

MINUTES OF 1050TH MEETING OF HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 17TH JANUARY 2011 AT THE VILLAGE HALL

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: MR. J. PEET NEIGHBOURHOOD OFFICER CHORLEY, PC.EVANS, POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT MANAGER, MR. W. MASON – PARISH COUNCIL MENTOR CHORLEY STANDARDS COMMITTEE.

1. CHORLEY STANDARDS COMMITTEE - MENTOR

The Chairman welcomed on behalf of the Parish Council Mr. W. Mason the Parish Council's Standards Mentor on Chorley Standards Committee who was attending his first meeting. He gave a short summary of his role and informed the Parish Council of the latest position regarding the abolition of the National Standards Board.

Councillor Ms Urry referred to the provision in the Locality Bill making code of Conduct matters a criminal offence.

2. COUNCILLOR PROCTOR:

The Parish Council sent their best wishes to Councillor Proctor for a speedy recovery following his recent illness.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillors N. Peter and J. Proctor,

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 15th November 2010 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:

The Clerk submitted the January newsletter from the Police which showed that there had been two reported incident of crime during the period.

PC. Evans reported a further incident on 31st December 2010.

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Councillor Ms Urry also reported that there had been incidents on Hoghton Lane on 31st December 2010.

Consideration was still being given to the position of Police Community Support Officers.

Pc Evans reported that he would be going on secondment to another department for a three month period from 1st February 2011 and his duties would be undertaken by the Community Beat Manager at Whittle le Woods - Pc Mark Price.

The Clerk would circulate details to all Members of the Parish Council and display the information on the notice boards.

8. LALC REPORT:

The Clerk submitted the current newsletter and in particular referred to the Government's proposals for the retention of post offices which he had circulated. He also reported on the increase in the expenditure limit for Section 137 expenditure for 2011/12, the proposals to commemorate the 90th Birthday of the Royal British Legion in June 2011, and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in June 2012.

9. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:

(A). HOGHTON BOTTOMS – FOOTPATH RESTORATION.

The Clerk reported following the site meeting held on 4th November 2010 the County Council was discussing the dedication of the footpath as a bridleway with the owners of the land.

(B). PRIVATE ROAD:

The Clerk reported that the County Council had confirmed that the road was shown as Private Road on the County Map and notice would be sent to all departments to ensure it was referred to as such in the future.

(C). GIB LANE:

The Slow markings had not yet been repainted and the Clerk would contact the County Council about this.

(D). FOOTPATH BY ALL SAINTS CHURCH:

The Probation Service had carried out this work in November 2010 and a letter of thanks had been sent to them.

(E). HEDGES – STATION ROAD:

Following the request from Councillor Baldwin the Clerk had asked that the hedges on the footpath at Station Road be cut back. The Highways Inspector was investigating the matter.

Councillor Baldwin also suggested that Station Road should be swept as it was in an untidy condition.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) would contact Chorley Council about this.

(F). HIGHWAYS BULLETIN:

The Clerk reported that there were currently no highways projects being undertaken in Hoghton.

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(G). WINTER SERVICE BULLETINS:

The Clerk had circulated weekly bulletins from the County Council regarding the gritting of roads in the Parish.

(H). ROAD CLOSURE:

Councillor Sharratt referred to the proposed closure of Hillhouse Lane Brindle and informed Members of the proposals to close the road from 28th February to 3 rd March 2011.to allow BT to undertake cabling work. He also gave details of the alternative route.

He had published notices to this effect for display on the notice boards as the route was frequently used by residents of Hoghton.

(I). POTHoles:

Councillor Sharratt reported that following the recent bad weather there numerous large potholes in the Parish particularly from Moulden Brow to Chorley Road Corner on the A675. He understood that the County Council was arranging for them to be filled.

(J). HOGHTON LANE STREET NAMEPLATE:

The Clerk reported that he had been informed by Mr. Peet that the missing Hoghton Lane Street nameplate opposite Quaker Brook Lane was to be replaced and an order had been placed for it to be re-erected.

(K). FOOTPATH SIGN - LANE SIDE FARM:

Councillor Sharratt referred to the footpath sign and asked that it be re-erected.

The Clerk would contact the Footpaths Officer about the sign.

(L). FOOTPATH – FINNINGTON:

Councillor Ms Urry reported that the footpath along the canal from Finnington towards Withnell was obstructed and part of it had been closed off.

The Clerk would ask the Footpaths Officer to investigate.

10. CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:

The Chairman reported on issues affecting the Parish Council.

