

**MINUTES OF 1097TH MEETING OF
HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 20TH APRIL 2015
AT THE VILLAGE HALL.**

PRESENT: - COUNCILLOR T. GREENWOOD (VICE CHAIRMAN) IN THE CHAIR, COUNCILLORS N.PETER, T.SHARRATT, AND Ms M. URRY AND MR. T. HARKNESS (CLERK).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: COUNTY COUNCILLOR M. DEVANEY AND FOUR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were submitted from The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) and Councillor J. Baldwin.

2. THE CHAIRMAN (COUNCILLOR D. DICKINSON).

The Parish Council was informed of the continuing illness of the Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson). The Parish Council wished him a speedy recovery.

3. COUNTY COUNCILLOR DEVANEY:

The Chairman of the Meeting (Councillor T. Greenwood) welcomed back County Councillor Devaney following his recovery from illness.

4. 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.

5. MINUTES:

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 16th March 2015 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman of the Meeting (Councillor T. Greenwood).

6. ADJOURNMENT:

THERE THEN FOLLOWED AN ADJOURNMENT TO ALLOW THE PUBLIC TO RAISE ISSUES AND QUESTION THE PARISH COUNCIL REGARDING MATTERS DEALT WITH.

THE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT RAISED THE FOLLOWING ISSUE.

THE SIRLOIN:

(A). REVISED LICENSING ARRANGEMENTS:

The Clerk reported that the Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood), Councillor Peter and the Clerk had attended a meeting of Chorley Licensing Committee along

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with local residents when consideration was given to an application from the Sirloin to amend its` opening hours and the use of the car park for special events during 2015.

The Committee had granted the application subject to conditions despite representations from the Parish Council and local residents.

A copy of the conditions had been circulated.

The Members of the Public present expressed their concerns regarding the decision They felt there was a lack of consultation regarding the application. The Parish Council concurred with this as it had not been consulted.

The residents felt there would be problems with car parking during these events.

The Clerk referred to the current practice of the Licensing Department which consulted the Parish Council on special events at the Sirloin but not on changes to the opening hours and use of the car park.

County Councillor Devaney agreed to discuss the situation regarding parking on Station Road and Fowler Close with the County Council and the question of noise levels with the Environment Agency.

(B). DECKING:

Discussion then took place regarding the retrospective application for the installation of a timber decking area with balustrade around the front of the premises(App no 15/00159/FUL) Applicant Black Napkins Northwest Ltd.

This application was to be considered by the Development Control Sub Committee of Chorley Council on 21st April 2015. The officer recommendation was for refusal as the decking was considered unacceptable on the basis the its materials were not in keeping with the building and that it obscured the front of the building causing substantial harm to its significance as a heritage asset.

The Parish Council had made representations to the Planning Department about this and if the Committee were minded to approve it had asked for a site visit. Several local residents had also complained.

(C). SIGN :

The Clerk reported that the Enforcement Officer had asked the Management of the Sirloin to remove this notice. They had not done so.

The Clerk would notify the Enforcement Officer and ask him to take any necessary action.

7. POLICE REPORT:

(A). NEWSLETTERS:

The Clerk circulated the current police newsletter which indicated there had been two reported incidents in Hoghton during March 2015.

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The next PACT meeting meeting would be held on 5th May 2015 at Brinscall Sports and Social Club.

At the last meeting Councillors Peter and Sharratt had reported the continuing problems relating to a car parked on Hoghton Lane which was causing sight problems for traffic entering and leaving Bells Lane.

The Police had agreed to look into this but the vehicle was in the South Ribble Policing area. Councillor Sharratt reported that nothing had been done.

The Chairman of the Meeting (Councillor T. Greenwood) reported that other cars were now parking in this location.

The Clerk would ask the police to further investigate the parking situation as a matter of urgency.

(B). CONSUMER ALERTS – TRADING STANDARDS:

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

8. LALC REPORT:

The Clerk reported details of the current newsletter which included the date of the Annual Conference to be held on 6th June 2015 details would follow, the request from NALC to the Government that Parish Councils should be statutory consultees on all planning applications, and the setting up of a fund to help Parish Council to meet the requirements of the Transparency Code for Council Audits.

The Clerk also submitted an invoice for the Associations Subscription Fees for 2015/16 amounting to £176.38 compared with the figure for 2014/15 of £155.13 an increase of £21.25.

The Parish Council agreed to continue its membership of the Lancashire Association of Local Councils, to the payment of the Annual Subscription fees in the sum of £176.38 and a cheque was signed.

9. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:

(A). FLOODING - CHAPEL LANE :

Councillor Peter reported on the current situation regarding the flooding problems in Chapel Lane. County Councillor Devaney would investigate this matter further with the County Council.

(B). RESURFACING BLACKBURN OLD ROAD:

Councillor Ms Urry reminded the Parish Council that further work was required to complete the resurfacing work on Blackburn Old Road A675 .

The County Council had indicated that following an inspection no further work was required. Arrangements would be made for a site inspection with Councillor Ms Urry and County Councillor Devaney .

Councillor Sharratt reminded the Parish Council that work was also required to the stretch from Causeway Farm to Finnington Lane . This would be included in the site inspection.

(D). BOLTON ROAD JUNCTION RILEY GREEN:

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Councillor Sharratt at a previous meeting had suggested that the existing signs at the junction of Bolton Road and the A675 Riley Green should be replaced by Stop signs. This had been considered by the County Council.

