

**DRAFT MINUTES OF 1020TH MEETING
OF HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 17TH MARCH 2008
AT THE VILLAGE HALL
PRESENT: -**

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE – POLICE COMMUNITY BEAT MANAGER (C. EVANS.)

229 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE:

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

230. 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.

231 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 18th February 2008 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

232. ADJOURNMENT:

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

233. POLICING REPORT:

The Police Community Beat Manager gave a report on policing for March 2008, during which time there had been four reported incidents of damage to cars. He also informed the Parish Council of other police activities and of the impending departure of A. Crow the Police Community Support Officer.

The Parish Council noted the report and agreed that their best wishes be extended to PC Crow for the future.

234. LAPTC REPORT:

The Clerk submitted the current Newsletter which included details of a Mentoring course for Lancashire Leaders, follow up action from the 2007 AGM a survey of training needs, a discussion summary on the LAPTC Conference the Galloways Society Cross Morecambe Bay Walk and nominations for attendance at the Royal Garden Party .

The Clerk also submitted an invoice for the Association's Subscription Fees for 2008/09 amounting to £141.55 compared with the figure for 2007/08 of £144.74 which was a slight reduction.

The report was accepted, the Chairman was nominated to attend the Royal Garden Party if chosen and the Parish Council agreed to continue its membership of the

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Lancashire Association of Town and Parish Councils, to the payment of the annual subscription fees in the sum of £!41.55 and the cheque was signed.

235. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:

(A). TRAFFIC SCHEME – HOGHTON LANE:

Following the comments made about the scheme at the last meeting the Clerk had requested details of the final proposals from the Environment Directorate. Discussion took place on the project.

Councillor Sharratt circulated a copy of the press report on the inquest into the fatal car crash near Hoghton Tower on 27th September 2007 which he considered strengthened the case for a reduction in the speed limit proposed under the scheme.

He was to contact two local residents regarding a complaint to the Local Government Ombudsman concerning the failure of the County Council to report all the facts to the Lancashire Local Chorley when the scheme was considered in particular the accident record on this road.

(B). LAND ADJACENT TO THE BOARS HEAD:

The Chairman reported that the De Hoghton Estate had offered to clear the brambles. It was that the Chairman would speak to the tenant regarding this.

(C) GIB LANE:

Two further potholes had been reported in Gib Lane and the Area County Surveyor was making arrangements for them to be filled in. It was reported that there were further potholes in various locations in the Parish and in Brindle.

The Clerk would contact the Area County Surveyor about these.

(D) CRIPPLEGATE LANE:

The Environment Director at the County Council had visited Cripplegate Lane and recommended to Chorley Council that the street name plates be replaced incorporating a no through road symbol. Chorley Council was now dealing with the matter.

With regard to the residents refuse collection the Clerk had written to them to ask if they wished arrangements to be made for the bins to be collected from and returned to the properties concerned by the Collection Service. The occupier of Hazel Cottage had indicated that she was satisfied with the service. It was agreed that further discussions should take place with the resident and the Vice Chairman with the view to requesting Chorley to provide a collection and return service.

(E). MOULDEN BROW:

The De Hoghton Estate had been asked to tidy up this land.

(F). BUS SHELTER – THE STRAITS:

Councillor Sharratt suggested that this would be an appropriate time to ask Chorley to add side panels to the bus shelter to afford better protection for travellers. The Clerk would write to Chorley about this.

(G). LITTER:

Councillor proctor referred to the untidy condition of the area particularly at Quaker Brook Lane. The Clerk would write to Chorley Council to ask the Street Cleaning Service to arrange a litter pick.

236. CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:

The Chairman reported on issues affecting the Parish Council including the level of the Council Tax increase the calculation of the Council Tax, a report on the revised concessionary travel scheme and together with details of the amount of the Parish Council's element of the Council Tax.

237. PLANNING REPORT:

A. APPLICATIONS:

The Clerk reported that a planning application had been received for the erection of a two storey rear extension to The Old Post Office 31 Chapel Lane App no 08/00208/FUL Applicants Mr & Mrs Nuttall. No observations were made on this application.

(B) HOUSEHOLDER DESIGN GUIDANCE:

The Clerk reported that Chorley Council had adopted the Householder Design Guidance Supplementary Planning Document.

238. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

There were no accounts for payment

239. PROVISION OF DOG FOULING BINS HOGHTON BOTTOMS:

The Chairman reported that the Dog Warden at Chorley would approach the landowner direct to discuss the siting of the bins.

240. WAR MEMORIAL:

The Chairman reported there had been no progress on the situation regarding the responsibility for the maintenance of the War Memorial.

It was agreed that the Clerk write to CARE thanking them for their assistance in the past but that in future any maintenance of the War Memorial would be carried out by Mr S. Ormerod.

241. DONATIONS:

The Clerk submitted requests from Chorley and South Ribble – Home Start and Victim Support for a donation.

The Parish Council decided not to make a grant in either case.

242. CLIMATE CHANGE BILL:

The Friends of the Earth had requested the Parish Council's support for a stronger Climate Change Bill.

The Parish Council agreed to write to the local MP asking him for his views on the campaign.

243. CHORLEY AND SOUTH RIBBLE COMPACT:

The Parish Council had been invited to send representatives to the Compact event at South Ribble Civic Centre on 12th April 2008. This event clashed with the Seminar on the Parish Charter to which representatives had been appointed.

It was agreed not to attend this Event.

244. CELEBRATE ST. GEORGES DAY:

The Clerk submitted a brochure on events nationally to celebrate the day.

245. BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION.

Councillor Proctor reported on the certificate of merit entries which had been included in the Annual Best Kept Village Competition entry form.

246. WELFARE RIGHTS:

The Clerk submitted leaflets on Welfare Rights.

247. FIRE AUTHORITY INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN:

The Clerk circulated the outcome of the consultation undertaken by the Fire Authority on the Action Plan.

248. CHORLEY CIVIC SOCIETY AWARDS 2008:

The Parish Council had been invited by the Chorley Civic Society to submit nominations for an award. There did not appear to be any specific project which could be submitted for an award at present.

249. ELECTIONS 2008:

The Clerk circulated nomination forms and supporting information in respect of the Elections on 1st May 2008.

250. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 21st April 2008 the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30.pm at the Village Hall to be followed by the normal meeting of the Parish Council.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.05. p.m.

**SIGNED
CHAIRMAN**

21st April 2008