

HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL – 15TH JULY 2013
MINUTES OF 1079TH MEETING OF
HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 15TH JULY 2013
AT THE VILLAGE HALL.

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. C ROSCOE NEIGHBOURHOOD OFFICER CHORLEY, POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER M. APPLETON AND POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER A. HOLLOWAY.

1. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE:

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

2. COUNCILLOR Ms. M. URRY:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) welcomed back Councillor Ms Urry.

3. MR. J. PEET:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) informed the Parish Council that Mr. Peet was no longer the Neighbourhood Officer for Hoghton.

A letter of thanks would be sent to Mr. Peet for his services to parish.

4. Ms C. ROSCOE:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) on behalf of the Parish Council welcomed Ms Roscoe the new Neighbourhood Officer for Hoghton who was attending her first meeting.

5. 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.

6. MINUTES:

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 17th June 2013 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

7. 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.

8. POLICE REPORT:

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(A) NEWSLETTERS:

The Clerk circulated the latest police newsletter which indicated there had been no reported incidents of crime in Houghton during June 2013.

Councillor Ms Urry referred to the recent number of dog thefts in the area. Ms Roscoe the Neighbourhood Officer reported on the work undertaken to combat these thefts.

The Clerk also circulated a copy of the latest Police and Crime Commissioner Newsletter.

(B) CONSUMER ALERTS – TRADING STANDARDS:

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

(C). TRAVELLERS:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) reported the events of the day relating to the travellers occupying the grassed area at the Village Hall and indicated that a notice had been served on them to leave the area by 12 noon on 16th July 2013.

AT THIS POINT COUNCILLOR SHARRATT LEFT THE MEETING.

9. LALC REPORT:

The Clerk reported details of the current newsletter.

He reminded the Parish Council that it had deferred the appointment of delegates to the Lancashire Parish Councils Conference and the LALC AGM on 9th November 2013 at County Hall Preston.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) and Councillor Ms Urry were appointed the Council's delegates.

The Clerk asked the Parish Council whether it wished to submit any resolutions to LALC AGM. Councillor Ms Urry suggested that the question of the procedure for relating to Travellers should be raised at the AGM

Councillor Ms Urry would contact the Clerk regarding the formal wording of the resolution before 30th August 2013. The Neighbourhood Officer would send leaflets regarding the procedure to Ms Urry.

The Clerk submitted details of the Woodland Trust Free Trees Scheme and the proposed changes to the operation of NALC .

Any views on the changes to NALC would be submitted to the Clerk by 30th August 2013.

10. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:

(A). FOOTPATH - BRINDLE LODGE:

The Clerk reported the current situation regarding the footpath scheme.

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The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) would speak to County Councillor Devaney about this.

Councillor Watson informed the hand rail to the foot bridge still required attention.

The Clerk would request Community Payback to improve the hand rail.

(B) . VALLEY FOOTPATH - HOGHTON BOTTOMS:

Councillor Watson reported that the footbridge over the stream had become unsafe and needed attention and that a tree was blocking the path.

The Clerk would notify the Footpaths Officer at the County Council.

(C). STATION ROAD:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) reported that there was still grass growing out of the kerb edgings.

The Clerk would ask Chorley again to make arrangements for the kerbs to be treated.

(D). DOG BIN RILEY GREEN:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) reported that latest position regarding the provision of the dog/litter bin at Riley Green. The Neighbourhood Officer reported on the provision of dog/litter bins in the area.

(E). FOOTPATH – PARISH CHURCH:

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) reported that the footpath at the Parish Church needed weeding.

Councillor Peter would spray the weeds with weed killer.

The Clerk would request Community Payback to cut back the vegetation on the path from the main road to the car park.

(F). GRASS VERGES - CHAPEL LANE:

The Clerk reported that Community Payback were unable to do this work and he had asked Chorley Council to do it.

(G). STREET SWEEPING:

The Clerk reported that he had asked Chorley Council to sweep The Straits and parts of Blackburn Old Road.

(H). STATION ROAD LEVEL CROSSING:

Network Rail had been asked to reduce the noise level of the siren at the Railway Crossing at Station Road.

