

# WINDLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on  
Tuesday, 18 January 2005

PRESENT: Councillor W Ashcroft (Chairman)  
Councillor K D Roughley (Deputy Chairman)  
~~Councillor Mrs N J Ashcroft~~  
Councillor Mrs K S Barton  
~~Councillor Mrs B Walsh~~

Also in Attendance: PC Bradley & PC Davies (Merseyside Police)  
L J Kilshaw (Clerk to the Council)

152. Prayers

The Chairman opened the meeting with prayers for the work of the Council and for the family and friends of Councillor Mrs Joan Foster, who had died on 22 December 2004 whilst in Whiston Hospital. A minute's silence was observed in respect of Councillor Mrs J Foster.

153. Apologies

Apologies had been received in respect of Councillor A F Rigby (indisposed) and Councillor Mrs E Uren (prior engagement).

~~154. Declarations of Interest~~

~~No declarations were made.~~

155. Parish Matters

(a) ~~The Clerk informed the Council that, as a result of the sudden death of Councillor Mrs J Foster, the Notice of Vacancy had been posted on the Parish Council notice boards on 11 January 2005, to comply with legal requirements. This meant that if no residents called for an election by noon on Monday, 31 May 2005, the Council would need to co-opt a new member.~~

(b) A warning had been issued regarding rogue traders operating in the area, purporting to mend roof damage caused by recent high winds, but at the same time "casing" residents' homes with a view to committing burglaries later.

- (c) A request was made that the footpaths in Fairway and Regal Drive, near to Bleak Hill School, be cleared of dog dirt. This had been increasingly and persistently in evidence over the past few months. Councillor W Ashcroft would ensure this was done.

157. Minutes

~~The Council received the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 21 December 2004, which had been circulated previously.~~

~~Resolved that, prior to confirmation as a true and correct record, the following amendment be made to minute 138:~~

~~“Councillor Mrs N I Ashcroft would pursue the matter” as opposed to “Councillor W Ashcroft” as shown.~~

~~This amendment having been duly made, the minutes were signed by the Chairman.~~

158. Matters Arising

(a) Minute 138

~~Councillor Mrs N I Ashcroft confirmed that initially a warning letter would be sent by St Helens Council to any reported dog owner and only if a prosecution eventually resulted would any witness reporting incidents possibly be required to reveal their identity and give evidence. Councillor Mrs B Walsh was hopeful that, this being the case, the video evidence obtained would be handed over by the resident making the case.~~

(b) Minute 136 (a)

~~It was reported that two Outreach Workers were to try and talk to the youths concerned to try and establish some rapport with them in order to improve the situation.~~

159. Planning Applications

~~There were no new planning applications received, but the Clerk submitted the following approvals and decisions in respect of:~~

- (i) P/2004/1838 – Liverpool St Helens RUFC, Moss Lane – change of use of car park to allow siting of mobile test vehicle.

- (ii) APP/H4315/C04/1157675  
~~DETR Appeal Ref ENF 2004/02 – R. Brooks, 7 Coronation Road~~

On 4 January 2005 St Helens Council had been informed that the Planning Inspectorate had allowed this appeal.

Resolved that the approval and the appeal decision listed be received and noted.

160. Other Correspondence

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

- (a) Letter from the ODPM reference Freedom of Information Act 2000 – ~~Authorisation of the Qualified Person and amendments to Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 – The Clerk gave a brief outline of the issues covered and undertook to provide a copy of this letter and the accompanying notes to all members of the Council prior to further discussion at subsequent meetings. Received and noted.~~
- (b) From St Helens Council –
- (i) ~~Corporate Performance Management Report~~
  - (ii) ~~Comparative Performance Report – Urban Regeneration Portfolio and Community Safety Portfolio November 2004~~
  - (iii) ~~Agenda, etc for St Helens Council Meeting scheduled for 19 January 2005. Received.~~
  - (iv) ~~Addendum to Agenda – Copy of Report of Executive from its meeting held on 12 January 2005 – Corporate Financial Report and Report of Executive from same meeting, 12 January 2005 – Licensing Act 2005. Received.~~
  - (v) ~~Copy of the Annual Audit and Inspection Plan 2005. Received.~~
- (c) ~~From St Helens Council reference Precept Payment Year 2005/06, letter detailing payment details as 50% on 30 April 2005 and 50% on 30 June 2005. Received and noted. Clerk to write to inform of Parish Council acceptance of these dates.~~

161. Quality Parish Councils

No further information to report.

