

**HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL  
DRAFT MINUTES OF 1007TH MEETING  
HELD ON 15TH JANUARY 2007  
AT THE VILLAGE HALL  
PRESENT: -**

**COUNCILLOR D. DICKINSON (CHAIRMAN) COUNCILLOR T. GREENWOOD (VICE CHAIRMAN) COUNCILLORS J.BALDWIN J. PROCTOR AND Ms M. URRY AND MR. T HARKNESS (CLERK).**

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: TWO MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC.**

**157 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillors E. Miller-Crook and T. Sharratt.

**158. CHAIRMAN:**

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) was congratulated on his appointment as Chairman of the Lancashire Association of Parish and Town Councils.

**159. COUNCILLOR E. MILLER-CROOK:**

It was reported that Councillor Miller- Crook had had surgery and was due to go into Hospital again.

The Parish Council wished him a speedy recovery.

**160. 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.

**161. MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 20th November 2006 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**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 MATTER: -**

**162. PLANNING APPLICATION – RICROFT NURSERIES QUAKER BROOK LANE:**

The applicant attended the meeting of the Parish Council to explain proposed developments at the Nurseries which had been submitted to Chorley Borough Council.

The Parish Council noted the comments and would consider the matter further under Planning Issues.

**THERE WERE NO FURTHER MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC  
THE PARISH COUNCIL CONTINUED WITH THE BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA.**

**163. VILLAGE HALL:**

The Clerk submitted a report on the provisional estimates for 2007/08 setting out the effect on Council Tax Position for 2007/08 and future years taking account of the request on behalf of the Village Hall Management Committee that a significant part of the Hall running costs be met annually from the Parish Precept.

The Village Hall Management Committee had informed the Parish Council that it had not been possible to undertake the Public Consultation Exercise or prepare a proposed business plan for the future development of the Hall facilities.

It was intended to consult the public later in the year and therefore the Management Committee would not be seeking funds from the precept in the next financial year.

Following the outcome the public consultation exercise the Management Committee wished to discuss the proposed increase of the precept in future years along with the proposed business plan.

In the meantime the Management Committee had requested information concerning the likely increase for Council Tax Payers of their proposals. The Clerk would arrange for this to be done.

*The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) declared an interest in this matter and was allowed to speak but did not vote.*

**164. POLICING REPORT:**

As the Community Beat Manager was not present no report on policing was submitted. The Clerk reminded the Parish Council that the Divisional Commander for the Area had instructed Community Beat Officers to submit policing reports to Parish Councils where they were unable to attend the meeting themselves.

No report had been made available. The Chairman agreed to speak to the Divisional Commander about this.

The Clerk reported that the next Police Authority Community meeting would be held Monday 5th February 2007 at Coppull Community Centre.

**165. LAPTIC REPORT:**

The Clerk submitted the current Newsletter of the Association.

The Chairman reported that the question of the voting procedure had been raised at the Executive Committee meeting and informed the Parish Council of the outcome.

**166. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:**

**(A). TRAFFIC SCHEME – HOGHTON LANE:**

The scheme was still being processed and it was hoped to produce it for public consultation by the end of the month.

**(B) GIB LANE:**

The Clerk reported that due to more urgent problems, the Area County Surveyor had stated that it had not been possible to side back the footway and, trim back the

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growth that was obstructing signs on Gib Lane although this work would be undertaken as soon as the necessary labour was available, with the present backlog of work it could be some time before it was completed.

The potholes on Gib Lane to both sides of the railway bridge had been filled in.

The de Hoghton Estate had been contacted about the cutting back of the hedge to its original line.

### **(C). BUS STOPS:**

The Clerk had written to Chorley Borough Council about the bus stops but no reply had been received.

The Chairman referred to the provision of Bus Shelter on the Blackburn side of the Straits and had been told that the provision of bus shelters was the responsibility of the Bus Operator for the area.

The Clerk would investigate this suggestion.

### **(D) PUBLIC FOOTPATH 22 RILEY GREEN:**

The public footpath leading down to the canal at Riley Green would be inspected and any action necessary undertaken by the Footpaths Officer at Lancashire County Council.

### **(E). HOGHTON TOWER INFORMATION SIGN. - BRINDLE BAR:**

The County Councillor Mrs Livesey had asked the Environment Director at Lancashire County Council to expedite the replacing of the sign.

The Directorate had replied that there was a charge for the replacement of the sign and the Clerk had informed the de Hoghton Estate and a reply was awaited.

### **(F) NAMEPLATE – CHAPEL LANE:**

Chorley Borough Council had replaced the damaged nameplate.

