

## Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2008, at Eccleston Village Hall

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

Also in Attendance : P.C. B.Morrison – Merseyside Police  
L. J. Kilshaw (Clerk to the Council )

### 1. Prayers

The Chairman , Cllr.Mrs.N.J.Ashcroft , opened the meeting with prayers for the work of the Council .

### 2. Apologies

Cllr.K.D.Roughley had informed that he would be attending a meeting of the St Helens Council Planning Committee, of which he was now a member , but hoped to be present as soon as possible after the conclusion of the Planning Committee Meeting.

### 3. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made .

### 4. Election of Chairman

It was proposed , seconded and Resolved that Councillor W.Ashcroft be appointed Chair for the forthcoming municipal year 2008-09 and ,on the acceptance of his appointment ,he was installed and duly signed the appropriate Declaration of Acceptance of Office ,which was witnessed by the Clerk.

**Councillor W. Ashcroft in the Chair**

### 5. Election of Deputy Chairman

It was proposed ,seconded and

Resolved that Councillor R. W. Barton be appointed Deputy Chairman for the forthcoming municipal year .

#### 6. Vote of Thanks

It was proposed , seconded and

Resolved that a vote of thanks be extended to Councillor Mrs.Nancy Ashcroft for her work on behalf of the Council and residents ,during her year of office as Chairman and also for the excellent manner in which she had carried out the duties entailed .

In turn ,Councillor Nancy Ashcroft reciprocated by expressing her thanks to her fellow members of the Council and the Clerk ,for the help and support provided during her term of office.

#### 7. Council Procedures for 2008-2009

Resolved

(a) that meetings generally be held on the third Tuesday of each month, except August when there would not be a meeting , commencing at 7.00 pm and that the Annual Assembly be held in March 2009.

(b) that a Finance Committee be established to give initial consideration to appropriate matters and to make recommendations to the Parish Council ,comprising of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman , last years Chairman and Councillor Mrs.K.S.Barton , plus substitute membership at the discretion of the Chairman.

(c) that for those planning applications requiring early attention there be delegated powers to the Chairman, Deputy- Chairman , and a Parish Councillor ,resident in the vicinity of the site in question ,to consider the application.

(d) that regarding public footpaths in the Parish residents should be urged to walk them at all times ,and to report any damage or obstruction of the paths to Councillors W.Ashcroft and Mrs.A.Bate so that necessary action may be taken..This message to be contained in the Parish Newsletter .

#### 8. Standing Orders

Resolved that the Model Standing Orders ,issued by NALC be adopted,as appropriate,for meetings of the Parish Council , with the provision for the termination of ordinary business of the Council at 9.39 pm ,and with the opportunity for discussion of " Parish Matters " on the agenda.

#### 9. Banking Accounts & Financial Procedures

It was unanimously

Resolved

(a) that the NatWest Bank be the Council`s bankers and that the bank be authorized to honour cheques drawn on the account held at the bank ,to be signed by any two

members of the Council and the Clerk of the Council, in accordance with the current mandate .

(b) that the Model Financial Regulations be adopted provisionally, subject to a further study and recommendations by the Finance Committee for consideration at a subsequent meeting .

( c ) that responsibility for the financial affairs of the Council be vested in the Clerk to the Council as the Recognized Financial Officer.

(d) that there be delegated to those Councillors on the Management Committee of the Ecclesfield Sports Facility, authority to sign cheques in accordance with the management agreement.

(e) that Mr. Philip Fairclough be appointed and confirmed as the Internal Auditor for the Financial Year 2008-2009.

#### 10. Codes of Practice/ Local Code of Conduct / Modified Code of Conduct

Resolved that the Revised Model Code of Conduct including Paragraph 12 (2), which had originally come into force on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May 2007 and had been accepted by the Council at the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2007 –(see min71) ,be adopted and confirmed in respect of the Handling of Complaints and Declarations of Interest .

#### 11. Lancashire Association of Local and Town Councils, Merseyside Association of Parish Councils and the National Association of Local Councils – Society of Local Council Clerks

##### Resolved

(a) that the Council retain membership of LALC / MAPTC/ NALC and the number of NALC magazines be two per issue only and also that the Clerk 's Membership of the SLCC be maintained and renewed.

(b) that the representatives on the Area Committee be Councillors Mrs.K. S.Barton and R. W.Barton.

#### 12. Representation on Other Bodies

Resolved that the following be approved as representatives of the Council on these various bodies :

(a) Bleak Hill School Governors – although no longer allowed an official Parish Council Representative - Councillors Mrs.N.J.Ashcroft and Mrs.K.S.Barton were Governors and thus kept Council informed .

(b) Police & Community Forum – Cllrs. S.A.Bligh and K.D.Roughley

(c) Windle United Charities – Cllr.W.Ashcroft

(d) St Helens & District Sports Council – Cllrs. W.Ashcroft & R.W.Barton

(e) Age Concern - Cllrs.Mrs.M.McNulty & Mrs.E.Uren

(f) Crime Prevention – Cllrs.K.D.Roughley & S.A.Bligh

(g) St Helens C.V.S. – Cllr.Mrs.N.J.Ashcroft

(h) Ecclesfield Management Committee – Cllrs W.Ashcroft , Mrs.A.Bate,  
Mrs.K.S.Barton & R.W.Barton

(i) Victim Support - Cllr.R.W.Barton

The meeting closed at 7.25 p.m.

Signed-----  
Chairman

Date-----