11. PLANNING REPORT:

(A). DECISIONS

The following planning applications had been granted planning permission by Chorley Council since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

1. Demolition and rebuilding of part of front elevation including removal of render Causeway Farm Riley Green (App no 10/00931/LBC) Applicant Trustees of the de Hoghton Estate.
2. Amended Application to reduce the size of a single storey rear extension to create an extended kitchen 13 Chapel Lane (App no10/ 00851/FUL) Applicant Mr Mocom.
3. Amended application for removal of existing rear conservatory and attached garage and erection of two storey side incorporating a new attached garage, rear

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conservatory and dormers to front and rear The Bungalow Station Road (App no 10/00987/FUL) Applicant Mr. Archer.

(B). APPLICATION:

The following application had been received since the last meeting of the Parish Council copies had been circulated to all members.

Erection of external car park lighting The Boatyard Inn Bolton Road. (App no 10/01068/FUL) Applicant Enjoy Inns and Leisure Ltd.

The Chairman reported that he had contacted local residents about the application and they were unaware of it.

The Parish Council would await their comments before deciding on the application.

12. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK:

The Clerk reported that the core strategy and site allocations discussion papers for Central Lancashire had been jointly published by Chorley, South Ribble and Preston for consultation. He circulated a copy of a summary paper on key issues and proposals for Hoghton

The Consultation period was from 8th December 2010 to 31st January 2011.

Councillor Sharratt referred to proposals for a cross country bus service for South Ribble residents.

Resolved: - That no observations be made on the draft Local Development Framework.

13. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

The following accounts were submitted for payment

1 T. Harkness	Clerk – Salary (£312.50) and Expenses (158.20)– September - December 2010	£470.70.
2. Village Hall	Hire of room October and November 2010	£20.00
3. S.Ormerod	Grass Cutting – War Memorial	£45.00

The Accounts were agreed and cheques signed.

The Vice Chairman Councillor T. Greenwood declared a prejudicial interest in Account no 2 and did not vote thereon

Councillor Sharratt declared a prejudicial interest in relation to Account 3 and left the room during consideration of this account.

Councillor Sharratt returned to the meeting at this point.

14. PARISH COUNCIL ESTIMATES 2011/12:

The Clerk resubmitted a report (circulated) dealing with the Parish Council's Estimates for 2011/12, the report gave details of actual spending in 2009/10 together with an update of spending in the current financial year and set out the proposed estimated spending for 2011/12.

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The Estimates for 2011/12 as set out below were approved and the Parish Council's precept on Chorley Borough Council for 2011/12 would amount to £4,400.00.

ESTIMATES 2011/2012

LAST YEAR 2009/10	DESCRIPTION	CURRENT YEAR 2010/11		
ACTUAL £		ORIGINAL £	PROJECTED £	ESTIMATES 2011/2012
	RECEIPTS			
1128.86	B/FWD	3113.44	3113.44	1489.00.
4400.00	PRECEPT	4400.00	4400.00	4400.00.
93.22	VAT	78.52	78.52	78.52
1560.00	GRANTS	NIL	NIL	NIL
2.15	INTEREST	10.00	3.00.	3.00
NIL	PAYMENT -CHORLEY	NIL	180.00	NIL
7184.23	TOTAL RECEIPTS	7601.96	7772.00	5900.52
	PAYMENTS			
1250.00	CLERK – SALARY	1250.00	1250.00	1250.00
262.62.	EXPENSES	300.00	250.00	250.00
150.00	GRANTS AND DONATIONS INCLUDING SECTION 137 PAYMENTS	300.00	300.00	250.00
NIL	PINFOLD	1551.00	1551.00	NIL
581.93	INSURANCE AND EXCESS	650.00	570.00	650.00
550.00.	REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	600.00	900.00	750.00
38.00	FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS	300.00	224.00	250.00
138.00	AUDIT FEES	141.00	141.00	141.00
193.06	PHONE RENTAL	200.00	200.00	250.00

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120.00	HIRE OF ROOMS	120.00	120.00	120.00
192.85	STATIONERY AND EQUIPMENT	225.00	350.00	400.00
NIL	CHORLEY REFUND	180.00	180.00	NIL
35.00	WREATH	45.00	45.00	45.00
80.00	COMPUTER RENTAL	80.00	80.00	80.00
200.00	ELECTIONS	200.00	200.00	100.00
NIL	DOG BIN RENTAL	80.00	72.00	80.00
3791.46	TOTAL	5457.00	6283.00	4616.00

MR. PEET ENTERED THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

15. RURAL BUS SERVICE:

The Clerk had previously circulated a report to the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation at the County Council recommending the withdrawal of the Brindle and Hoghton to Chorley weekly bus service following a trial period of three months.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) was unhappy that the decision was made without any consultation with parish councils, particularly after the flawed launch of the service.