### **(G). MINOR IMPROVEMENT HIGHWAY SCHEMES**

The Secretary of the Lancashire Local Team had contacted all Parishes about Highway Schemes Fund Allocations. Parishes had requested to submit highway improvement schemes for consideration at a future meeting of the Lancashire Local - Chorley. It was decided to await the implementation of the traffic scheme on Hoghton Lane before considering further highway schemes.

### **167. CHORLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT:**

The Clerk reported on issues affecting the Parish Council.

**168. PLANNING REPORT:**

**A. DECISIONS**

The Clerk reported that the application for alterations to the rear and side elevation 14 Viaduct Road for Mr. and Mrs McIntyre (app no 06/00973/FUL) had been granted.

Another application for the erection of a single storey side extension at 105 Chapel Lane (application no 06/1160/FUL) for Mr. Potter had been refused on green belt grounds.

**B. APPLICATIONS:**

The following applications had been submitted to Chorley Council since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

1. Two storey rear extension and single storey side extension to form link between house and indoor pool and single storey extension to pool to form gym Woodland Manor Private Road. Applicant: Mr P. Chesworth. (App no 06/1320/FUL)
2. Single storey side extension and pitched roof over existing attached garage 16 Fowler Close. Applicant Mr and Mrs Leigh 16 Fowler Close (App no 06/01363/FUL).

No observations were made on the applications.

3. Erection of agricultural storage buildings and adjacent hard standing Ricroft Nurseries Quaker Brook Lane. Applicant: Mr. Peter (Application no 07/00001/FUL)

After consideration of the comments made by the applicant earlier in the meeting (Minute 162) the Parish Council made no observations on the proposal.

**C. - APPEAL:**

He also reported that the applicants in respect of the application for the erection of a conservatory and single storey extension to the garage block and replacement of doors on the existing house at School House Blackburn Old Road. (App no 06/0047/FUL) had appealed against the decision to refused it.

The Parish Council had raised no objections to this proposal.

**D. ADVERTISEMENT A675:**

The Clerk reported that an advertisement for the sale of a house had been erected by the Boars head Car Park on the footway. This had been reported to the Enforcement Officer at Chorley Council.

**169. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:**

The Clerk submitted the following accounts for payment.

1 T. Harkness	Clerk Salary and Expenses September – December 2006.	£421.94
2.Holmes Florists	Remembrance Day Wreath	£30.00

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3. Village Hall	Hire of Room - October and November 20065	£18.00
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The Parish Council agreed to pay these accounts and the cheques were signed.

**170. PARISH COUNCIL ESTIMATES 2007/08:**

The Clerk resubmitted a report (circulated) dealing with the Parish Council's Estimates for 2007/08, the report gave details of actual spending in 2005/06 together with an update of spending in the current financial year and set out the proposed estimated spending for 2007/2008. Consideration of the views of the Village Hall Management Committee was taken into account in deciding the level of the Precept.

It was agreed: - That the Estimates for 2007/08 as set out below be approved and that the Parish Council's precept on Chorley Borough Council for 2007/08 amount to £4,000 00

The salary of the Clerk would be increased by £150.00 with effect from 1st April 2007

The Parish Council also reiterated its commitment to giving financial assistance to the Village Hall wherever, possible but did not agree to the raising of the Annual Precept to support their revenue costs.

**ESTIMATES 2007/08**

LAST YEAR 2005/06	DESCRIPTION	CURRENT YEAR 2006/07		<b>2007/8</b>
ACTUAL £		ORIGINAL £	PROJECTED TO MARCH 2007 £	
	RECEIPTS			
3,814.80	B/FWD	4115.34	4115.34	2739.45
3,500.00	PRECEPT	3,500.00	3,500.00	4000.00
100.63	VAT	49.32	49.32	49.32
76.69	INTEREST	52.10	52.10.	52.10
7492.12	TOTAL RECEIPTS	7716.76	7716.76	2840.87
	PAYMENTS			
1105.86.	CLERK – SALARY	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00
119.91.	EXPENSES	360.00	360.00	250.00

