

**MINUTES OF 1105TH MEETING OF
HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 18TH JANUARY 2016
AT THE HOLY TRINITY PARISH
CHURCH HALL.**

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

1. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE:

An apology for absence was submitted from The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson).

2. COUNCILLOR D. DICKINSON:

The Chairman of the Meeting (Councillor T. Greenwood) informed the Parish Council of the current position relating to the health of the Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson).

The Parish Council wished him a speedy recovery.

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. MINUTES:

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

5. 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.

6. POLICE REPORT:

(A). NEWSLETTERS:

As the police were not present no report was presented.

The next PACT meeting meeting would be held on 2nd February 2016 at Brinscall Sports and Social Club.

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(B). CONSUMER ALERTS – TRADING STANDARDS:

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

7. LALC REPORT:

The Clerk reported details of the current newsletter including the project Clean for the Queen event in March 2016 to celebrate the 90th birthday of her Majesty.

The Clerk also submitted the 2014/15 Annual Report of the Association and details of the Royal Garden Party 2016.

The Clerk would contact local organisations regarding participation in the Clean for the Queen event in March 2016.

8. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:

(A). FLOODING - CHAPEL LANE :

The problem still persisted the County Council was discussing what work was required with the landowners. The Clerk would ask the County Council for an update on the matter.

(B). RESURFACING BLACKBURN OLD ROAD:

County Councillor Devaney had submitted the resurfacing of the section of Blackburn Old Road from the Boars Head to Moulden Brow and the reinstatement of the kerb stones at Moulden Brow as a project in the Highways Repair Scheme 2016/17.

Councillor Watson suggested that Roach Road should also be considered for resurfacing.

(C). FOOTWAY - GIB LANE:

At the last meeting County Councillor Devaney reported that the County Council was seeking confirmation that the necessary insurances were in place before deciding whether to allow Community Payback to do the work at Gib Lane, Houghton Lane and Station Road.

The Clerk had contacted Community Payback but had not had a response. He would make further enquiries about this.

(D). SPEEDING TRAFFIC - GIB LANE:

The County Council was still to arrange for a vehicle/traffic speed count on Gib Lane near Bell Villas.

The Clerk would contact the County Council about this.

(E). FLOODING - QUAKER BROOK LANE:

The Clerk reported that problems still existed with regard to the trash screen and culvert at Ricroft Nurseries. County Councillor Devaney had met Councillor Peter on site to discuss the problems of flooding on Quaker Brook Lane following this he had contacted the County Council again requesting them fully repair the blocked drain.

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Councillor Baldwin suggested that there was a major problem with a blocked culvert at Quaker Brook Farm and requested that the County Council should be asked to clear the culvert.

The Clerk would contact the County Council about this.

(F). HOGHTON LANE TRAFFIC SPEEDS:

The Clerk reported that following a traffic survey of speeds on Hoghton Lane the County Council was considering what action to take.

Councillor Ms Urry reported that there had been traffic monitoring exercises on Hoghton Lane over the past two weeks.

The Clerk would ascertain the outcome of the surveys.

(G). ENVIRONMENT BULLETIN:

The Clerk submitted the current environment bulletin.

(H). BLOCKED DRAINS:

Councillor Baldwin reported that the drain at the junction of Blackburn Old Road A675 and Quaker Brook Lane was blocked and required attention.

Councillor Sharratt considered that the drains on Blackburn Old Road from the railway bridge to the Old Oak Inn were blocked and needed to be cleared.

Councillor Ms Urry referred to the flooding in Bells Lane and Private Road near Holly Bank.

The Clerk would contact the County Council regarding the blocked drains.

9. CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:

No report on issues affecting the Parish Council was made.

10. PLANNING REPORT:

(A). DECISIONS.

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

1. Tree Works 26 Fowler Close (App no 15/00981/TPO) Applicant Mrs Burridge.
Granted

2. Erection of single storey rear extension and insertion of balcony 9 Chapel Lane (App no 15/00998/FUL) Applicant Mr. Hughes. - Granted

(B). APPLICATIONS:

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

1. Amendment to Application to Demolish existing cottage and erection of two two bedroom semi detached houses Sandell Cottage Riley Green. (App no 15/00570/FUL) Applicant - de Hoghton Estate.

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The proposal was to reduce the properties to one.

Details had been circulated to all Members The Parish Council discussed the principle of development in this location but decided not to make any comments on the application.

The Clerk would inform Chorley Council.