(I). GIB LANE :

The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) reported he had spoken to Community Payback and arranged for them to cut back the vegetation at Gib Lane.

(J). OVERHANGING BRANCHES:

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Councillor Ms Urry reported that the overhanging branches of trees at The Straits had been cut back.

(K). TRAFFIC SPEEDS - HOGHTON LANE:

The Clerk reported that the police had agreed to carry out a traffic speed survey on Hoghton Lane.

The Clerk would request details of the survey.

(L). GIB LANE - ARTHUR`S WIFE`S BROW:

The Clerk reminded the Parish Council that following the inspection by United Utilities they had been unable to identify any leaks. County Councillor Devaney undertook to speak to them about this.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) would speak to County Councillor Devaney about this.

(M). QUAKER BROOK LANE:

Councillor Peter reported that the road surface in Quaker Brook Lane was uneven and needed attention.

The Parish Council had previously requested the resurfacing of Quaker Brook Lane and the imposition of a 20 mph speed limit.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) would raise these issues with County Councillor Devaney.

11. CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) reported that the next meeting of Chorley Council would be held on 16th July 2013.

12. PLANNING REPORT:

(A) DECISIONS.

The Clerk reported that no decisions on planning applications had been issued since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

(B). APPLICATIONS:

The Clerk reported that no planning applications had been received since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

(C) HELICOPTER FLIGHTS:

Councillor Ms Urry reported that she had been contacted by the Enforcement Officer from South Ribble Council about helicopter flights at Beeston Manor.

It was agreed that the Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) and Councillor Ms Urry would meet Mr. Bickerstaffe to discuss this matter.

13. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

The Clerk submitted the following accounts for payment

1.Village Hall	Hire of Room Parish Council Meetings April - June 2013	£30.00
2.Douglas	Clerk Salary and Expenses April - June	£558.50

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Tonks Ltd	2013, Payroll Administration*	
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*Payment by Direct Debit

The Accounts were agreed and a cheque signed.

14. WAR MEMORIAL:

The Clerk reported that the War Memorial required tidying up urgently

Councillor Peter agreed to spray the weeds with weed killer.

The Clerk also reported the latest position regarding registering the ownership of the War Memorial.

Councillor Ms Urry informed the Parish Council that she had various documents and newspaper articles relating to the dedication of the War Memorial. She would send copies to the Clerk.

15. POND CRIPPLEGATE LANE:

The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) reported on the current situation.

The Footpaths Officer had processed an order for 20 tonnes of limestone to be delivered to the Parish Council by JJ Ashcrofts from Leyland. The Clerk had asked Community Payback to lay the stones. They had informed him they were unable to undertake the work.

The Clerk had contacted the Footpaths Officer about alternatives to work being carried out.

County Councillor Devaney had also agreed to try to resolve the issue .

However nothing further had been done, The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) would speak to County Councillor Devaney about this work and the erection of the HGV Sign

The Clerk had approached Mr. Forrester about the work to be done by the de Houghton Estate. He was to meet the tenant about the work. The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) would contact Mr. Forrester about the matter.

The Neighbourhood Officer would discuss the erection of the fencing with the Street Scene Team at Chorley.

16. BOROUGH/PARISH LIAISON MEETING:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) and Councillor Ms Urry would attend the next meeting on Wednesday 17th July at 6.30 p.m. at the Town Hall Chorley.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) would raise the issue about consultation on licences for beer festivals and the procedure for Travellers at the meeting.

The Clerk also reported that the meeting of the Equality Forum scheduled for 22nd July 2013 had been cancelled and the next meeting would take place on Thursday 17th October 2013.

17. BENCH – PINFOLD:

The Clerk reminded the Parish Council that it had agreed to dedicate the bench to

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the memory of Joe Proctor.

The suggested wording on the plaque to be attached to the bench was:-
“In memory of Joe Proctor Member Hoghton Parish Council 1983 -2012”

The Clerk and Councillor Peter would liaise regarding the fixing of the plaque.
The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) would discuss arrangements for a small ceremony to officially dedicate the bench with Mrs Proctor.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 16th September 2013 at 7.45.pm at the Village Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.55.
p.m.

**SIGNED
CHAIRMAN**

16TH SEPTEMBER 2013