

# **MINUTES OF 1057TH MEETING OF HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 18TH JULY 2011 AT THE VILLAGE HALL.**

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

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: COUNTY COUNCILLOR M.OTTER PARISH COUNCILS CHAMPION AND MRS. OTTER.**

## **WAR MEMORIAL**

Prior to the meeting County Councillor Otter presented a cheque to the Parish Council towards the cost of restoration of the War Memorial.

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) on behalf of the Parish Council thanked County Councillor Otter for his kind donation.

The Parish Council then proceeded with the meeting:-

### **1. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE:**

An apology for absence was submitted from Councillor J. Baldwin.

### **2. 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.

### **3. MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 20th June 2011 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **4. 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.**

### **5. POLICE REPORT:**

The Clerk circulated details of the latest police newsletter which indicated that there had been two reported incidents of crime during June 2011.

The Clerk referred to the proposed closure of Wheelton Police Station. The Parish Council considered that this would reduce policing in the Parish and felt that this was a retrograde step.

Councillor Ms Urry reported that the Police had attended the recent meeting of Chorley Equality Forum to speak about the cuts to the service and had promised

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feedback on this matter. She requested details of the proposals on the proposed cuts and the Clerk would send them to her.

It was also reported that the Police Community Beat Manager - Pc Evans had left the post on 1st July to take up a position with a new response team in Chorley it was expected that a successor would be appointed shortly.

It was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent by the Chairman on behalf of the Parish Council to PC Evans.

**6. LALC REPORT:**

The Clerk submitted the current newsletter and referred to the Parish and Town Council Charter.

He also reported that as in 2010 the Lancashire Parish Councils Conference and the LALC AGM would be held on the same day. This year they would be held on 12th November. Notification of delegates was required by 21st October 2011 and details of any resolutions to be considered at the Annual Meeting were required by 2nd September 2011.

Last year the Parish Council had supported a resolution from Brindle Parish Council to the AGM regarding the problems caused by Chinese Lanterns for farmers.

Councillor Sharratt indicated that whilst this had received support at the AGM there had been little progress in resolving the problem.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) and Councillor Ms Urry were appointed the Council's representatives at the LALC Annual General Meeting, and that subject to the agreement of Brindle Parish Council the resolution on Chinese Lanterns be resubmitted drawing attention to the lack of progress.

**7. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:**

**(A). GIB LANE:**

County Councillor Devaney had asked for an update on the provision of markings in Gib Lane but nothing further had occurred.

The leak onto the road near the railway bridge had been reported to United Utilities.

Councillor Sharratt mentioned that he had occasion to ring the police emergency number recently regarding a blown down tree in Gib Lane and prompt action had been taken.

**(B). FOOTPATH – FINNINGTON:**

The Clerk submitted information from the de Hoghton Estate (circulated) showing the proposed diversion of the existing footpath. There was some confusion as to the route of the proposed diversion and the Clerk would clarify the position.

The County Council and the Police were investigating the reported incidents.

**(C). ROAD TRAFFIC SIGN – LANE SIDE FARM:**

The County Council had indicated that following the request for a `deer in the road sign` on Blackburn Old Road. The Highways Engineers had reviewed the accident

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record in this area and there were no accidents involving deer in the last five years. Unfortunately given the current financial situation they were prioritising work on the basis of accident records and would therefore be unable to provide a sign at this location.

They had offered to keep this location under review and should the situation change would look into it again.

Councillors Peter and Ms Urry commented that contrary to the information from the County Council there had been accidents involving deer in the past two years.

**(D). FOOTPATH – HOGHTON LANE:**

It was reported that footpath number 5 from Hoghton Lane was overgrown and obstructed in parts. The Clerk had notified the Footpaths Officer at the County Council about this and he was currently investigating the situation.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) had suggested that Community Payback might be asked to clear the path

The Clerk had put this idea to the Footpaths Officer.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) reported that the footpath by All Saints Church was overgrown again and asked that Community Payback clear the path as in the past.

The Clerk would contact the Probation Service about this.

**(E). 20 MPH ZONES:**

The Clerk reported a consultation document from the County Council regarding the rollout of such zones County wide. They applied to urban areas and round schools.

Councillor Sharratt felt that this proposal did not affect the Parish and suggested that it would be difficult to enforce.

The Parish Council discussed again the question of speed on Hoghton Lane and it was felt that better policing of the speed limits was required. The Parish Council was reminded that the scheme was due for review in twelve months time.

Councillor Sharratt reported a draft order had been considered which would reduce speed on Higher Walton Road from Chorley Road to the 50 mph speed sign near Bells Lane.

**(F) NAMEPLATE OPPOSITE QUAKER BROOK LANE:**

Councillor Sharratt reported that the Hoghton Lane street nameplate opposite Quaker Brook Lane had been damaged yet again by someone kicking it down at one side, He had asked the Clerk to contact Mr. Peet the Neighbourhood Officer to arrange for its repair.

Councillor Sharratt commented further that he was angered that residents should suffer damage like this to public property.

Last time this had happened the police had been contacted but no further action had been taken. It was felt that the Police should be contacted again.

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**(G) LITTER BIN - HOGHTON BOTTOMS:**

The Clerk reported that the litter bin had been damaged and this had been reported to Chorley Council for action.

**(H). POWER CABLE – BRINDLE BAR:**

The Clerk reported that the steel cable support to the Power Pole on the grass verge at Sandy Lane/Brindle Bar was badly corroded and this had been reported to United Utilities.

**(I) STREET LIGHT - HOGHTON LANE:**

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) had reported that the street light opposite the Post Office needed repair and the Clerk had notified the County Council.

**(J). POTHoles – PRIVATE ROAD:**

Councillor Proctor referred to the condition of Private Road which was deteriorating and contained several potholes.