They felt that stop lines at non signalised junctions would only normally be installed where there was excessively restricted visibility for traffic exiting the junction. Unfortunately, this was not the case at this particular junction, with a minimum of 70 metres clear visibility available in both directions. Lancashire Constabulary incident records indicated that there had been two injury incidents in the vicinity of the junction within the last 5 years, both involving vehicles turning in to the junction from Hoghton Lane rather than exiting it. The Police were to be consulted regarding the circumstances of the February 2015 incident reported by Councillor Sharratt and the County Council would re-assess the situation, but there appeared to be no road safety concerns at the junction and therefore it was recommended that no further action was required at this time.

The Parish Council considered that the A675 Blackburn Old Road was a fast road at this point the speed limit being 40 mph and that the view to the right for traffic entering Blackburn Old Road was restricted.

The Chairman of the Meeting (Councillor T. Greenwood) reminded the Parish Council that in the past there had been problems with HGVs exiting this junction.

The Parish Council would contact the police to express their concerns and ask for their views.

(E) FLOODING HOGHTON LANE AND RILEY GREEN:

The County Council had undertaken work to resolve the flooding situation on Hoghton Lane and Riley Green.

(F). FLOODING QUAKER BROOK LANE:

Councillor Peter referred to the recent flooding of Quaker Brook Lane and was concerned about the problems with the trash screens on Quaker Brook.

County Councillor Devaney would discuss this situation with the County Council.

10. CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:

No report on issues affecting the Parish Council was made.

11. PLANNING REPORT:

(A). DECISIONS.

The Clerk reported that the following decisions had been made since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

1 Erection of single storey side extension Heatherdale Quaker Brook Lane (App no 15/00082/CLPUD) Applicant Mr Allen.- Granted.

2. Erection of two storey front extension, single storey rear extension and remodelling of property to include alterations to roof light. Braemar Cripplegate Lane. (App no 15/00114/FUL) Applicant Mr. Appleton.- Withdrawn.

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3. Tree works 26 Fowler Close (App no 15/00154/TPO) Applicant Mr Burridge -Refused.

4. Notice of intention to install Bt Openreach High Speed Broadband Cabinet land opposite Finnington Lane (App no 15/00297/NOT) Applicant British Telecom. Approved.

(B). APPLICATIONS:

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

1. Treeworks Newlands Quaker Brook Lane (App no 15/00221/TPO) Applicant Mr. Heeney

Details had been circulated to all Members and no observations were made.

The Clerk had notified Chorley Council.

2. Tree works 20 Fowler Close (App no 15/00287/TPO) Applicant Mrs Seel.

3. Tree works 22 Fowler Close (App no 15/00286/TPO) Applicant Mrs Shah.

Details had been circulated to all Members and no observations were made.

The Clerk would notify Chorley Council.

4. Retrospective Application for the erection of a single storey rear raised veranda19 Chapel Lane (App no 15/00288FUL) Applicant Miss Kowalski.

Details had been circulated to all Members and no observations were made.

The Clerk would notify Chorley Council.

12. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

The Clerk submitted the following accounts for payment

Hoghton Village Hall	Hire of Room - January - March 2015	£30.00.
Douglas Tonks Ltd*	Payroll - Clerk Salary and Expenses Administration January - March 2015.	£613.85

* Payment by Direct Debit.

13. AUDIT OF PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS:

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that the Audit for 2014/15 would take place on 29th June 2015.

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

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Prior to this the Independent Internal Auditor would examine the Parish Council's Accounts and procedures, confirm that they were in order, and agree the Audit.

14. CLERK - PENSION:

The Clerk reported that new legislation was being introduced making it compulsory for all Parish Councils to offer pensions.

The Clerk would undertake further investigations regarding this.

15. WAR MEMORIAL:

The Clerk reported that the Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) had informed him that all 24 neighbourhood priorities including the War Memorial were agreed by Chorley Executive Cabinet last month and they were now in the process of assigning lead officers for each of them for delivery in 2015/16.

Once they had done this the lead officers would be in touch with the neighbourhood area representatives to discuss the detail and to cost them, at which point the Executive Member for Communities, who had been delegated power to sanction the spend on the priorities, would be asked to approve the costs and the work could then proceed.

Councillor Peter would contact the surveyor regarding the progress made relating to the survey of the War Memorial.

The Parish Council had now received a response from the De Hoghton Estate authorising the Council to register the War Memorial with the Land Registry.

The Clerk was discussing the arrangements for the registration of the War Memorial with Chorley Council.

16. DOG WASTE BIN HOGHTON BOTTOMS:

The Clerk reported the current situation regarding the replacement of the existing dog refuse bin at Hoghton Bottoms with a combined bin.

17. EQUALITY FORUM

Councillor Ms Urry gave a report on the meeting held on 15th April 2015.

18. THREE TIER LIAISON MEETING:

The meeting arranged for 22nd April 2015 had been cancelled and the next meeting would be in June.

Councillor Ms Urry was concerned that she had not been informed in sufficient time that the meeting had been cancelled. She submitted her comments to the Three Tier Liaison Committee regarding the operation of this pilot project.

The Clerk would contact Chorley Council about the lack of notice regarding the cancellation of the meeting.

19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 18th May 2015 at 7.45.pm at the Village Hall. The Annual General Meeting to be followed by the normal meeting of the Parish Council.

There being no further business the Chairman of the Meeting (Councillor T. Greenwood) declared the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

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**SIGNED
CHAIRMAN**

18TH MAY 2015