

Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council ,held on Tuesday 19th May 2009
at Eccleston Village Hall, Kiln Lane

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

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

1. Prayers

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

2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr. Mrs. N. J. Ashcroft, who was unable to attend due to alternative commitments.

3. Declarations of Interest

All Councillors present completed a new “ Declaration of Interests Form”.

4. Election of Chairman

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved that Councillor R.W.Barton be appointed Chairman for the forthcoming municipal year 2009-2010,and ,on acceptance of his appointment, he was installed and duly signed the appropriate signed the appropriate Declaration of Acceptance of Office, which was witnessed by the Clerk.

Councillor R.W.Barton in the Chair

5. Election of Deputy Chairman

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved that Councillor K. D. Roughley be appointed Deputy Chairman for the forth coming municipal year.

6. Vote of Thanks

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved that a vote of thanks be extended to Councillor W.Ashcroft for his work on behalf of the Council and residents, during his year of office as Chairman and also for the excellent manner in which he had carried out the duties entailed. – a task made more difficult than usual, because of a period of convalescence whilst recovering from an operation, and also, a busy year as a Cabinet Member of St Helens Council.

In turn, Councillor W.Ashcroft reciprocated by thanking his fellow members of the Council-especially the Deputy Chairman Councillor Richard Barton – and the Clerk for their help and support during his term of office.

7. Council Procedures for 2009-2010

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 7.00pm and that the Annual Assembly be held in March 2010.

(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 year's Chairman and Cllr.Mrs.K.S.Barton. plus substitute membership at the discretion of the Chairman.

© 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 the 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 the necessary 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 the meetings of the Parish Council, with the provision for the termination of ordinary business of the Council at 9.39pm, 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 ,subject to any further study and recommendations by the Finance Committee for consideration at a subsequent meeting.

(c) that the 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 after the previous study of the Internal Audit Requirements, as detailed in the Local Council Briefing for the External Audit 2008-09, Mr. Philip Fairclough be appointed and confirmed as the Internal Auditor for the Financial Year 2009-2010.

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 3rd May 2007, and had been accepted by the Council at the meeting held on 17th July 2007-(see min 71),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 i.e.Local Council Review – be two per issue only-and that the Clerk's Membership Subscription be retained and renewed for 2009/2010.

(b) that the representative`s on the Area Committee of LALC 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 the Council informed of School news etc.

(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 and R. W. Barton

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

(f) Crime Prevention – Cllrs. K.D. Roughley

(g) St Helens & District CVS – Cllr. Mrs. N. J. Ashcroft

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

The meeting closed at 7.20 pm.

Signed -----

Chairman

Date _____