

MINUTES OF 1064TH MEETING OF HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 16TH APRIL 2012 AT THE VILLAGE HALL.

PRESENT: - COUNCILLOR D. DICKINSON (CHAIRMAN) COUNCILLOR T. GREENWOOD (VICE CHAIRMAN) COUNCILLORS J. BALDWIN, N.PETER J. PROCTOR, T.SHARRATT, AND Ms M. URRY AND MR. T HARKNESS (CLERK).

1. COUNCILLOR PROCTOR:

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) on behalf of the Parish Council welcomed back Councillor Proctor following his recent illness

2. MRS ANN DICKINSON:

The Vice Chairman (Councillor Greenwood) offered on behalf of the Parish Council sincere condolences to the Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) following the sad death of his wife Ann.

3. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL/PREJUDICIAL INTEREST:

The Clerk reminded Members of their responsibility to declare any personal interest in respect of matters on the agenda in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Members Code of Conduct. No one made a declaration at this stage.

4. PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS:

Prior to the commencement of the meeting a statement of persons nominated for election to the Parish Council was circulated. There were seven nominations for the seven seats on the Parish Council.

5. MINUTES:

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 19th March 2012 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

THERE THEN FOLLOWED AN ADJOURNMENT TO ALLOW THE PUBLIC TO RAISE ISSUES AND QUESTION THE PARISH COUNCIL REGARDING MATTERS DEALT WITH. AS THERE WERE NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT THE PARISH COUNCIL CONTINUED WITH THE BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA.

7 POLICE REPORT:

In view of the non attendance of the police the Clerk reported that at the PACT Meeting held on 3rd April 2012 .The following incidents in Houghton had been reported.

A cat was shot with an air gun (this is not apparently a cruelty crime but one of criminal damage!). There was a burglary (non dwelling) on Houghton Lane, an attempted burglary on Gib Lane and the Theft of a garden ornament at Park Gates.

Finally it was reported that the police team would be relocating to a new office above the Spar shop at Clayton Brook as soon as it was ready (early summer). Wheelton police station would then be sold immediately after the move.

The Clerk would ask the Police for more details about the incidents.

8. LALC REPORT:

The Clerk submitted the current newsletter.

Councillor Sharratt reported on the briefing meeting held at County Hall on 26th March 2012 dealing with the Better Working between the County Council and Parish Councils.

9. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:

(A). FOOTPATH –PARISH CHURCH:

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that he was currently preparing an estimate of the cost of undertaking the work. The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) had consulted the local farmer for permission for work to the fence and this had been granted. The Clerk was discussing with the Church the storage of materials.

Councillor Peter agreed to liaise with the Clerk regarding an estimate for the work.

(B) ROAD SURFACE – QUAKER BROOK LANE:

At the last meeting Councillor Sharratt expressed concern regarding the condition of the carriageway. The road surface was bunching up under pressure from vehicles and was leading to the deterioration of the foundations.

The Clerk had informed the Highways Inspectorate and this was being investigated.

(C) ROAD MARKINGS A675 BLACKBURN OLD ROAD:

The Clerk reported that white lining work was to be carried out as soon as possible with a completion date of no later than 15th May 2012.

(D) DUMPING OF ROADSIDE MATERIAL –VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK:

At the last meeting the Vice Chairman (Councillor Greenwood) reported that he had been informed by a local resident that what appeared to be waste road side material had been dumped on the Village Hall Car Park. It was claimed that the people dumping the rubbish were Chorley Council employees.

The Clerk had asked the Neighbourhood Officer to investigate this claim and he had indicated that it was not Chorley Council. The Clerk had then contacted Lancashire County Council and they had also denied dumping rubbish.

The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) had discussed this again with the complainant who was adamant the dumping was done by Council workmen.

The rubbish had still not been removed but the Neighbourhood Officer was looking into this.

(HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL – 16TH APRIL 2012)

(E) TREE – PRIVATE ROAD:

At the last meeting Councillor Sharratt reported that a tree was leaning across the road and was in danger of falling down. The Clerk had asked the County Council's Tree Service to investigate this.

Councillor Sharratt commented that extreme weather conditions could be contributing to trees generally being found in a poor condition.

Councillor Ms Urry suggested that the Tree Officers be asked if this was the case.

(F). TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE – GOOSEFOOT LANE:

The Clerk reported that Goosefoot Lane would be closed from its junction with Roach Road to out side Coppice Farm property to traffic from 08.00 hours to 17.00 hours from Monday 23rd April to Thursday 26th April to allow carriageway resurfacing to take place

The alternative route would be via Goosefoot Lane – Firwood Lane- Roach Road and vice versa.-

(G) ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE - CHORLEY BULLETIN:

The Clerk submitted the first bulletin for 2012/13.

He reported changes to the services provide by the Environment Directorate, a list of contacts, the resurfacing of the Riley Green Switch Road (A6061) from May to July 2012, and the installation of new safety fences on the approaches to the bridge parapets at Hoghton Railway Bridge in June 2012.

10 CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) reported on the meeting of Chorley Council held on 3rd April 2012.