The Clerk would ask the Highways Inspectorate to look into this.

**8. CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:**

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) reported on issues affecting the Parish Council including the appointment of Gary Hall as Chief Executive from 4th August 2011.

**9. PLANNING REPORT:**

**(A) DECISIONS.**

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

1. Felling of beech tree covered by TPO No 11 (Chorley) 1993 Hoghton Bank Manor Private Road (App no 11/00423/TPO) Applicant Mr. P. Hemmings.

2. Demolition of existing attached side garage and erection of two storey side extension, front dormer and roof light to the rear roof pitch 12 Rock Gardens (App no 11/00430/FUL) Applicant Mr. J. Finney

**(B). APPLICATIONS:**

The following applications had been received since the last meeting of the Parish Council

Erection of a 1.5 storey rear extension to form study 2 Long Barn Row (App no 11/00528/FUL) Applicant Mr. Graham

Copies had been circulated to all members and no observations had been made.

The Clerk had notified Chorley Council.

2. Erection of a single storey side and rear extension following demolition of the existing garage/utility room and erection of a detached garage Newlands Quaker Brook Lane (App no 11/00631/FUL) Applicant Mr. and Mrs Heeney.

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Copies of the application were circulated at the meeting and no objections were raised.

The Clerk would notify Chorley Council.

**10. ACCOUNT FOR PAYMENT:**

The Clerk submitted the following account for payment

1.Village Hall	Hire of Room Parish Council Meetings April - June 2011	£30.00
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The Account was agreed and a cheque signed.

*The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) declared a prejudicial interest in this matter in respect of being Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee and took no part on the discussion or voting thereon.*

**11. GRANT APPLICATIONS:**

**(A). AUTUMN CLUB:**

The Clerk submitted a request from Secretary of the Autumn Club for a donation to the Club funds.

A grant of £50.00 was made and a cheque signed.

*The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) declared a prejudicial interest in this matter in view of his connection with the Autumn Club.*

*The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) took the place of the Chairman whilst this matter was being discussed.*

**(B). BOWLAND PENNINE MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM.**

The Clerk reported that last year the Parish Council had considered a request for a donation to the Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team. It was decided to adhere to the existing policy of not making grants to organisations, which had no specific connection with the Parish.

He now submitted a similar request for this year.

The Parish Council adhered to the existing policy of not making grants to organisations, which had no specific connection with the Parish.

**12. RISK ASSESSMENT- BENCHES:**

Following a risk assessment reported at the last meeting it was decided to ask Community Payback to repaint the benches. The Probation Service had agreed to do this, subject to the supply of materials and to a charge of £10.00 per day for the work.

The Clerk had acquired the necessary supplies at a cost of £146.77 and an account for this amount was submitted.

The account was agreed and a cheque signed.

It was agreed that in the event of the work being completed before the next Parish Council meeting the Clerk be authorised to make any further payments following consultation with the Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) and Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood).

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**13. PINFOLD:**

The Clerk reported that the start on the work to the Pinfold was delayed to avoid any chance of disturbing nesting birds. The de Hoghton Estate, local residents and the Royal Oak would be notified when the work was to take place

Arrangements were in place for the provision of a skip. The Clerk would contact Mr. Peet at Chorley Council about this.

**14 WAR MEMORIAL:**

County Councillor Otter had made a presentation of a cheque earlier in the meeting and also submitted information regarding further funding.

Councillor Peter suggested an approach to Sir Bernard de Hoghton regarding funding sources.

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

The next meeting would take place on Wednesday 20th July at 6.30 p.m. at the Town Hall Chorley. The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) and Councillor Ms Urry would represent the Parish Council at the meeting.

**16. ARMED FORCES DAY:**

The Clerk reported on the flying of a flag on Armed Forces Day 25th June 2011, and suggested that if the event was held in future years a larger notice be erected by the flag explaining the reason for displaying it. Councillor Ms Urry suggested that details of future events should be put in the `Hoghton Magazine`.

**17. CHORLEY EQUALITY FORUM:**

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) and Councillor Ms Urry presented a report on the meeting of the forum held on 5th July 2011.

Councillor Ms Urry had raised a question regarding the funding cuts in the Library and Museum Service at the County Council and suggested that because of problems of access to the service people were no longer using it.

She requested that information be obtained from the County Council on the effect of the reductions in service. The Clerk would write to the County Council about this.

**18. QUEEN`S DIAMOND JUBILEE:**

The Parish Council considered whether to hold an event to mark the Diamond Jubilee

Councillor Sharratt suggested the possible holding of an event with Brindle Parish Council.

It was felt that this matter be considered later in the year when the Parish Council's financial position was known but in the meantime the Clerk would approach Brindle Parish Council regarding the possibility of holding a joint event.

**19. RATIONALISATION OF HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRES:**

The Clerk submitted a consultation document from the Environment Director at Lancashire County Council dealing with the proposed rationalisation of household waste recycling centres as part of the authority's budget planning process. This would result in the closure of four facilities none of which were in this area.

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No observations were made on the proposals.

**20. UNAUTHORISED ENCAMPMENTS:**

The Clerk had received a consultation document titled Draft Policy for managing unauthorised encampments on County Council owned land and on highways for which the County Council was responsible. The document set out what the County would do and the procedures to be followed in dealing with unauthorised encampment.

A copy of the document was circulated and the deadline for observations was 26th August 2011. The document did not say what the police policy was although it was likely to follow the guidance set out by County Council. There was also some useful information regarding the rights of private individuals.

No observations were made on the draft policy.

**21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

Monday 19th September 2011 at 7.30.pm at the Village Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.20. p.m.

**SIGNED  
CHAIRMAN**

**19TH SEPTEMBER 2011**