

**MINUTES OF 1088TH MEETING OF
HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 19TH MAY 2014
AT THE VILLAGE HALL.**

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: CHORLEY POLICE COMMUNITY BEAT MANAGER P. HARRISON, PCSO M. APPLETON, POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER C.SHORT, COUNTY COUNCILLOR M. DEVANEY AND ----- MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

1. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE:

An apology for absence was submitted from Councillor Ms .M. Urry.

2. 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.

3. MINUTES:

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 14th April 2014 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. 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.

5. POLICE REPORT:

(A) NEWSLETTERS:

The Clerk circulated a copy of the current police newsletter which showed there had been one reported incident of vehicle crime during April 2014.

As the police were not in attendance no further report was presented.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) had spoken to the police about their non attendance.

(B). CONSUMER ALERTS – TRADING STANDARDS:

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The Clerk circulated a copy of the latest consumer alerts from the County Council's Trading Standards Officer.

6. LALC REPORT:

The Clerk reported details of the current newsletter.

He also circulated a copy of the minutes of the Three Tier Forum held on 7th May 2014.

7. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:

(A). FLOODING - CHAPEL LANE :

The County Council had been asked for their comments regarding the structure of the drain near Barracks Farm on Chapel Lane. The Clerk had asked them to speak directly to Councillor Peter about the problems. They had not done so.

The Clerk would contact County Councillor Devaney about this problem.

(B). GIB LANE :

The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) had reported in the past that the pavement had been swept and was now passable but the debris had been heaped by the hedge.

The Clerk had notified Chorley Council about the condition of the road and pavement and asked for action to be taken however, the debris had not been cleared. Councillor Baldwin reported that there were several large branches on the pavement which had been there for some time.

Chorley Council had still not repaired the street nameplate.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) would discuss these issues with Chorley Council.

(C). FOOTPATH 44:

In the past Councillor Ms Urry reported that there were two stiles on the footpath which ran between properties 243 and 245 Houghton Lane. The second stile was broken and in need of repair. The Clerk had informed the Footpaths Officer and was informed that this was on a list and would be done in order of priority.

She had also reported that the section between the first and second stile was virtually impassable. This had been inspected and the area was now passable.

8. CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) indicated there was nothing to report on this matter.

9. PLANNING REPORT:

(A). DECISIONS.

The Clerk reported the following applications had been approved since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

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1. Demolition of existing industrial units and erection of 18 (14 Semi detached and 4 detached three bedroom) houses Finnington Industrial Estate Finnington Lane. (App no 13/00948/FULMAJ - Applicants Units to Let Northern Limited. (subject to legal agreement)

2. Application to discharge conditions 5 (impact on protected species) 6 (landscaping) 10 (tree survey) and 12 (Reptile Method Statement) attached to planning approval 13/01176/FUL Overbridge on Railway land at Pleasington Golf Club. Applicants Network Rail Decision - Conditions Discharged.

(B). APPLICATIONS:

The Clerk reported that the following applications had been received since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

1. Notice of Intention to install Bt Openreach High Speed Broadband Cabinet on highway verge opposite 20 metres south west of Boars Head Blackburn Old Road (App no 14/00310/NOT) Applicant Bt Openreach .

2. Notice of Intention to install Bt Openreach High Speed Broadband Cabinet on pavement 10 metres south west of telephone exchange Station Road (App no 14/00311/NOT) Applicant Bt Openreach .

3. Hedge removal notice for removal of 60 metres of mature hedge hedgerow adjacent to Railway Bridge no 1219 north east corner of highway boundary Railway Bridge Blackburn Old Road (App no 14/00316/HDG) Applicant Lancashire County Council.

Details were circulated to all Members present and no observations were made.

The Clerk would inform Chorley Council.

The consideration of the following applications was deferred to enable Members of the Parish Council to submit their observations to the Clerk.

4. Proposal to convert former Sunday School into residential use Chapel Lane (App no 14/00250/FUL) Applicant Miss Manwaring.

5. Proposal to convert former Sunday School into residential use Chapel Lane Listed Building Consent Application (App no 14/00251/LBC) Applicant Miss Manwaring.

10. ACCOUNT FOR PAYMENT:

The following account was submitted for payment

*1. D. Tonks Ltd	Payroll Administration	£30.00
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The account was agreed and a cheque signed.

11. INSURANCE PREMIUM - RENEWAL.

The Clerk reported that details of the Parish Council's insurance quotation from

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Norwich Union for the period from 1st June 2014 was awaited.

12. AUDIT OF PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS:

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that the Audit for 2013/14 would take place on 10th June 2014.

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, confirm, that they were in order, agree the Audit Report and submit it to the Parish Council for approval.

13. REVISED AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS:

The Clerk submitted a consultation document relating to proposed changes to the Audit process from 2016 following the abolition of the Audit Commission.

The principle changes were that there would not be an External Audit of the Parish Council Accounts but details of the accounts would be published locally and online.

As the Parish Council did not have a website the Vice Chairman of Brindle Parish Council (Councillor D. Metcalfe) had approached the Clerk regarding the creation of a joint website.

The Parish Council accepted this approach and raised no other comments to the consultation.

14. NOTICE BOARDS:

The Clerk reported that he had recently removed notices from the boards which had been stapled to them. He had contacted the issuers of the notices and one of them had offered to tidy them on a regular basis as a community service.

The Clerk would discuss this with the organisation concerned.

15. WAR MEMORIAL:

The Clerk reported that a local historian Mr. Clewlow from Euxton had donated a copy of his book In Memoriam to the Parishes of Brindle and Hoghton for their archives.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) suggested that the Parish Council should acquire their own copy.

Councillor Sharratt indicated he would like to purchase his own copy.

The Clerk would approach the author regarding the acquisition of further copies.

16. RAIL HALT - HOGHTON :

Councillor Sharratt requested the Parish Council to consider the renewal of the request made some time ago regarding the establishment of a rail halt in the area for the benefit of the people of Brindle and Hoghton.

He felt that in view of the money Network Rail was spending on the provision of a footbridge for the benefit of Pleasington Golf Club, a similar amount should be spent on providing a rail halt for the benefit of residents of the two parishes.

The Parish Council welcomed the suggestion but in the current climate did not feel that the idea was feasible.

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It was decided not to pursue the suggestion.

17. BRINDLE GREGSON LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL - OFSTED REPORT:
Councillor Sharratt reported that following an inspection by Ofsted the school had been designated - Good. He circulated a copy of the report which was complimentary.

He brought the report to the attention of the Parish Council as many of the school's pupil were from Hoghton.

It was agreed that a letter of congratulation be sent to the Headteacher and Staff at Brindle Gregson Lane Primary School following the recent Ofsted report.

18. EQUALITY FORUM:

The Clerk reported that the meeting scheduled for 3rd April 2014 had been cancelled.

19. COMMEMORATION OF START OF WORLD WAR ONE:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) reported on the current situation regarding the Government's scheme to commemorate the start of World War One by planting poppy seeds.

20. CPRE:

The Clerk reported that the CPRE subscription would increase from £29.00 to £36.00 in August 2014.

He also submitted details of the Save the Countryside Campaign.

21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 19th May 2014 the Annual General Meeting at 7.45pm 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 8.50. p.m.

**SIGNED
CHAIRMAN**

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