

**DRAFT**  
**MINUTES OF 994TH MEETING**  
**OF HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON 18TH JULY 2005**  
**AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

**PRESENT: -**

**COUNCILLOR T. GREENWOOD (VICE CHAIRMAN IN THE CHAIR)**  
**COUNCILLORS J. BALDWIN, E. MILLER-CROOK J.PROCTOR, Ms. M.URREY**  
**AND MR. T HARKNESS (CLERK).**

**THERE WERE NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:**

**65. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence were submitted from The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) and Councillor T.Sharratt.

**66. MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 20th June 2005 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman of the meeting.

**67. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL/PREJUDICIAL INTEREST:**

In accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Members Code of Conduct the Clerk asked if any Member wished to declare an interest in any matter to be considered by the Parish Council at the meeting. No one declared an interest.

**68. LAPTIC REPORT:**

The Clerk submitted the current Newsletter of the Association.

He reported that the meeting of the Chorley Area Committee on 29 June 2005 had considered the issue raised by Ulmes Walton Parish Council regarding enforcement of planning issues and the matter had been referred to the Parish/Borough Council Liaison Meeting on 13th July.

The report was accepted.

**69. OVERGROWN FOOTWAYS:**

Lancashire Highways Partnership (Area County Surveyor) had responded to the concern of the Parish Council about the state of the overgrown footways on Hoghton Lane. Although the verges were encroaching over the footways money for highways maintenance was limited and priority was given to maintaining carriageway and footway surfaces relative to their usage. Although walking groups regularly used the footways, pedestrian use was fairly light and therefore the labour intensive siding back of the verges had low priority. The work on Hoghton Lane had been included in a future works list its low priority meant that it would be some considerable time before it was done.

- **(HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL – 18TH JULY 2005)**

A similar reply had been sent to two local residents who had complained about the overgrown verges.

The Chairman of the meeting reported that a similar situation applied to Gib Lane.

Councillor Miller Crook reported that the obscured 50 sign had been cut back but a similar sign on Chapel Lane also required attention. The Clerk had notified the Lancashire Highways Partnership (Area County Surveyor). It was also reported by Councillor Ms Urrey that the hedge opposite Quaker Brook Lane had now been cut.

The situation relating to the collection of litter bins was still unclear. She also asked about the possible siting of a skip for the disposal of old computers and electrical goods. No approach had been made by the Borough Council on the matter.

(1) The Clerk would write to the Lancashire Highways Partnership (Area County Surveyor) to express again the concern of the Parish Council about the state of the footways and the need for urgent action and to request a site visit.

(2) That Members of the Parish Council be informed of the date of the site visit and when it takes place the Area County Surveyor be informed of problems of disabled access and that an environmental audit should be carried out.

(3) The Clerk would seek clarification from Chorley Refuse Collection Service about the bin collection problem.

(3) The Clerk consult the Lancashire Highways Partnership (Area County Surveyor) again about the sign at Chapel Lane.

**70. TRAFFIC SPEEDS – HOGHTON LANE:**

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that he had received a reply from the Local MP enclosing the views of the Environment Directorate at the County Council on the situation. The Environment Directorate was carrying out in depth investigations and would consult locally when these had been completed, however, it was not expected that speed cameras would be provided. If further traffic measures where necessary they would be included in a programme of works.

The Clerk reported that the Brindle Parish Council supported the views of the Parish Council on this matter.

Councillor Miller Crook reported that an accident had occurred on 9 July 2005 at the entrance to Houghton Tower.

The Clerk would write to the County Council to ask whether the use of interactive speed signs would form part of the study and send a copy of the response to Mr. Seddon and Mr. Marshall.

(HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL – 18TH JULY 2005)

**71 CHORLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT:**

The Clerk presented a report on issues affecting the Parish Council and in particular the renewal of the public entertainment license at the Sirloin Inn Station Road.

**72. PLANNING REPORT:**

An application had been submitted to Chorley for the erection of single storey rear extensions at 103 Chapel Lane (App no 05/00668/ FUL). .No observations were made on the application.

The Clerk reported that the retrospective planning application for the replacement of front and rear dormer windows at 22 Viaduct Road (App no 05/00257/FUL) had been granted on 11July 2005.

The Clerk also reported the powers of Chorley Borough Council regarding High Hedge Complaints.

**73. ACCOUNT FOR PAYMENT:**

The Clerk submitted the following account for payment.

Village Hall	Use of Hall - April May and June 2005.	£27.00
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The Parish Council agreed to pay this account and the cheque was signed.

**74. GRANTS**

**A. - AIR AMBULANCE:**

The Parish Council had received a letter of thanks from the Charity`s Chief Executive for their donation to them.

**75. LIAISON MEETING BOROUGH/PARISH COUNCIL:**

The Clerk reported that at the Liaison meeting on 13th July 2005 discussion took place on a review of Parish Plans currently under way in Chorley; Parish Quality Status; the responses to the questionnaire regarding the format of future meetings; proposals for a pilot Area Forums Scheme; training in Standards issues for Parish Clerks and the question of the planning issues raised by Ulnes Walton Parish Council.

The Parish Council would monitor the situation arising from the Pilot Area Forums Scheme.

**76. RENEWABLE ENERGY STUDY:**

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter to see if the Parish Council wished to join a Sustainable Resources Consultee Group. The Parish Council would await further developments on this matter.

**77. LANCASHIRE WEBSITE:**

The Clerk reported that he had been invited to attend a computer training workshop.

- **(HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL – 18TH JULY 2005)**

**78. LITTER:**

Councillor Miller–Crook reported that car tyres had been dumped in the lay by on the A675 near the Royal Oak.

The Clerk would inform the Refuse Collection Service at Chorley.

**79. RURAL LOCATION:**

Councillor Proctor referred to the Rector of Brindle`s comments in the recent Brindle St. James Flower Festival Magazine about Hoghton being an urban area and Brindle being a rural area.

The Clerk would discuss these comments with the Rector.

**80. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

Monday 19th September 2005 at 7.30.pm at the Village Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.