Windle Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, held on Tuesday 17th May 2011 at Eccleston Village Hall, Kiln Lane

PRESENT: Councillor K. D. Roughley (in the Chair)

Councillor Mrs. K.S. Barton Councillor Mrs. N. J. Ashcroft

Councillor W. Ashcroft Councillor R. W. Barton Councillor Mrs. A. Bate Councillor Mrs. E.Uren

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

1. Prayers

Councillor Roughley welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayers for the work of the Council.

- 2. Apologies had been received from Cllr. S. A. Bligh- completing a course of study-and Cllr. Mrs. M. McNulty- recovering from the effects of a fall.
- 3. Local Elections Result / Declarations of Interest

In the recent Local Election the nine members had been returned unapposed.

Cllr. Nancy Ashcroft, who had last her seat on the District Council was accorded a warm and sincere tribute, by the Parish Council, for her splendid efforts whilst serving as a Ward Councillor for Windle.

All seven Councillors present completed a "Declaration of Interests Form".

4. Election of Chairman

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved that Cllr. Mrs. K. S. Barton be appointed Chairman for the forthcoming municipal year 2011-2012, and, having accepted her appointment, she was installed and duly signed the appropriate Declaration of Acceptance of Office, which was witnessed by the Clerk.

Councillor Mrs. K. S. Barton in the Chair.

5. Election of the Deputy Chairman

It was proposed, seconded and

<u>Resolved</u> that Councillor Mrs. N. J. Ashcroft be appointed as Deputy Chairman for the forthcoming municipal year 2011-2012.

6. Vote of Thanks

It was proposed, seconded and

<u>Resolved</u> that a vote of thanks be extended to Cllr. Ken Roughley for the excellent work carried out during his year of office as Chairman of the Council.

He, in turn, thanked his fellow councillors and the Clerk for their help, guidance and support in his enjoyable term as Chairman, and high-lighted several of the occasions, which he had found to be particularly memorable.

7. Council Procedures and Appointments to Committees etc. Resolved that:

- (a) meetings, generally, to be held on the third Tuesday of each month, except in August, when there would not be a meeting, and to commence at 7.00pm, and that the Annual Assembly be held in March 2012.
- (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, Deputy Chairman, last year's Chairman, and Cllr. Richard Bartonplus 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 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 any necessary action may be taken.

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 at 9.39pm, and with the opportunity for the discussion of "Parish Matters" on the agenda.

9. Banking Accounts and 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 current account, held at the bank, which were to 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 2010-2011, Mr. Philip Fairclough

should be appointed and confirmed as the Internal Auditor for the Financial Year 2011-2012.

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

 Resolved that 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 on the 17th July 2007- see min.71 of that date- should be adopted and confirmed in respect of the handling of Complaints and Declarations of Interest.
- 11. Lancashire Association of Local and Town Councils, Merseyside Assoc. of Parish Councils, National Assoc. of Local and Town Councils- Society of Local Council Clerks

Resolved

- (a) that the Council retain membership of LALC /MAPTC/ NALC and that the number of copies ordered of the NALC magazine LCR (Local Council Review) ordered, be reduced from two copies per issue to one only for the Clerk.
- (b) that the Clerk's Membership Subscription of the SLCC should be renewed and paid for by the Council for the year 2011-2012.
- © that the representatives on the Area Committee of LALC be Councillors R. W. Barton and Mrs. K. S. Barton
- 12. Representation on Other Bodies

<u>Resolved</u> that the following members of Council be approved as representatives of the Council on these various bodies:

- (a) Bleak Hill School Governors- although an official Parish Council Representative was no longer allowed- Councillors Mrs. N. J. Ashcroft and Mrs. K.S.Barton were governors in their own right, and were able to keep the Council informed of School News etc.
- (b) Police & Community Forum- Councillors S.A. Bligh & K. D. Roughley
- (c) Windle United Charities Cllr. W. Ashcroft
- (d) St Helens & District Sports Council Councillors W. Ashcroft & R. W. Barton
- (e) Age UK Councillors Mrs. M. Mc Nulty & Mrs. E. Uren
- (f) Crime Prevention Cllr. K. D. Roughley
- (g) St Helens & Halton CVS-Cllr. Mrs. N. J. Ashcroft
- (h) Ecclesfield Management Committee- Councillors W. Ashcroft, Mrs. K. S. Barton, R.W. Barton, Mrs. A. Bate
- (i) St Helens Council Standards Committee- Cllr. R.W. Barton The meeting closed at 7.35pm.

Signed	(Chairman)	(Date
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