring in Argentina, and he attached a copy of a family tree for the Cross family. Apparently one ancestor, William Cross (1733-1817) built Windle Grange, and further information mentioned “Dentons Green Brewery” and the “Abbey Hotel” and the “Gerard Arms” and “Cockleshell Cottage”. The Clerk had passed on these documents to Peter Harvey and the Local History Society, with a request for any information that might be of interest to Pedro (Peter) Duffil to be emailed directly to him.

75. Ecclesfield Sports Facility- Report

A committee meeting held at the end of July had considered the state of the pitches and a request for Pitch 5 to be reinstated, 20 tons of soil was to be added to Pitch 4. Complaints had been received concerning golf being practised on the field. The possibility of the establishment of a wild flower area on the field was mentioned. A further meeting was held earlier this month and it was reported that a new user had been enrolled. An email from St Helens Council informed that the testing of the water used in the changing room showers for Legionnaire's disease- a risk assessment would cost £150.

The next meeting was scheduled for December 2013.

76. LALC/MAPTC/NALC/SLCC

Details of an Employment Workshop and other courses to be held at Penwortham, Preston, and conducted by the Lancashire & Merseyside County Training Partnership were given.

NALC had sent a copy of a draft Future Strategy - the three main objectives being:

- 1) "Delivering quality services to County Associations and member councils"
- 2) "Creating new local councils and aiding membership growth"
- 3) "Promotion and representation"

Received and Noted

77. Lynton Way Play Area- There is hope of a meeting with the three Ward Councillors, to discuss the Play Area.

78. J. Malone Garden - Report The Millenium Bench had been cleaned and re-stained and restored to something akin to its former glory. This had been carried out by the Clerk and Roger Greatorex, a local resident who had kindly volunteered his help, and also Chairman, Cllr. Wally Ashcroft, who had also been busy working on the garden itself- especially in killing off ground elder and other weeds- an on going process- and he planned to paint the A570 Windle sign, and feed the garden area with a suitable compost.

Resolved that a vote of thanks be recorded by the Council for this work, and a letter of thanks be sent to Roger Greatorex (and his wife, for the much appreciated cups of tea, which were very welcome in the hot weather, when it was possible to carry out the task.)

79.) Parish Newsletter- Articles were requested for the next publication and should be forwarded to Cllr. Wally Ashcroft for handing over to Brian Walsh (Editor).

80.) Christmas Tree Lighting -Report

The Clerk reported that he had discussed the possibility of changing the date of the event with the School, but, due to the many things happening at that time of year Friday, 6th December 2013 was the best date. Accordingly it will be necessary to find a new M.C. for the occasion. An invitation to the Mayor, Councillor Andy Bowden, to attend, will be sent shortly.

81.) Garden Competition 2013 -Report

As reported previously (min55 16/7/13) the standard of entries this year had been very high, and the winners had attended the presentation of prizes, earlier this evening, prior to this meeting and appeared to enjoy the occasion. The Chairman thanked all those who taken part in the judging and arranging the competition -especially Cllr. Marie McNulty.

82.) Reports from Other Bodies-

Acting Sergeant/ PCMark Pender apologises for the non-attendance by a police representative at Parish Council meetings, but this is down to the current heavy work load on the local police.

Our local CSO Simon had now been transferred to Birkenhead after several years of good service to the local community.

The Bleak Hill School Garden Club has recently been the delighted recipient, of a Poly tunnel some 36ft. by 12ft.- to help in their gardening education.

Congratulations are due to Head Teacher Ian Wellens, and other members of the teaching staff for successfully climbing Mount Kilimanjaro, as part of a fund raising activity for the Steve Prescott Charity

83.) FINANCE: (a) Balances Current A/c £8610.93 Business Res.A/c£6035.01 @ 28/08/13

(b) Payment of Accounts - Resolved that payment of the following accounts be noted and approved:

£

BDO LLP	External Audit Fee 2012/13	120.00
Toye, Kenning & Spencer Ltd.	Two new links for Chmns. Chain	78.00
NatWest Bank	Vchr. Statement Fees	3.25
Mrs.M. Perkins	Gdn. Comp.- Highly Commended	12.00
Mr. D. Barratt	“ “ “ “	12.00
Mrs. K. Sheridan	“ “ “ “	12.00
Mr. P. Holland	“ “ “ “	12.00
Mrs. S. Fillingham	“ “ “ “	12.00
Mr. J. Davies	“ “ Winner/Baskets & Pots	30.00
Mr. A. Burns	“ “ “ / Courtyard Gdn.	30.00
Mrs. J. Dickinson	“ “ “ / Rear Gdn.	30.00
Mr.& Mrs. E.& G. Forrest	“ “ “ / Front Gdn.	30.00
Mrs. J. Topping	“ “ “ / Windle Roofing Shield	30.00
Mr. F. Bishop	“ “ Chmn`s. Choice/Rose Bowl	30.00
Eccleston Parish Council	Room Hire 17/09/13	21.00
L. J. Kilshaw	Hospitality @ Gdn. Comp. Presentation of Awards	39.14

© External Audit 2012/2013: This had been carried out on 22nd /23rd July and signed off on 1st August 2013- there were no matters arising. Copies of the Annual Return were supplied to members of the Council. The necessary documents to comply with legal requirements had been posted on the notice board at Windle Island.

(d) Internal Audit 2013/14- This had been carried out on the 29th July 2013, covering the period 1st April to 30th June 2013, and was presented to the Council. It was noted that the required internal controls are operating effectively, and the levels of expenditure was more or less in line with the annual budget.

84.) Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 15th October 2013, commencing at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Signed----- (Chairman) _____ (Date)