

Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010, at Eccleston Village Hall, Kiln Lane.

PRESENT: Councillor R. W. Barton (Chairman)  
 Councillor K. D. Roughley (Deputy Chairman)  
 Councillor Mrs. N. J. Ashcroft  
 Councillor W. Ashcroft  
 Councillor S. A. Bligh  
 Councillor Mrs. A. Bate  
 Councillor Mrs. M. McNulty  
 Councillor Mrs. E. Uren

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

135. Prayers

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

136. Apologies

Apologies were received on behalf of Cllr. Mrs. K. S. Barton, who was currently in hospital.

137. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.

138. Parish Matters

a ) During the recent "freeze up" there had been requests from a resident in Windle Grove for a grit bin to be situated there to help in the clearance of drives etc by house holders .Cllr. W. Ashcroft had communicated this matter to St Helens Council for their attention .

b ) The extreme weather conditions, experienced by the whole of the country , during the past 3 -4 weeks - the worst for over 30 years – had produced road and foot-path conditions which were extremely hazardous for both vehicles and pedestrians.

The three Ward Councillors present, reported on the tremendous efforts made by St Helens Council and its staff to keep disruptions to a minimum. Instructions received from the Government dictated that main roads be kept open and gritted, but with the constant freezing temperatures and fresh snowfalls, it proved necessary to repeat the process two or three times per day or night.

As witnessed on television stocks of salt /grit had rapidly been depleted , and queues of wagons, from councils nationwide, had occurred in Winsford and Middlewich outside the salt company, waiting to be loaded up with further supplies . St Helens Council had, wisely, previously built up their stock of salt and the area fared better

than most. In addition such services as meals on wheels by the St Helens Council had been maintained through the extraordinary efforts made by staff ensure delivery, when other organizations had been unable to do so.

Cllr. R. W. Barton commented that the local area had suffered through the almost impassable side roads and pavements, and expressed the opinion that more should have been done by St Helens Council to alleviate these problems.

After more discussion it was :

Resolved

that a letter of congratulation and appreciation be sent to St Helens Council and their staff for successfully endeavouring to keep the main roads and town centre open and maintaining essential services during the extraordinary spell of bad weather.

139. Minutes

The Council received the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> December 2009, which had been circulated previously.

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

140. Matters Arising and Not Otherwise on the Agenda

There were no matters arising.

141. Planning Matters

The Clerk gave invitation to comment on the following matters:

a) No new applications had been received.

b) Decisions

1) P/2009/0893 – Mr M. Sherwood 38 Calderhurst Drive – s.stry.side & rear extn.plus 2 stry.extn. to rear.  
Permission granted.

2) P/2009/0907 – Mr. D. Wilton 52 Coronation Rd. – New pitched roof over existing 2 stry. side extn.  
Permission granted.

3) P/2009/0914 - Mr.& Mrs. Topping 40 Hamilton Road.- Erection of pitched roof extn . to side and rear.  
Permission granted.

4) P/2009/1009 – Mrs. G. Foster re- 84 Kiln Lane - Retention of alterations to shop front and the installation of shutters.  
Permission Refused.

Resolved that the three approvals in b) 1, 2, 3. be noted.

However regarding the refusal in 4. the grounds for which were : "The development is contrary to PPS1,PPS4, Policies GEN1,2,4,RET6 of the St Helens Unitary Development Plan (1998) and the Design & Crime Supplementary Planning Document in which the roller shutters which form part of the application create an unattractive shopping frontage which fails to take the opportunities available for improving the character and quality of an area and the way it functions."

It was

Resolved that a letter be sent to Planning Dept. expressing the surprise and dismay at this refusal , after 8 years of effort by the Parish Council to bring about improvement to this particular troublesome site, and also at great expense by the purchaser of the premises and applicant.

#### 142. Other Correspondence

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

1. Letter from D.C.E.- Direct Contact Exhibitions invitation to attend the 2010 MerseyBuild event-09/02/2010 @ Devonshire Hotel Edge Lane Liverpool

Received.

#### 143. Ecclesfield Sports Facility

The Windle Parish Council contribution to the Ecclesfield Budget, required in 2010/2011 had been set at £1570 ( c.f.£1420 for 2009/2010.)