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500.00	GRANTS AND DONATIONS INCLUDING SECTION 137 PAYMENTS	800.00	800.00	500.00
NIL.	BENCH	NIL	652.12	NIL
611.33	INSURANCE	700.00.	640.26	720.00
75.00	REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	500.00	1237.00	1179.00.
483.61	FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS	280.00	250.00	280.00
58.75	AUDIT FEES	59.00	58.75	141.00
165.81	PHONE RENTAL	200.00	200.00	170.00
90.00	HIRE OF ROOMS	90.00	90.00	90.00
51.07.	STATIONERY AND EQUIPMENT	150.00	150.00	140.00
15.00	TRAINING	NIL	15.00	50.00
25.00	WREATH	30.00	36.00	25.00
NIL	PAY AWARD	NIL	33.00	150.00
50.00	COMPUTER RENTAL	100.00	100.00	100.00
NIL	FOOTPATH PROJECT	141.00	141.00	141.00
40.44	RETIREMENT GIFT	NIL	NIL	NIL
NIL	COMPUTER REPLACEMENT	100.00	100.00	NIL
3391.78.	TOTAL	4610.00	5311.26	5069.00

**171. CHORLEY BUDGET - RESPONSE:**

A draft response to Chorley's budget proposals was circulated.

The Parish Council endorsed the response to Chorley's Budget Consultation Exercise subject to amendments discussed and agreed that it be forwarded to Chorley Council.

**172 LIAISON MEETING BOROUGH/PARISH COUNCIL:**

The Clerk reported that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 17th January 2006 when the main topic for discussion would be the Borough Council's budget for 2007/08. The Chairman and Councillor Ms Urry would attend the meeting on behalf of the Parish Council.

**173. PINFOLD:**

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The Clerk had notified the local resident in writing that the area of the Pinfold which was used for a private garden was with the permission of the Parish Council and the land would revert back to the Parish Council should the property be sold

### **174. POST BOX – GIB LANE:**

The local MP had confirmed that Royal Mail had now agreed to replace the post box subject to the grant of planning permission. The application had not yet been submitted by Royal Mail and the Clerk would contact them about it.

### **175. LETTERS OF THANKS:**

Letters of thanks for the donations made were submitted from the Girl Guides and the Autumn Club.

The Parish Council agreed a donation of £35.00 and a cheque was signed.

### **176. LANCASHIRE LOCAL CHORLEY:**

A report on the Lancashire Local meeting held on 6th December 2006 was presented.

### **177. CHORLEY PARTNERSHIP:**

The Parish Council had been invited to send a representative to the Stronger and More Involved Communities Sub Group Meeting on Tuesday 16th January at 3.00 to 4.30 p.m. in the Committee Room at Chorley Town Hall. The Chairman would attend if possible.

### **178. WORKING TOGETHER ON BIG PLANNING ISSUES:**

The Clerk reported the initiative made by Chorley Preston and South Ribble Planning Departments to consider the planning issues affecting the area up to 2021 entitled Central Lancashire City. It was intended to organize a workshop in late February or early March and the Parish Council had been invited to send a representative. Replies were required by 26th January 2007. The Chairman was a Member of this group and would attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

### **179. MINERALS AND WASTE FRAMEWORK – MANAGING WASTE AND NATURAL RESOURCES:**

The Clerk submitted the County Council's proposals for a core strategy for Minerals and Waste which would set the broad direction for planning over the next 15 years.

The information was noted.

### **180. BLACKPOOL AIRPORT EXPANSION:**

The Parish Council was informed of the situation in relation to the flights over Hoghton arising from the possible expansion of the airport.

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**181. CHEQUE SIGNATORIES:**

The Parish Council agreed to the Clerk making the necessary arrangements for the number of persons authorised to sign cheques on behalf of the Parish Council to be increased to ensure that every Member could sign.

**182. CAMPAIGN FOR SUSTAINABLE LOCAL COMMUNITIES:**

The Clerk submitted the latest newsletter of the Local Works Group.

**183. LANCASHIRE LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN:**

The Clerk submitted the Local Transport Plan for 2007 to 2012.

The report was noted.

**184. FENCING – LAND BY RAILWAY BRIDGE A675;**

The Clerk submitted details supplied by Councillor Miller-Crook regarding the sale of land at Station Road in 1980 which appeared to show the land adjacent to the bridge was owned by the County Council.

The Clerk would send details to the County Council with a request that it be fenced.

**185. COMMUNITY CAR SCHEME:**

The Clerk submitted details of the re-launch of the Wheelton Withnell and Surrounding Areas Community Car Scheme. An event would take place on 2nd February 2007 at Brinscall St. Joseph's Social Club to publicise the launch.

Details would be posted on the Parish Council Notice Boards.

**186. TREE WARDENS SCHEME:**

The Clerk would seek further details about the implementation of the scheme following the earlier postponement.

**187. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

Monday 19th February 2007 at 7.30.pm at the Village Hall

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.