162. Ecclesfield Sports Facility

~~There had been some dispute over a recent utility bill, but action had been taken to clarify the matter.~~

~~There was to be no increase in the amount due to Ecclesfield Project Revenue Account from Windle Parish Council. It would remain at £1300 per annum for the year 2005/06, to be paid in quarterly instalments.~~

163. LAPTC/NALC

~~Councillor Ken Cleary had been appointed as the new National Chairman of NALC.~~

164. Windle Parish Website

~~Brian Walsh had made further progress in developing the pilot website, helped in the main by Councillor K Roughley, especially with the supply of detailed information. Councillor Mrs B Walsh showed the Parish Council the prototype on a laptop computer. The Chairman, Councillor W Ashcroft, requested that the thanks of the Council be expressed to Brian for his work.~~

165. Footpath Walks

~~Resolved that Councillor Mrs B Walsh would prepare a list of walks for the summer months, details of which would appear in the June Newsletter.~~

166. Parish Newsletter

~~There remained three outstanding accounts due from advertisers. The Clerk was to send reminders next week.~~

~~Peter Isaac, Head Teacher at Bleak Hill School, who was retiring at Easter 2005, had been invited, and had agreed, to provide a "farewell article" for the next edition.~~

167. Lynton Way Play Area

~~Resolved that the Clerk should write to St Helens Council to enquire as to any plans for replacement of the roundabout.~~

168. Jim Malone Garden

~~Councillor K D Roughley said that the waste bin appeared to be overflowing again and Councillor W Ashcroft confirmed that he would request clearance of same.~~

169. (a) Tree Planting, 24 February 2005 at Bleak Hill School

~~The Council had planted numerous trees over the years and it was suggested that this year may prove to be the last as space was fast running out. As mentioned earlier, Peter Isaac would be retiring at Easter and thus it was~~

~~Resolved that Mr Isaac be invited to choose and help plant the tree, which would bear a suitably inscribed plaque to mark the occasion.~~

~~Clerk to arrange supply of tree from St Helens Council.~~

(b) Tree Lighting - Review

~~The Clerk stated that the bill from the contractors had not yet been received and would contain an extra item, one new set of tree lights at approximately £120 plus VAT. These had been purchased in order for the ceremony to go ahead, as so many of the original ones had been damaged whilst in store over the past year.~~

~~Resolved that next year a quote from alternative suppliers be sought.~~

(c) Pre Christmas Reception

~~This had proved to be, once again, a successful event, enjoyed by all present including, on this occasion, the Mayor of St Helens, Cllr Mrs Betty Lowe, MBE.~~

~~There had been some dissatisfaction expressed with the buffet provided by the caterers and it may be advisable to obtain an alternative supplier next year.~~

~~The Clerk was warmly thanked for his efforts in ensuring that both of these events, ie the Tree Lighting and the Pre Christmas Reception, had proved both successful and enjoyable for all guests present.~~

170. Reports From Other Bodies

(a) Community Forum

~~The Community Forum Meeting was scheduled for 7.00 pm on Wednesday, 26 January 2005 at Rainford High School. On the agenda were:~~

- ~~(i) Budget Presentation~~
- ~~(ii) Crime and Disorder~~
- ~~(iii) Residents' Survey~~
- ~~(iv) Audit of Sports Facilities~~
- ~~(v) Traffic Flow~~
- ~~(vi) Allotment Strategy~~