

Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council, held on Tuesday,  
18<sup>th</sup> February 2014, 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. S. A. Bligh  
Cllr. Mrs. M. McNulty  
Cllr. K. D. Roughley  
Cllr. Mrs. E. Uren

Also in Attendance: PCSO K. Shepherd (Merseyside Police)  
L. J. Kilshaw (Clerk to the Council)

155. Prayers: The Chairman welcomed everyone- especially PCSO Shepherd, as it was the first time a representative of the Police had attended, since the reorganization, and he then opened the meeting with prayers for the work of the Council.

156. Apologies: had been received from Cllr. Mrs. A. Bate, who was away on holiday.

157. Declarations of Interest: No declarations were made.

158. Parish Matters: (a)Cllr. Marie McNulty reported that a resident of Windle Grove, Mrs. Griffiths had complained of the incident with a gang of youths (see ante min142) involving egg throwing, and trouble with them at Starbucks and Tesco at Windle Island. The Police had been called and the egg thrower had been given a warning as to future behaviour.

(b) Chairman Wally Ashcroft reported another incident when some 30 to 40 youths had gathered together at the St Andrews Scout Den in Dartmouth Drive. He had manage to converse amicably with them and persuade them to move on and vacate the area. The Scout Leader, Mrs. Jan Smee, had reported this incident to the Police to place it on record.

(c) Cllr. Nancy Ashcroft had received another complaint from a resident concerning the loose gravel at the top of Lawrence Road and Stuart Road. This had been reported previously to A. Walker (St Helens Council), who had informed that the work needed to be done was in the plan to be carried out shortly.

159. The Chairman, with the permission of the Council, varied the agenda and took as the next two items the Police report, and the Lynton Way Play Area.

Merseyside Police Report; PCCSO Katie Shepherd took the opportunity to introduce herself and explained that the Windle Ward – and thus including the Parish Area - was now being covered from the St Helens Town Centre Police Station, in Central St., since the last reorganization –see min152. 21/01/14. She said that the other PCCSO colleague in Windle was Alan Range. Contact with the Police may be made by dialling 101(the usual 999 number for urgent action still remains available) and she also gave her mobile number for emergencies and information.

160. L.W.P.A. - No feed- back had been received to date, from the visit of the three Ward Councillors to the 21<sup>st</sup> January meeting. The Council informed PCCSO Katie Shepherd of the history and problems encountered over the years with youths etc. gathering on the play area, and as she was new to the Windle area gave her the location of various other sites . She had already been present for Parish Matters and made aware of recent problems at Dartmouth Drive and at Tesco and Star Bucks.

Chairman Cllr. Wally Ashcroft thanked her for her report and, as she was on foot-patrol she then left to continue her duties.

161. Minutes : The Council received the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2014, copies of which, had been circulated previously.

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

162. Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.

163. Planning Matters: (a) Application; the Clerk gave the opportunity for comment on the following application –P/2014/0124 5Regal Drive S/Stry.Side & Rear Extn.

(b) Approval: P/2014/ 004- 11 Lynton Way, - S/stry.side extn. Permission granted

Resolved that no comment nor objections be made re the application in (a)and the approval in (b) be noted

164. Other Correspondence:The Clerk submitted the following item of correspondence –to be dealt with as indicated;

a) From Halton & St Helens VCA, latest email bulletin. Received & Noted

165. Ecclesfield Sports Facility - No report.

166. NALC/LALC/MAPTC/SLCC : (a) Details of Planning, Insurance and Investment Workshops on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May had been received from LALC. Rec`d. & Noted

(b) The repeal of s150(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 and the resultant expected changes to “Governance & Accountability for Local Councils- A Practitioners` Guide”(England)2010 Appendix 11. See min.170e(post.)

167. Jim Malone Garden: No report

168. Parish Newsletter- Report Chairman Wally Ashcroft was pleased to announce that Cllr. Steve Bligh had volunteered to edit the Newsletter for the time being. Thanks were expressed to Steve for undertaking this task.

