

# EATON & ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting held at 7.15 pm on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024 In the Upstairs Meeting Room, Eccleston Village Hall

### PRESENT

Cllrs Tony Deakin (Chair), Lee Hobson, Tony Jordan, Janet Middlehurst,  
Dean Shepherd, Greg Vickers.  
Ruth Shackleton (Clerk). Sarah Dawson (Eaton Estate)

### 1. APOLOGIES

Cllr Arran Dennis.  
Cllr Dennis is standing down as Councillor; the Clerk is to inform CWaC.

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

### 3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no consideration of this item.

### 4. MINUTES

**Resolved:-** The Council agreed to accept the minutes for the parish council meeting held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023.  
Proposed by Cllr Vickers and seconded by Cllr Jordan.

### 5. POLICE

PCSO Carpenter was due to attend the meeting; the Clerk is to forward him dates of the meetings. The police report was previously circulated.  
The Council raised concerns regarding anti-social behaviour at The Ferry car park; this is to be reported to the PCSO.

### 6. ACCOUNTS AND PAYMENTS

#### 6.1 Accounts:-

The Council noted the accounts as circulated.

#### 6.2 HMRC:-

The Clerk and Cllr Middlehurst have met to go through and handover the PAYE and HMRC arrangements. The cheque has been sent to HMRC in respect of outstanding PAYE; the account is now up to date.

#### 6.3 Clerks Salary:-

The Council are to set up monthly standing orders in respect of the Clerk's salary and Dean Shepherd (village maintenance).

#### 6.4 Payments:-

The Council considered the following payments including:-

Chq No	Payee	Details	Amount
602	Dean Shepherd	Village Maintenance	£1,021.89
603	R Shackleton	Clerk Salary (Sep - Dec 2023)	£ 525.56
604	HMRC	PAYE (Sep - Dec 2023)	£ 131.20
605	HMRC	PAYE (Jan – Mar 2024)	£ 98.40
606	CWaC	Elections charge	£ 90.50
607	R Shackleton	Reimburse expenses	£ 44.53
608	J Middlehurst	Retirement Gifts	£ 100.00

#### Receipts:-

None received.

Bank Account:-

Reconciled balance of the Current Bank Account as at 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023:- £100.00

Reconciled balance of the Deposit Bank Account as at 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023:- £8,671.29

**Resolved:-** The Council agreed to the above payments and accounts as circulated.

Proposed by Cllr Deakin and seconded by Cllr Middlehurst.

6.5 Bank Signatories:-

Nat West has confirmed that Cllrs Deakin, Middlehurst and the Clerk, Mrs Ruth Shackleton, have been added as bank signatories.

The Clerk is to remove the other bank signatories.

6.6 Budget to Date:-

The Council noted the budget to 31/12/23 and forecast to 31/03/24.

**7. PRECEPT**

7.1 Budget:-

**Resolved:-** The Council approved the budget for 2024 – 25.

Proposed by Cllr Hobson and seconded by Cllr Deakin.

7.2 Precept:-

**Resolved:-** The Council agreed to set the precept for 2024 – 25 at £7,327.00.

Proposed by Cllr Hobson and seconded by Cllr Deakin.

**8. PLANNING**

8.1 Register:-

The Council accepted the observations as recorded in the planning register.

8.2 Solar Farms:-

The Council discussed the recent planning application for a solar farm in a neighbouring parish.

It was agreed that if two or more Councillors wish to request an extraordinary meeting then it will take place.

8.3 Shed:-

CWaC has responded to the concerns have been raised with the Council regarding a shed that has been erected at Hillwood House, Overleigh Road. The Council agreed not to pursue the matter.

**9. SPEED LIMIT ON RAKE LANE**

CWaC has advised that the cost to implement the speed limit on Rake Lane is £2,922.74 plus VAT. The Council has to contribute 50% towards the cost £1,461.37 plus VAT.

The Clerk is due to apply to the Members budget 2024/25 for a contribution towards the cost of the speed limit on Rake Lane.

The Council discussed that the police will need to enforce the speed limit. This is to be discussed at a meeting with the PCSO and the Traffic Management Officer.

**Resolved:-** The Council agreed support the 50 mph speed limit on Rake Lane and to pay the 50% contribution of £1,461.37 plus VAT.

Proposed by Cllr Deakin and seconded by Cllr Middlehurst.

**10. TRAFFIC CONCERNS**

Cllr Hobson updated the meeting of issues that have been reported to Highways.

The Clerk is to set up a spreadsheet detailing all issues that have been reported to Highways and the current status; this is to be posted on the website and noticeboard.

The Clerk has contacted CWaC to request a replacement speedbump.

**11. CHRISTMAS**

The Council discussed putting lights on trees in the village at Christmas; this is to be discussed at the July meeting.

## **12. PARISH APPEARANCE**

Cllr Shepherd updated the meeting regarding work in the village.  
The asbestos sheet that was reported to CWaC has now been removed.  
Concerns were raised regarding campervans parking overnight at the ferry car park.  
The Council agreed to request that the ward councillors attend a future meeting.

## **13. CLERKS REPORT**

The Clerk is to prepare a financial risk assessment.  
The Clerk is to contact CHALC for an up to date template job description and employment contract.

## **14. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Council noted the correspondence as circulated.

## **15. DATES OF MEETINGS**

The Council agreed the following dates:-  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024  
Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2024  
Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024

## **PART TWO**

**Resolved:-** The Council resolved to exclude the press and members of the public as the items to be discussed relate to employment matters and / or are either of a contractual or sensitive nature.

Proposed by Cllr Deakin and seconded by Cllr Hobson.

## **1. CLERK'S SALARY**

### **Resolved:-**

The Council confirmed the employment details the new Clerk, Ruth Shackleton, she is employed for 3 hours per week on SCP 7 of the scale at a rate of £12.63 per hour.

**The meeting closed at 9.00 pm**