Councillor Sharratt circulated a letter he had sent to the Environment Director following the decision being made.

The Clerk had contacted the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation, County Councillor Devaney and the Environment Director at the County Council to object to the decision.

He circulated a copy of the County Council's response.

Councillor Sharratt commented on the response and indicated he had received a similar reply.

Councillor Ms Urry reported that she had been concerned at the attitude of certain bus drivers from Holmeswood Coaches which she considered had affected passenger numbers. She intended to write to the County Council and Chorley Council about this.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) suggested that this should be raised at the Borough/ Parish Liaison Meeting.

16. CHARGES FOR SCHOOL TRANSPORT:

In September 2010 the Clerk circulated a copy of the consultation documents issued by the County Council regarding proposed charges for the cost of pupils entitled to transport on denominational grounds. The Parish Council objected to these proposals and the County Council was informed accordingly.

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The Clerk now circulated a copy of a letter from the Environment Directorate informing him that the charge would be implemented from September 2011

The Clerk had been informed that the Roman Catholic Diocesan Authorities were considering requesting a Judicial Review of the decision.

17. PINFOLD:

The Clerk reported the current position following his investigations into the status of the Pinfold.

The Clerk reported details of the provisions of the Commons Registration Act 1965 which said that where ownership was not claimed a Village Green was vested in the local council.

The Parish Council would ask the Land Registry to indicate the current status of the land. The application fee was £5.00 and a cheque was signed.

18. BOROUGH PARISH LIAISON:

The Clerk reported that the next meeting of the Borough/ Parish Liaison Committee held on Wednesday 19th January 2011. The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) and Councillor Ms Urry would attend.

19. WAR MEMORIAL:

The Clerk informed the Parish Council regarding the funding of a survey of work required to the War Memorial and was to complete a questionnaire issued by the War Memorials Trust who would then carry out a preliminary assessment and advise on the best course of action.

20. CHORLEY STANDARDS COMMITTEE:

The Clerk reported on the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 8th December 2010.

Councillor MS Urry expressed her concerns regarding proposals for Standards Committees under the Locality Bill.

The Standards Mentor – Mr. Mason reported that Chorley Council had placed a bar on Councillors from Chorley or any other local authority such as South Ribble being eligible to sit on the Standards Committee.

Councillor Sharratt commented on this and requested that Chorley Council be asked to explain why applicants were not told about the restriction when applications were invited to fill the vacancy on the Committee.

21. LCC CONSULTATION – FUNDING OF CARE SERVICES:

The Clerk circulated details of a consultation by the County Council on how care services could be funded in future in the face of budget pressures.

22. EPIPHANY SERVICE - BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL:

The Dean of Blackburn Cathedral had invited the Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) to the Lancashire Civic County Epiphany Service at the Cathedral on 30th January 2011.

23. BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2011:

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The Parish Council had been invited to enter this competition in 2011.

The matter would be considered at the next meeting.

24. MAYOR OF CHORLEY CHARITY BALL:

The Parish Council were invited to attend the Charity Ball.

25. CHORLEY EQUALITY FORUM:

The Clerk reported that the next meeting of the forum would be held on Tuesday 18th January 2011 and the Chairman and Councillor Ms Urry would attend.

26. REMOVAL OF BLUE BINS – VILLAGE HALL:

The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) reported that five blue bins filled with bottles had been placed at the Village Hall. Mr Peet would arrange for them to be collected.

27. ONE STOP HEALTH SHOP:

The Clerk circulated details of the opening of a One Stop Health Shop in Chorley for a three month trial period.

28. SELRAP:

The Clerk submitted the current newsletter from this group asking all Members to sign individual letters of support regarding the re-opening of the Colne to Skipton line. The Parish Council agreed and the Clerk would make the arrangements.

29. BIN COLLECTION:

Councillor Ms Urry reported problems with the bin collection service. Mr Peet would discuss this problem with the appropriate officer at Chorley.

30. DOG FOULING – HOGHTON LANE:

Councillor Ms Urry reported extensive dog fouling on Hoghton Lane between 241 Hoghton Lane and the Post Office.

Mr Peet would speak to the Dog Warden about this problem.

31. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 21st February 2011 at 7.30.pm at the Village Hall

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.15. p.m.

**SIGNED
CHAIRMAN**

21ST FEBRUARY 2011.