11. PLANNING REPORT:

(A) DECISIONS.

No decisions affecting the Parish had been taken since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

(B). APPLICATIONS:

(1) Erection of a first floor rear extension and balcony (above the single storey extension approved as part of application 10/00851/FUL) 13 Chapel Lane (App no 12/00232/FUL) Applicants Mr. McMochan.

No observations were made regarding this application.

(2) Erection of new entrance lobby to front and covered smoking shelter to side (following demolition of existing entrance lobby); creation of external landscaping to form new seating area and wheelchair access ramp; construction of new stone balustrade to front and replacement of windows and doors Boars Head Hotel Blackburn Old Road. (App no 12/00284/FUL) Applicant Boars Head Public House.

No observations were made on the application but the following comments were made;

- **(H(HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL – 16TH APRIL 2012)**

The spelling of the word metres should be corrected on the Advertising Board and consideration be given to the safety issues arising from people entering and leaving the detached car park in Gib Lane.

(C). HELICOPTER FLIGHTS BEESTON MANOR:

Councillor Ms Urry reported that there had been several flights in the last week.

The Parish Council agreed to monitor the situation.

12. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

The following accounts were submitted for payment

1. Village Hall	Hire of room January –March 2012	£30.00
2 T. Harkness	Clerk – Salary (£312.50) January – March 2012 (Direct Debit)	£312.50.
3.Douglas Tonks Ltd	Payroll Administration Fee for payment of salary. (Payment by Direct Debit)	£11.70
4. T. Harkness	Clerk – Expenses January – March 2012	£143.80

The accounts were agreed and cheques signed.

13. INSURANCE PREMIUM - RENEWAL.

The Clerk reported that details of the Parish Council's insurance quotation from Norwich Union for the period from 1st June 2012 was awaited.

14. AUDIT OF PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS:

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that the Audit for 2010/11 would take place on 1st June 2012.

The Clerk would submit full details for consideration by the Parish Council at the next meeting.

Prior to this the Independent Internal Auditor would examine the Parish Council's Accounts and procedures, confirmed that they were in order, agree the Audit Report and submit it to the Parish Council for approval.

15. PINFOLD:

The Clerk reported .the current position regarding the work to the Pinfold.

Representatives of the Parish Council met two Planning Officers from Chorley on 21st March 2012 and it had been agreed that the gate could be sited adjacent to the existing gate at 29 Riley Green.

The Clerk had notified local residents of the developments taking place at the Pinfold and had been approached by residents of Green lane regarding the retention of the gate to the Pinfold from Green Lane.

He had contacted the residents about the possibility of siting the maintenance gate in Green lane rather than adjacent to 29 Riley Green.

(HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL – 16TH APRIL 2012)

The Clerk circulated a letter from the residents of 1 Green Lane regarding land ownership at the Pinfold.

The Clerk would inform the residents concerned that the Parish Council did not agree with their views.

The Clerk submitted an estimate for the construction of the maintenance gate adjoining 29 Riley Green amounting to £550.00. The Parish Council accepted this estimate and the Clerk would ask the contractor Mr. Savage to undertake the work.

The Neighbourhood Officer would erect Notices about dog fouling on the site.

The Parish Councils Champion at the County Council (County Councillor Otter) had agreed to a grant of £150.00 towards the cost of a story board at the Pinfold.

Councillor Peter suggested that a notice updating residents on developments at the pinfold should be published.

16. QUEEN`S DIAMOND JUBILEE:

At the last meeting it had been suggested that a flag pole be erected on the Pinfold to commemorate the Jubilee.

There were no planning objections to the proposal but an objection had been received from Mr. Bowker 31 Riley Green.

The Parish Council decided to put the flagpole in this location subject to the comments of the County Council as this was common land.

The Clerk would submit details of flagpoles and the cost to the next meeting.

The President of the Women's Institute had approached the Clerk for permission to plant daffodils and tulips in the grass verges adjoining the War Memorial.

Permission was granted and the Clerk would inform the Women's Institute.

17. EQUALITY FORUM:

Councillor Ms Urry reported on the meeting of the Forum held earlier on 12th April 2012.

18. LANCASHIRE LINK/COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY SERVICE NEWSLETTERS:

The Clerk circulated the April newsletters of the organisations.

19. CPRE LANCASHIRE BRANCH AGM:

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had been invited to the Annual General Meeting of the Branch on Saturday 12th May 2012 at County Hall.

20. LANCASHIRE WASTE AND MINERALS PLAN:

The Clerk informed the Parish Council of possible changes to this plan arising from the new National Planning Policy Framework .

Councillor Sharratt reported that he had looked at the document and apart from his previously stated concerns regarding fracking there was nothing which affected this

- **(H(HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL – 16TH APRIL 2012)**

area in the paper.

21. PARISH MATTERS;

The Clerk circulated the spring newsletter for the Council's insurers

22. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 21st May 2012 the Annual General Meeting at 8.00.pm at the Village Hall to be followed by the normal meeting of the Parish Council.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.50.

p.m.

**SIGNED
CHAIRMAN**

21ST MAY 2012