

WINDLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the Tuesday 18th December 2007 at Eccleston Village Hall.

- PRESENT;
- Councillor Mrs. N. J. Ashcroft (Chairman)
 - Councillor W. Ashcroft (Deputy Chairman)
 - Councillor Mrs. K. S. Barton
 - Councillor R W Barton
 - Councillor Mrs A .Bate
 - Councillor Mrs. M. McNulty
 - Councillor K.D.Roughley

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

127. Prayers

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayers for the work of the Council .

128. Apologies

Apologies had been received in respect of Councillor S. A. Bligh – on holiday – and Councillor Mrs .E. Uren – on holiday.

129. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.
The Clerk confirmed that ref.min12 ante. – completed forms had now been received from all councillors -except for Cllr. W .Ashcroft , who now promised the return of the completed form .

130. Parish Matters

- a) A resident had reported to the Clerk that he had been approached by the farmer, Mr. P. Swift, when using the public footpath through Windle Farm accompanied by his dog. He had been informed that the farmer intended to take steps to prevent people walking their dogs across the farm.
The Clerk had reassured the resident that as long as the dog was being kept on a lead, and the public footpath was being adhered to there was no legal reason for preventing access. The Council felt that it would be prudent to be on the alert for any developments in this matter.

131. Minutes

The Council received the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting ,held on the 20th November 2007 , which had been circulated previously.

It was necessary to add “Resolved that approval be given to the payment of the following accounts “ref. min125b. After this had been done it was

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting , held on the 20th November 2007 , should be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record .

132. Matters Arising

a) Ref.min113c ante – Cllr .R. W .Barton stated that he had telephoned the police on two separate occasions requesting the removal of the offending trainers and complaining about the tanning shop, but no action would appear to have been taken to date.

b) Ref.min113d ante – Cllr. W. Ashcroft was pleased to inform the Council that the offending advertising banners had now been removed.
Also the atrocious and dangerous state of both the boundary wall and the car-park was to be scheduled for discussion at the next meeting of the Windle Ward Committee on 28/01/08 .

c) Ref min. 116 ante – P/2007/1332 88 Kiln Lane - the Council had objected to this application as a result of concern expressed by local residents, which was covered in the local press. Apparently the applicant had complained about this and had threatened possible legal action .However consultation with St Helens Council had yielded the legal opinion, that there were no grounds for any such action .

133. Planning Matters

A) Planning Applications

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

1. P/2007/ 1375 – Mr.J. McAllister – 34 Moss Lane- Demolition of existing lean-to at rear – erectn. of 2 stry. side -extn., porch to front, dormer window and conservatory to rear.

N.B. this is an amendment to P/2007/0690 for which approval was given on20/07/07.

2. P/2007/1447 – Mrs D.Needle, 96 Bleak Hill Road – Conversion of garage at side into an habitable room , with 1st Flr.Ext.n.above , plus single stry.side extn.and porch to the front.

B.) Approvals

P/2007/1203 - Mr.& Mrs.Abrathat , 2 Bleak Hill Close – Conservatory to side

Resolved that no comments be made concerning the two planning applications detailed in A, and that the approval listed in B be noted .

134. Other Correspondence

The Clerk submitted the following item of correspondence , to be dealt with as indicated :

1. Letter from Knowsley Council giving information concerning progress on options for the future of Kirkby town centre . Received and Noted.

135. Quality Parish Councils

Schedule of available Training Courses for 2008 has now been received from LAPTC.

136. Ecclesfield Sports Facility

The AGM had been held earlier this month. The Budget for 2008/09 required a smaller annual contribution from Windle Parish Council i.e. reduced from £1300 to £1000 .

137. LAPTC / MAPTC / NALC/ SLCC

1. At the LAPTC AGM in November it was agreed to amend the Constitution of the Association.

The major change will be the name of the Association which will become the Lancashire Association of Local Councils. This is to accommodate any new councils ,created as a result of the Local Government Bill ,which may have titles other than "Parish Council" .

Eventually it is proposed to make the new Constitution available on line.

2. Notice received concerning a conference of international Local Government Clerks in Atlanta ,Georgia, U.S.A. next year . Received and Noted.

138. Lynton Way Play Area

No reports of any incidents recently.

An invoice had been received from St Helens Council for the opening and closing of the gates of the L.W.P.A. – 1ST April to 30TH September 2007. This amounted to £1544.00 plus VAT £270.20 =£1814.20 . Normally invoices were received annually towards the financial year end .

139. Jim Malone Garden

It was reported that quite a bit of litter had accumulated , especially by the bin. Requests would be made for its removal.

140. Parish Newsletter

The Clerk reported that the necessary invoices covering advertising had been sent out, and six advertisers had paid their account .The remaining four would be sent reminders in January should the accounts still be outstanding then.

The Clerk confirmed that Ellison`s Travel had advised that ,as they would be ceasing to operate the Travel Agency side of the business , they would nò longer require the back-page advertisement in the Newsletter .A letter of thanks had been sent thanking them for their support over many years.

141. Christmas Tree Lighting Fri.7th December - Report

This event had been an undoubted success and enjoyed by all who attended. The Mayor Councillor Sheila Seddon had sent a letter to the Clerk, expressing thanks for the hospitality shown to her and the Mayoress and their special guest ,James Pout , and saying how much they had enjoyed the occasion .

The extra lights had greatly improved the display and the Clerk was thanked for his efforts in achieving this .

142. Pre- Christmas Reception –Report

All arrangements had been completed for this event which would be taking place after the conclusion of this meeting. Guests had been asked to arrive for 8.30 pm.

143. Reports from Other Bodies

St Helens Sports Council

A grant of £5000 was being made to Liverpool St Helens R.U.F.C. for the provision of a roof on the toilets .

144. Finance

a) Balances

The Council noted the balances at 29th November 2007 were:

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| | £ |
| Current Account | 439.84 |
| Capital Reserve Account | 11990.69 |

b)Payment of Accounts

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

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--------|
| | | £ |
| Thresher Ltd. | Hospitality – Tree Lighting 7/12 07 | 32.96 |
| Thresher Ltd. | Hospitality – Pre-Christmas Reception | 59.00 |
| Eccleston P.C. | Room Hire 18/12/07 | 19.00 |
| Bleak Hill School | Photo Copying Services Sept.- Dec. | 26.94 |
| L.J.Kilshaw | Salary, Expenses , Purchases | 406.69 |

*St.Helens Council L.W.P.A. - Security Services

1/4/07 – 30/09/07

1814.20

*(The Clerk had made arrangements to pay this account on
2nd January 2008.)

C) Budget and Finance Committee Meeting

A letter had been received from St Helens Council detailing the provisional Council Tax Base for the Parish for 2008/2009 financial year as having been set at 1,037 (Band "D" equivalent properties), and also the proposed payment dates for the Parish Precepts i.e.

50% on 25th April 2008

50% on 27th June 2008

The Clerk requested a meeting of the Finance Committee to consider the Budget and Precept for 2008/2009.

Resolved 1. that the Clerk should reply to the above letter to confirm acceptance of the suggested Precept Payment Dates for 2008/2009.

2. A meeting of the Finance Committee be held at 8pm Tuesday 8th January 2008 at 26 Kiln Lane to discuss the Budget and Precept proposals for 2008/2009.

143. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 15th January 2008 commencing at 7.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 7.50 pm.

Signed----- (Chairman)

Date -----