

**DRAFT MINUTES OF 1025TH MEETING  
OF HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON 21ST JULY 2008  
AT THE VILLAGE HALL  
PRESENT: -**

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

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: - POLICE COMMUNITY BEAT MANAGER PC C. EVANS AND 2 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.**

**51. 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 declared an interest at this stage.

**52. MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 23rd June have been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**53. ADJOURNMENT:**

**THERE THEN FOLLOWED AN ADJOURNMENT TO ALLOW THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS. THE PUBLIC PRESENT RAISED NO ISSUES AND THE BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA CONTINUED.**

**54. POLICE REPORT:**

The Clerk reported that communication with The Community Beat Manager had been re-established and copies of his newsletters for April May and July were circulated. Councillor Sharratt referred to car number plate thefts. A traffic accident at Hoghton Tower was reported and despite the speed limit signs speeding continued to be an issue.

**55. LALC REPORT:**

The Clerk submitted the current Newsletter

**56. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:**

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

The Clerk explained that the delay in completion of the scheme was the need for the signs to be lit. United Utilities were currently connecting the electricity supply to the signs and once completed the road markings would be done and the road swept. Once the new signs were connected the old, redundant posts would be disconnected and removed. The Chairman referred to the sign adjacent to 251 Hoghton Lane and reported the situation relating to its siting. The Environment Director's comments had been passed to the resident concerned.

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Councillor Ms Urry felt that this sign was badly positioned and was seen too late by oncoming traffic. She sympathised with the views of the resident of 251 Hoghton Lane.

Councillor Sharratt reiterated that he was unhappy with the way the scheme was implemented and did not take into account the wishes of local residents.

Councillor Ms Urry reported two traffic incidents on Hoghton Lane which had not been reported to the police. She suggested a log of incidents should be kept by all Members and these should be reported to the Clerk who would collate them. .

**(B) LAND ADJACENT TO THE BOARS HEAD:**

The Clerk had contacted the Brewery again about the removal of the rubbish and the presence of giant hogweed on the land. Councillor Sharratt would contact the County Council again about the removal of the rubbish

**(C) CRIPPLEGATE LANE:**

The Vice Chairman reported he had spoken to the residents about the erection of a sign and they were considering the suggestion. The bin collection arrangement seemed to be working.

**(D) POTHOLES:**

Representatives of the Parish Council had met the Area County Surveyor on 7th July and inspected the potholes in Gib Lane. The other potholes in Private Road and Quaker Brook Lane had been investigated and arrangements made to repair them.

The Area County Surveyor reported on a new method of repair which it was hoped would be longer lasting than the present system.

Councillor Proctor reported that some work had been done in Private Road but other potholes remained to be filled in.

Councillor Sharratt reported the location of running water in Gib Lane and suggested that until this was repaired the potholes would continue to appear. The Clerk would contact United Utilities again to see what progress could be made.

**(E) FINGER POST SIGNS:**

The Area County Surveyor was looking into the condition of finger post signs.

**(F) FOOTPATH – BRINDLE LODGE:**

Further work had been undertaken to the footpath on 10th July and this appeared to have been successful in making the path accessible. However, the grass verges had been cut up. This would be reported to the Footpaths Officer.

**(G) INFORMATION SIGNS - RILEY GREEN:**

The Hoghton Tower/Witton Park Sign at Riley Green had still not been attended to and the Clerk would contact the County Council again. The De Hoghton Estate had also contacted the County Council.

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**(H). FENCING NEAR RAILWAY BRIDGE:**

*Councillor Sharratt declared a prejudicial interest in this matter and left the room.*

The Clerk reported that the Chairman had asked a local contractor for an estimate however, in view of recent expenditure on other repair and maintenance work the Clerk suggested this be deferred and a sum included in the Parish Council's Spending plans for 2009/10.

No further action would be taken on this at the moment.

**Councillor Sharratt returned to the meeting at this point.**

**(I) BUS SHELTER - THE STRAITS:**

Chorley Council had asked a contractor for a quotation for providing sides to the bus shelter subject to a satisfactory quotation the Council would try to find the money to do this and also repaint the shelter.

**(J). STILE REAR OF 243 HOGHTON LANE:**

Councillor Ms Urry reported that the stile had been replaced by a more accessible one for disabled people and the footpath was now in use.

**(K). HGV OPERATORS LICENCE:**

The Clerk reported the application to renew the Operators licence at MacDonald Farm Goose Foot Lane Samlesbury. No comments were made on this application.

**57. CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:**

The Chairman reported on issues affecting the Parish Council.

