

# **EATON AND ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 18 JANUARY 2022**

PRESENT: Cllr J Richards (Chair); Cllr A Deakin; Cllr D Shepherd; Cllr R Houghton; Cllr C Talbot. Apologies were received from Cllr J Middlehurst.

The Chair welcomed Annabel Farbon and Sarah Dawson from the Eaton Estate Office.

**1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** There were none declared.

**2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** were agreed as a correct record.

### **3 MATTERS ARISING**

Disappointment was expressed that neither Cllr Williams or Cllr Parker had responded to the suggested meeting to explore the issues associated with the increased use of the Meadows and the river. It was agreed that the Estate Office send a further invite for a site visit to be undertaken in the spring.

### **4 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

a) The following payments were agreed:-

Street Orderly Invoice £888.03

Clerk's Salary and Expenses £560.00

HMRC £100.00

b) Parish Precept 2022/23

The Council discussed setting the Precept and the possible financial implications of the Speed Review on Rake Lane. Whilst Highways estimated the possible costs of a successful review to be £2000 it was stressed that this figure was an absolute maximum and in reality could be much smaller. Following advice from the CW&C Finance Team the Clerk suggested that the Council consider raising the Precept to meet any additional costs. He also reassured Councillors concerned about the resultant rise in the Precept that many Parish Councils have previously raised the Precept to meet the costs of such projects only to lower it in subsequent years once actual costs became known.

It was therefore agreed that the Precept for 2022/23 be set at £ £7,146 which represents a Band D charge of £56.62 and hence is a 38.8% (£15.84) increase from this year.

### **5 PLANNING MATTERS**

a) Police House, Hill Road, Eccleston. Demolition of extension, creation of a courtyard area, reconfiguration of layout, and associated repairs and works.

- b) King's School. Raise roof height to 6th form building, reconstruction of existing Lecture Theatre and extension including the addition of timber cladding.

## **6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- a) The Clerk was asked to prepare a Notice of Vacancy for a Parish Councillor.
- b) Cllr Talbot expressed concern about the speed of vehicles leaving the Estate Office and onto the 20mph area. Annabel Farbon agreed to remind Estate Staff.
- c) The Chairman reported that Steve Brown of SPB Designs had indicated that from the next respective expiry dates in 2022, he would no longer be the Website Host for both the Parish Council and the Village Hall. It was agreed to search for another provider and one suggestion was the provider of the Aldford & Saughton site – wordpress.com.

## **7 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting (the Annual Meeting) will be held on Tuesday 10 May at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.