#### 144. LALC//MAPTC/NALC/SLCC

Details had been received of the next courses/ workshops being conducted by Lancashire Training Partnership in Feb and March this year.

Received & Noted.

#### 145. Lynton Way Play Area

The account from St Helens Council for the opening and closing of the gates on Friday and Saturdays had been received -£1255.57

This covered up to 27/12/2009.

The Security Force had been requested to leave the Play Area unlocked until Good Friday 2010 i.e. 2<sup>nd</sup> April, which would be in the next financial year.

#### 146. Jim Malone Garden

Cllr. Mrs. M. McNulty reported that there was a mountain ash tree that was rotting at the base and required removal. Cllr. W. Ashcroft indicated that he would request this to be done .

#### 147. Parish Newsletter

The Clerk reported that the invoices to advertisers would be sent out this week to request payment.

A reader had complained that the information contained in the Newsletter concerning Bleak Hill School holidays and term times referred to last year not 2009/2010.

The editor, Cllr.Ken Roughley, conceded that it was down to an error on his part and apologised for any resulting inconvenience.

#### 148. Glass Plaques / Roll of Honour

The Clerk had obtained some more detail concerning this item from Eccleston P.C.

The costs were	£
Glass	170 for 2 panels
Black lettering	60
Mounts	225
<u>Fixing mounts</u>	<u>90</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>545</u>

It was anticipated that the cost for Windle Parish Council would be lower, , because only one plaque etc. would be required.

Cllr. K. Roughley had gained the permission of Mr. Ian Wellens, the Head Teacher of Bleak Hill School, for the plaque to be sited inside the School.

The sign company involved in much of the work was a local one – Vynaline Graphics-and it was :

Resolved that the Clerk should investigate the matter further, as a means of replacing further additional links to the Chairman's Chain of Office or even replacement of the Chain, at some stage in the near future.

#### 149. Christmas Tree Lighting – Future Arrangements

It may well prove necessary to make alternative arrangements for this event in future. Several alternatives were put forward and it was

Resolved that the Clerk should advise the School of the situation and seek some guidance concerning the possible placing of a 10-15ft.high tree(to be purchased annually by the Parish Council) near to the School Hamilton Road Entrance.

The tree would be decorated with low voltage LED lights, with electricity supplied from inside the School . The cost of which might be covered by the Parish Council.

In addition the cost of obtaining a metered connection to the street light on Bleak Hill Road to supply the existing site and tree there, be obtained from the power company.

#### 150. Pre Christmas Reception 2009 - Report

Once again this had been enjoyed by those attending : in particular, by the Guest of Honour - Mrs. B. Roughley. There was a feeling that some attempt at a change of format might make the occasion even better, and Councillors were asked to give the matter some thought and try to come up with helpful suggestions.

#### 151. Reports from Other Bodies

a) St Helens Sports Council- The Sports Council were now able to make individual bursaries- and there was to be a forthcoming meeting of a selection committee to choose the winner(s) ,- to be presented at the end of February.

#### 152. Finance

(a) Balances- The Council noted that the bank balances, at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009, were Current A/c £312.63 and Capital Deposit A/C £10521.24

(b) Payment of Accounts

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

	£
Post Office BT telephone a/c –inc B/Band-dedicated line	92.80
St Helens Council Security Lynton Way Play Area	1255.57
B. Walsh Website /Computer	35.00
Eccleston P.C. Room Hire 19/01/2010	20.00
L J. Kilshaw Salary & Postage	303.58
Paragon Construction Group Ltd. Electrical Work}	632.50
ChristmasTree Ltng. }	

(c) Budget /Precept /Finance Committee Meeting

The Clerk had not finalised the Budget for 2010-2011 and requested a meeting of the Finance Committee to be held Tuesday, Feb.9<sup>th</sup> 2010, at 54 Brookside Ave. commencing at 7.30pm.

The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been sent to Mr. R. Anders – Assistant Treasurer(Accountancy & Exchequer Services) informing of the Parish Council's agreement to the payment dates for the precept i.e. 50% on 23/04/10 and 50% on 25/06/10.

153. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

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