

EATON & ECCLESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at 7.15 pm on Thursday 10th July 2025 In the Upstairs Meeting Room, Eccleston Village Hall

PRESENT

Cllrs Tony Deakin (Chair), Kathryn Rees Wright, Dean Shepherd, Greg Vickers.
Ruth Shackleton (Clerk). Sarah Dawson (Grosvenor Estate)

1. APOLOGIES

Cllrs Tony Jordan (ill), Lee Hobson (personal), Janet Middlehurst (work).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Shepherd declared a pecuniary interest in part 2; item 1.

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 Monday 12th May 2025.

Proposed by Cllr Deakin and seconded by Cllr Vickers.

5. POLICE

PCSO Carpenter sent his apologies. The police report was previously circulated.

6. ACCOUNTS AND PAYMENTS

6.1 Accounts:-

The Council approved the accounts as circulated .

6.2 Payments:-

The Council considered the following payments including:-

Chq No	Payee	Details	Amount
634	R Shackleton	Running Costs / backdated pay	£ 45.08
635	JDH Business Services Ltd	Internal Audit	£ 298.80
636	UK City Images	Website	£ 300.00
SO	Dean Shepherd	Street Orderly services (monthly)	£ 326.35

6.3 Receipts:-

Precept:- £9,500.00

VAT Refund:- £ 343.09

6.4 Bank Account:-

Reconciled balance of the Current Bank Account as at 1st June 2025:- £100.00

Reconciled balance of the Deposit Bank Account as at 1st June 2025:- £11,802.08

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

Proposed by Cllr Rees Wright and seconded by Cllr Deakin.

7. INTERNAL AUDITOR

JDH Business Services have carried out the internal audit; in their view the Council's system of internal controls is in place and is adequate for the purpose intended and effective subject to the following issues:-

- VAT relating to 2021/22 and 2022/23 should be reclaimed. The Clerk is to action this when the 2025/26 VAT claim is submitted to HMRC.

Resolved:- The Council note and accept the Internal Audit report.

Proposed by Cllr Deakin and seconded by Cllr Shepherd.

8. PLANNING

Register:-

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

9. FERRY CAR PARK

Ward Cllr Mark Williams was due to attend the meeting to discuss issues with the Ferry Car Park.

The Council discussed concerns including overnight camping and parking; anti-social behaviour and an increase in camper vans.

The issue of ownership needs to be resolved. This was established during Covid that the car park is owned by CWaC and not by the Grosvenor Estate. Sarah Dawson is to email a copy of the plan which proves this. It was noted that part of the access is owned by the Grosvenor Estate but the rest is owned by CWaC.

The Clerk is to write again to Car Parks at CWaC and send them a copy of the plan which proves that the car park is owned by CWaC and to request a response within two weeks. If there is no response then the matter is to be escalated to the CEO of CWaC. The Council agreed the need to establish ownership of the car park so as to deal with the anti-social issues and overnight campervan parking. There are liability issues concerning access to the river.

Once ownership has been established the Council will look to hold a site meeting with CWaC, the Ward Councillors and the Grosvenor Estate to discuss safe and controlled management of the site including wardening of the car park.

10. TRAFFIC CONCERNS

The Clerk has contacted CWaC regarding carrying out traffic surveys; they do not carry out traffic surveys in house but they can provide quotes from outside specialist companies; the approximate cost for each survey is £250.00.

The Clerk is to establish how long the survey is in place; how much notice is required to request the surveys and the type of equipment used.

It is hoped to carry out traffic surveys at five locations in the parish to take place in September subject to agreement via email.

The Council is to contact the Ward Councillor to request funding from their members budget towards the cost.

11. PARISH ORDERLY

Cllr Shepherd updated the meeting as below:-

- All the drains on Church Road have been cleared out;
- All the signposts in the parish have had hedges cut back so as they are visible apart from one hedge opposite the Grosvenor Garden Centre; Cllr Vickers advised this will be added to the Grosvenor Estate schedule;
- The riverside is getting busier;
- The pothole opposite 9 Barns on Rake Lane has now been repaired;
- Concerns raised about nitrogen gas canisters that are being dumped in the parish – this is to be reported to the police.

12. PLAY FACILITIES

Cllr Rees Wright is in the process of making enquiries about local children using the field to the rear of the school. She invited parish councillors to attend the opening of the sensory garden at the school on 25th September.

13. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The Council discussed purchasing lamppost poppies for the parish. Cllr Deakin is to advise of the quantity to order.

14. CLERKS REPORT

There was no consideration of this item

15. CORRESPONDENCE

The Council noted the correspondence as circulated.

The Council agreed to write to the Chairman of the local Conservatives regarding the ward councillors lack of attendance at parish council meetings despite being invited.

16. DATES OF MEETINGS

The Council date of the next meeting is:-

Thursday 9th October 2025

PART TWO

Resolved:- The Council resolved to exclude the press and members of the public as the items to be discussed relate to contractual matters.

Proposed by Cllr Vickers and seconded by Cllr Deakin.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm

The Annual Parish Meeting followed the meeting

In the absence of any parishioners the meeting closed.

The website for Eaton and Eccleston Parish Council is:-

www.cheshireparishcouncils.co.uk/welcome/eaton-eccleston-parish-council/

The email address for Eaton and Eccleston Parish Council is:-

eatonandecclestonpc@hotmail.com