

Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting, held on Tuesday 17th December 2013, at Eccleston Village Hall, Kiln Lane.

Present: Councillor W. Ashcroft (Chairman)

“ Mrs. N,J,Ashcroft

“ Mrs. A. Bate

“ S. A. Bligh

“ Mrs. M. McNulty

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

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

122.) Apologies: had been received from Councillors R.W. and Mrs. K. S. Barton (previous engagement), Mrs. E. Uren - away on holiday, K. D. Roughley –not available as recently taken ill and admitted to hospital
The Chairman and the Council expressed their wishes for Cllr. Ken Roughley to make a speedy recovery from his recent health difficulties.

123. Declarations of Interest: No declarations made.

124.) Parish Matters

a) Cllr. W. Ashcroft reported that Mr. George Houghton (Highways) had requested a list of the roads in the Parish which were referred to as having “deteriorated surfaces” in previous minutes. All information to be supplied to Cllr. W. Ashcroft in the first instance.

b) Recent incident of two garage doors being dumped in the brook in Kiln Lane and thus damming up the brook. This had been reported to St Helens Council, and the matter was speedily dealt with and the obstruction removed within 48 hours.

125.) Minutes : The Council received the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 19th November 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.

126.) Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.

127.) Planning Matters: Nil

128.) Other Correspondence

a) Invitation received from the Bishop of Blackburn for the Chairman and guest to attend a service at Blackburn Cathedral in the New Year. The Chairman would complete the Return Reply Slip.

129.) Ecclesfield Sports Facility : It was reported by Cllr. Mrs. A. Bate that for the purpose of combating the possibility of any outbreak of Legionnaires’ disease, a regular procedure for checking and cleaning of the showers etc. was to be adopted, and a log-book maintained to record this activity.

130.) NALC/LALC/MAPTC.SLCC

Several articles of correspondence received from NALC concerning Council Tax Benefit Support Grant and meetings, by senior NALC executives with CLG Minister Brandon Lewis MP, and also later, with Andy Sawford MP, Shadow Local Government Minister. No decisions had been taken on the issues raised but were expected sometime in December. Received and Noted

131.) Lynton Way Play Area;

Some tentative discussion had been conducted concerning a meeting with the Ward Councillors in the New Year but this was yet to be arranged.

132.) Jim Malone Garden: It was intended to feed the garden with a layer of compost/manure to help to improve the poor condition of the soil.

133.) Parish Newsletter After several unusual difficulties the latest edition had been completed, and was now at the printers and would be back this Friday. The Chairman would then organise prompt distribution, and, with the help of Councillors etc., this would be completed as soon as possible.

134.) Christmas Tree Lighting/Pre-Christmas Reception The Tree Lighting had been excellent and enjoyed by the large number of people attending. A letter of thanks and appreciation had been received from the Mayor of St Helens, Councillor Andy Bowden. A request for similar funding to last year (£300), from the Ward Councillors Improvement Fund towards the cost of the Tree Lighting at Bleak Hill CP School, had been submitted to Cllr. Mrs. L. Glover

All arrangements had been completed for the Reception, which would take place later this evening.

135.) Reports from Other Bodies No reports received.

136.) Finance: (a) Balances-The Clerk informed Council that the balances at 30th Nov.2013 were Current A/c £6997.96, Business Res. A/c ££6035.79

(b) Payment of Accounts; Resolved that the payment of the following accounts be made;

	£
NatWest Bank Voucher Statement Fees	3.25
Hatton`s Transport Ltd Coach for St Thomas of C. pupils	85.00
*Rainfords Christmas Trees Ltd. Xmas Tree	144.00
Eccleston P.C. Room 17/12/13	21.00
Bleak Hill CP School Photo-copying Services Sept- Dec	15.54
L. J. Kilshaw Postage/Stationery Sept.-Dec	35.15
L. J. Kilshaw Hospitality – Tree Ltng. Xmas Reception	133.25
L. J. Kilshaw Purchases Ink Cartridges PC World	116.45
Mrs. A. Bate Hospitality- Catering Xmas Reception	17.07
Mrs. McNulty “ “ “ “	19.50
Mrs. E. Roughley “ “ “ “	4.39
Mrs. N. J. Ashcroft “ “ “ “	52.72
Mrs. K. S. Barton “ “ “ “	32.39
Mrs. H. Bligh “ “ “ “	30.69

*Expenditure incurred by the Council in accordance with its powers under Section 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972 as being, in the opinion of the Council, in the best interests of the are and its inhabitants.

(c) Risk Assessment The Internal Audit Report for 1st July – 24th October was received and approved by the Council. The Clerk confirmed he would be up-dating the list of assets in the New Year as stated in the report.

(d) Budget /Precept 2013/14 No information received as yet from St Helens Council re Council Tax Factor etc. Therefore

Resolved that discussion of these matters would now take place in January and possibly February .

137. Date of Next Meeting ; This would be held on Tuesday 21st January 2014.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Signed _____ (Date) _____
(Chairman)