(2). Retrospective application for rear veranda 19 Chapel Lane (App no 15/01228/FULHH) Applicant - Mr. Jones.

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

The Clerk would inform Chorley Council.

3. Outline Application for one dwelling Ellisland Station Road. (App no 15/01232/OUT) Applicant- Mrs Nicholson.

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

The Clerk would inform Chorley Council.

(C). WEEKLY LISTS:

The Clerk circulated details of changes to the system for the notification of planning applications with effect from 8th January 2016.

11. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

The Clerk submitted the following accounts for payment

1. Holy Trinity Parish Church	Hire of Rooms - September to November 2015	£60.00
2. Payroll	Clerk - Salary and Expenses Quarter ended 31st December 2015	£660.64
3. Whitehead and Aldrich	Payroll Fees June, September and December 2015	£72.00.
4. Gardencare	Annual Maintenance Pinfold, War Memorial, Benches.	£630.00

12. AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS:

The Clerk circulated details of the revised audit arrangements for the Parish Council. The present arrangements would continue until 2017 . Smaller authorities would be exempt from having to submit an Annual Return but would still need to appoint an auditor in case there are questions from electors to be resolved.

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The National Association was to establish a sector led body to procure audit for smaller authorities. There was provision for authorities to opt out of the scheme but this would require the setting up of independent arrangements at a cost to the authority.

The Parish Council was requested to consider whether they wished to opt out of the procedure.

The Parish Council would participate in the Sector Led Body set up by the National Association of Local Councils.

13. CONSULTATION ON COUNTY COUNCIL BUDGET OPTIONS :

The Clerk circulated a letter from the Leader of the County Council regarding the budget options open to the County Council for the period 2016 to 2018 .

Further details regarding the savings to be made would be announced during February.

14. WITHDRAWAL OF SUBSIDIES FOR LOCAL BUS SERVICES:

The Clerk circulated details of the County Council's proposed withdrawal of the subsidy for Local Bus Services from April 2016.

County Councillor Devaney reported that such was the scale of objections to this proposal that the County Council was reconsidering how to decide what services were cut and they were looking at bus services route by route rather than making across the board cuts.

The Clerk also submitted a consultation from the County Council about the Closure of the Countryside Service. This mostly affected the management of country parks.

15. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY:

The Clerk reported that Chorley Council was required to produce an annual report on how the funds raised by the levy was spent within the Parish during 2014/15.

No funds were spent in Hoghton during the period.

16. ELECTORAL REVIEW OF LANCASHIRE:

The Clerk submitted the draft recommendations of the Boundary Commission on future electoral arrangements for Lancashire. The recommendation for the Brindle and Hoghton ward would mean an increase in the area to take in parts of Wheelton and Clayton Brook.

Brindle Parish Council considered that whilst parts of Wheelton should be included in the Brindle and Hoghton Ward the parts of Clayton Brook should not be included as the natural boundary of the ward was the Leeds Liverpool Canal.

The Boundary Commission had been informed of Brindle Parish Council's views. The Parish Council supported these views.

17. THREE TIER LIAISON:

The Clerk submitted the minutes of the meeting of the Three Tier Liaison Committee held on 21st October 2015. The next meeting would be held on

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20th January 2016 at the Town Hall Chorley and Councillor Ms Urry would attend

18. WAR MEMORIAL:

The Clerk reported that work had commenced on site on 5th January 2016 and it was estimated it would be completed by 22nd January.

The Parish Council would then review what further work was required and consider the question of funding.

The wreaths had been removed for safekeeping.

The Clerk also reported that he had been advised by the Land Registry that the Parish Council should apply for adverse possession of the War Memorial and this he had done. A decision was awaited.

There was a further fee of £30.00 for this which he had paid. The Parish Council agreed to reimburse the Clerk this sum and a cheque was signed.

The de Hoghton Estate had been informed of developments.

19. LETTERS OF THANKS:

The Clerk submitted two letters of thanks from the Autumn Club for donation made by the Parish Council to Club funds.

20. CPRE - NEWSLETTER:

The Clerk circulated a copy of the November/December Newsletter.

21. LANCASHIRE CIVIC CAROL SERVICE - BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL:

The Clerk submitted an invitation from the Dean of Blackburn Cathedral to the Parish Council to attend the Lancashire Civic Carol Service at the Cathedral on 31st January 2016.

22. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 15th February 2016 at 7.30. p.m. at Holy Trinity Church Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman of the meeting (Councillor T. Greenwood) declared the meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

**SIGNED
CHAIRMAN**

15TH FEBRUARY 2016.