169. Reports from Other Bodies (a) Police report had been given earlier (see min 159)

(b)Windle Charities - Information had been received that there would be a meeting held at the beginning of April. Noted.

170. Finance: (a) Balances

The Clerk advised the Council that the balances at 27<sup>th</sup> January 2014 were, Current A/c £4292.89 and the Business Reserve A/c £6036.55.

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

			£
Nat West Bank Direct Dr.	Voucher Statements	Fees	3.25
Eccleston Parish Council	Room Hire	18/02/14	21.00

(c) Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting 11/02/14 The Council received the minutes of this Finance Committee Meeting ,which had been circulated previously.

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

(d) Budget //Precept 2014/15 The Clerk reported the anticipated position on balances at the end of this current financial year.

	£
Balance at 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2013	7715
Add Projected Receipts for 2013/14	13462
=	<u>21177</u>

Less Projected Payments 2013/14 15000

Projected Balance at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 6177

St Helens Council had advised that the Council Tax Base for 2014/15 for the Parish (Band D Equivalent properties) had been set at 972 (970 in 2013/14) Thus a precept of £11500= £11.83 £12000= £12.35, £12100= £12.45, £12150 = £12.50. £12200= £12.55

The suggested payment dates of 50% on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2014

and 50% on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2014 had already been agreed in January (see min. 153c) and also a letter of acceptance had been sent to St Helens Council to confirm this.

The Council had been advised of the budget provision necessary to maintain existing levels of service, and the report identified problem areas. In the prevailing financial climate it would be necessary to try to reduce expenditure wherever possible. The Finance Committee had recommended a level of £12150 and it was

Resolved that this should be the amount of the precept required and that the following broad based budget be accepted for 2014/2015.

<u>Payments (net of VAT)</u>	<u>£</u>
Fees & Insurance	1545
Salary & Paye	3654
Election Costs Provision	1250
Post & Telephone – incl. Broadband	480
Website	140
Printing/Stationery etc	210
Room Hire	231
Donations	50
Newsletter	1020
School Awards	110
Ecclesfield	1426
J. Malone Garden	25
Lynton Way Play Area opening/ closing/ security	2600
Engraving Garden Trophies	10
Garden Competition	240
Christmas Tree Lighting £500 /Tree £120/ School Transport £80	720
<u>Hospitality</u>	<u>280</u>
<u>Sub total</u>	<u>13991</u>
VAT estimated.	800
Contingency (600)	
Election Costs Provision(2500)	
<u>Total</u>	<u>14791</u>

Receipts for 2014/2015 (estimated) £

Precept	00000
Bank Interest	5
Vat Refund	1105
Advertising	310
<u>Matching Funding (300 in 2012/13 and 300 2013/14)</u>	<u>?(300)</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>1420 ?(1720)</u>

The Council will need to consider carefully any other items to be taken into account and will need to be prudent in the preservation of adequate balances.

Audit Regulations

The Council is reminded that these regulations introduced procedures which require the identification of specific provisions (other than contingency) made within the balances, and the need to have a budget based on income and expenditure features, which must be contained within the resolution of the Council accepting the precept requirement. This does not preclude the use of “virement” during the year, but this must be approved by the Council. The “audit trail” must be clear to follow, particularly in the accumulation of balances.

The Council;

Resolved that the proposed budget be accepted and that the precept be set at £12,150 for 2014/15, and that this decision be communicated to St Helens Council tomorrow as is required.

(e) Risk Assessment – Re- the repeal of the LGA 1972 s150(5)

A preliminary consideration of possible necessary changes in arrangements made by the Council for the safeguarding of public money etc was made, and after discussion it was:

Resolved to place the item on the agenda to discuss in more detail at the March or April meeting as there may be more advice available from NALC or LALC.

171. Date of Next Meeting- This was to be held on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2014, at Eccleston Village Hall, to be preceded by the Annual Parish Assembly, which would commence at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairman)