

DRAFT
MINUTES OF 1002ND MEETING
OF HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 19TH JUNE 2006
AT THE VILLAGE HALL
PRESENT: -

COUNCILLOR D. DICKINSON (CHAIRMAN) COUNCILLOR T. GREENWOOD (VICE CHAIRMAN) COUNCILLORS E. MILLER-CROOK J. PROCTOR, T.SHARRATT, AND Ms M. URRY AND MR. T HARKNESS (CLERK).

30. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillor J. Baldwin and Pc Evans (Community Beat Manager).

31. 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.

32. MINUTES:

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 15th May 2006 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

AT THIS POINT AS THERE WERE NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT THE PARISH COUNCIL CONTINUED WITH THE BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA.

33. POLICING REPORT:

In the absence of the Community Beat Manager no report on policing was presented.

The Clerk reported that the replacement for Inspector Edmundson would be Inspector Joanne South.

The Chairman reported on the meeting of the Police and Public held at Adlington on 5th June.

34. LAPTC REPORT:

The Clerk submitted the current Newsletter of the Association. The Chorley Area Meeting would take place on 27th June 2006.

35. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:

(A). TRAFFIC SCHEME – HOGHTON LANE:

The scheme had been confirmed in the 2006/7 Local Safety Schemes Programme at a cost of £60,000.

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(B) GIB LANE:

Several issues relating to Gib Lane were reported these included the cutting back of the hedge by the tenant of Middenstead Farm, the relocation of the street nameplate at the junction of the A675, various speed, height and weight restriction signs were obscured and required attention, there was a large pothole by the railway bridge and water was running down the road from near to Yew Tree Farm to the railway bridge. The Clerk would write to the appropriate authorities about these issues.

(C). LAND ADJACENT TO THE BOARS HEAD:

The de Hoghton Estate had contacted the Lancashire Highways Partnership (Area County Surveyor) about the possible removal of the brambles from the land who had stated that there were no funds currently available to do this work.

The Clerk would write to the Estate as landowners to see if they would do the work.

(D). BUS STOP SIGN – RILEY GREEN:

Councillor Miller Crook requested that the leaning sign on the south side of the road at Riley Green should be re-erected.

The Clerk would contact Chorley about this.

(E) 50 MPH SIGN A675.

The sign at the Boars Head/Straits was obscured by branches and these need to be cut back.

The Clerk would notify the Area County Surveyor.

(F). GRASS CUTTING:

A number of complaints had been made about the standard of the grass cutting which had been carried out recently on along the A675.

The Clerk would report this to the County Council.

36 CHORLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT:

The Chairman presented a report on issues affecting the Parish Council.

37. PLANNING REPORT:

The application for the erection of a conservatory and single storey extension to the garage block and replacement of doors on the existing house at School House Blackburn Old Road. (App no 06/0047/FUL) had been refused.

The following applications had been received since the last meeting

1. Rear conservatory at 6 Bell Villas (app no 06/00603/FUL) had been submitted to Chorley Borough Council since the last meeting.

2. Erection of rear conservatory, 8 Willowfield Chase (App no 06/00670/FUL)

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3. Change of use of existing disused stable block to visitor reception/shop etc
Hoghton Tower Blackburn Old Road (App no 06/00292/LBC).
4. Change of use of existing disused stable block to visitor reception/shop etc
Hoghton Tower Blackburn Old Road (App no 06/00293/COU)

No observations were made on these applications.

(Councillor Sharratt declared a prejudicial interest in the applications for Hoghton Tower and did not speak or vote on them)

Reference was also made to complaints received about the application for the alterations to Dover Farm considered by the Parish Council in April 2006 and to which no observations had been made.

The Clerk also reported that the Borough Council was to introduce procedures to allow members of the public to address the Development Control Committee on planning applications.

38. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

The Clerk submitted the following accounts for payment.

1 T. Harkness	Clerk Salary and Expenses Quarter ended June 2006	£378.80
2. Village Hall	Charge for hire of Rooms by the Parish Council April to June 2006	£27.00

The Accounts were agreed and the cheques were signed.

39. GRANTS TO ORGANISATIONS:

A grant of £300.00 was agreed towards the upkeep of the Village Hall and a cheque was signed.

(The Vice Chairman declared a prejudicial interest in the request in respect of being Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee).

The Clerk also submitted a request for a donation to the Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team.

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

40. VAT RETURN:

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that the VAT for 2005/06 had been reclaimed amounting to £49.32.

41. 1000TH MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL - BENCH:

The estimate for the work to make the identified site outside the entrance to the Village Hall was £240.00 and the contractor had been asked to undertake the work when completed arrangements would be made for the bench to be supplied by Brinscall Builders at a cost of £120.00 plus VAT and a £5.00 delivery charge.

42. PINFOLD:-

The Clerk had been informed of the driver of the car which had demolished part of the wall and had been asked to notify their Insurance Company and arrange for the repair work to be carried out.

The Chairman also reported that investigations were taking place into the ownership with the view to it being registered in the name of the Parish Council with the Land Registry.

The Parish Council authorised the Clerk to take any measure necessary to secure the land at Pinfold in the name of the Parish Council.

43. RISK ASSESSMENT:

The Chairman and Clerk had made a health and safety risk assessment inspection of the notice boards benches Pinfold and the War Memorial on 19th June 2006.

Maintenance work to the benches Pinfold and the War Memorial were recommended.

It was agreed that Mr S. Ormerod should be asked to carry out this work subject to the submission of a satisfactory estimate and that further discussions would be held with Chorley Council regarding the refurbishment of the War Memorial.

44. BUS SERVICES:

The County Council had decided to retain the 151 Preston to Bamber Bridge bus service despite it failing to meet the passenger numbers required. The route passed through Hoghton and the Parish Council welcomed this decision.

The County Council's proposals relating to the changes to school bus services were reported and commented on.

The situation was noted.

45. CAMPAIGN FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES:

The Clerk submitted the current newsletter of the organisation which set out the next steps in the campaign and asked for Parish Council support.

The Parish Council supported the action proposed.

46. HEALTH VIEWS – NEWSLETTER:

The Clerk submitted the current newsletter from the Chorley and South Ribble Primary Care Trust.

47. POST BOX –GIB LANE:

It was reported that the post box in Gib Lane been removed illegally and the Clerk had written to the Post Office requesting its replacement.

Councillor Ms Urry referred to the petition against the possible closure of the Post Office on Hoghton Lane.

It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Post Office about the proposed closure to protest about it and ask to be informed of any decision made on the matter.

48. LANCASHIRE LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT:

A summary of the Lancashire Local Area Agreement was circulated.

49. LANCASHIRE LOCAL:

Details of the topics discussed at the first meeting of the Lancashire Local for Chorley were reported.

50. NORTH WEST BEST PRACTICE DESIGN GUIDE:

A copy of the guide was circulated for information.

51. CHORLEY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK:

The Clerk submitted amended documents relating to Chorley Town Centre and Retail and Leisure policies which were to be included in the Local Development Frame Work. These were consultation documents and the period for comment was until 26th July 2006. In addition the comments originally made by the Parish Council would be considered at the end of the consultation period

The report was noted

52. NEW TRAINING SCHEME FOR TREE WARDENS.

The Clerk submitted a request for volunteers for this scheme.

Councillor Ms Urry stated that she and her partner would volunteer.

The Clerk would notify the Arboricultural Officer at Chorley.

53. DRAFT PLAY STRATEGY FOR CHORLEY

Copies of a consultation document on a proposed play strategy in Chorley were circulated It was agreed that the Parish Council would consider the document again at its next meeting.

54. BOROUGH PARISH LIAISON:

The next meeting would be on Wednesday 19th July at 6.30 p.m. at the Town Hall Chorley. Any items for the agenda were required by 7th July 2006.

Councillor Ms Urry would attend and raise the issue of Refuse Collection.

55. MATTERS REPORTED TO THE CLERK:

On the advice of the County Legal Officer the item on the agenda referring to Matters Reported to the Clerk would be replaced in future by an item dealing with Urgent Business which could not await the next meeting.

56. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 17th July 2006 at 7.30.pm at the Village Hall

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