**58. PLANNING REPORT:**

**A. DECISIONS**

The following applications had been approved:

1. Change of use of shop and forecourt to residential Cleveland Filling Station Station Road App no 08/00532/COU Applicants Mr. and Mrs. Murray.
2. Erection of a first floor extension to create bedroom, en suite and the erection of a single storey rear sunroom 61 Chapel Lane App no 08/00616/FUL. Applicants The de Houghton Estate
3. Revised application to raise the ridge height to create first floor accommodation, erection of rear dormer and demolition of external staircase and repositioning of existing porch 1 Viaduct Road App no 08/00498/FUL Applicants Mr and Mrs Redfearn

**B. APPLICATIONS**

No applications had been received since the last meeting.

**(C) FINNINGTON LANE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE:**

The Chairman reported that an application to demolish existing buildings erect 5 office units with ancillary residential use , erect 5 affordable housing units, form new access to Finnington Lane ,landscaping new road and parking areas including provision of washroom/WC building for canal

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boat users. Finnington Lane Industrial Estate App no 08/00796/FUL/MAJ Applicant Mark Swindlehurst had been refused.ANE

**59. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:**

The Clerk submitted the following account for payment

Councillor Sharratt declared a prejudicial interest in this account and left the room

1. S. Ormerod	Benches	£400.00
2..Brindle Parish Council	Apportionment of Annual Stationery Costs	£282.00

**Councillor Sharratt returned to the room following the decision on the account for the benches**

The Accounts were agreed and the cheques signed.

**60. COMPUTER RENTAL:**

The Clerk reported that in July 2005 it was agreed that he purchase a computer and that the Parish Council would pay a quarterly rental of £25.00 for the use of it on Parish Council business. This was for a three year period and was subject to review The Parish Council agreed to continue the rental of the computer at a sum of £20.00 per quarter.

**61. CHEQUE SIGNATURES:**

The Parish Council agreed that all Members should be authorised to sign cheques on its behalf and that a minimum of two signatures be obtained.

The Clerk circulated a bank authorisation form which was signed by all Members It would now be submitted to the bank for verification and their agreement would be awaited.

**62. PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY:**

Two people had put their names forward for co-option both were present and indicated their willingness to serve as a Member of the Parish Council. The appointment of a co-opted member would be decided at the next meeting.

**63. PINFOLD:**

The Clerk reported that he had written to the resident regarding the fencing and use of the Pinfold and was told that the land was not part of the site. Following discussion with a local resident he had contacted the County Council to determine the exact boundaries of the Pinfold. From the Plan he had received it appeared that the resident was correct and the fencing was not on the Pinfold.

It was also stated by the County Council that the Pinfold was registered as a Village Green.

The Chairman had discussed this with the Legal Department at Chorley and further developments were awaited. One of the Members of the Public present suggested contacting the Commons Footpaths and Open Spaces Society for advice on the problem and also an expert of Pinfolds. The Clerk would do this.

The Parish Council had accepted the estimate for the repair of the wall from Mr. Whitehead and the work was underway. The Parish Council authorised the Clerk to and Chairman to sign a cheque for the work once completed satisfactorily.

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**64. NEW WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:**

The Clerk circulated a consultation document on the proposed new strategy of the County Council for Waste Management for Lancashire 2008 to 2020.

No comments were made on the consultation paper.

**65. BOROUGH/PARISH LIAISON MEETING:**

The Chairman and Ms Urry reported on the meeting of the Borough Council/Parish Council Liaison Committee held on Wednesday 16th July 2008. Ms Urry made particular reference to the presentation on Neighbourhood Working and the feeling of the meeting relating to these proposals of Chorley Council. It was agreed that this situation should be watched closely in view of the timescale for its implementation and the lack of consultation offered.

**66. DOGS – 55 CHAPEL LANE:**

At the last meeting the Clerk was asked to write to Mr. Forrester about the situation relating to the number of dogs at this property and he had agreed to contact the tenant about it. The Chairman would raise this again at a meeting with the de Hoghton Estate later in July.

**67. LANCASHIRE LOCAL:**

The Clerk reported that the next meeting was on 23rd July and there was a report to this meeting dealing with resurfacing of highways. There was nothing in the report scheduled for Hoghton.

It was agreed to consider suitable projects for road resurfacing in Hoghton and that the County Council would be asked to put these in a future programme.

**68. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

Monday 15th September 2008 at 7.30.pm at the Village Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.25. p.m.

**SIGNED  
CHAIRMAN**

**15th September 2008**