

MINUTES OF 1041ST MEETING OF HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 15TH MARCH 2010 AT THE VILLAGE HALL

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: PC.EVANS, POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER AND MR. J. PEET CHORLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD OFFICER.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillor J. Proctor and Ms S. Linley Neighbourhood Officer.

2. COUNCILLOR PROCTOR:

The Chairman welcomed back Councillor Proctor following his recent illness.. The Parish Council sent their best wishes to Councillor Proctor for a speedy recovery following his recent illness.

3. 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. The Vice Chairman – Councillor T. Greenwood declared an interest in the item relating to the War Memorial.

4. MINUTES:

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 15th February 2010 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. 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.

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6. POLICE REPORT:

In the absence of the Police the Clerk circulated a copy of the police newsletter for February 2010 which showed that no incidents of crime had been reported during the period.

7. LALC REPORT:

The Association's current Newsletter was submitted.

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8. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:

(A). FOOTWAY – PARK GATES:

The Clerk reported that he had been informed that he repairs had now been carried out.

(B) SALT BINS:

The Clerk reported on the current situation concerning the repair and refilling of salt bins.

(C). GIB LANE – STREET LIGHTS:

The Clerk reported that the Highways Inspector was arranging with the local farmer for the trees to be cut back.

(D) HOGHTON LANE:

The Clerk reported that he was still awaiting the comments of the Highways Inspector regarding the work required to the carriage way and the flooding problem.

9. CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:

The Chairman reported on issues affecting the Parish Council.

10. PLANNING REPORT:

DECISIONS:

The application for. App no – Applicant had been granted since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

APPLICATIONS:

No planning applications had been received since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

221. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

The Clerk submitted the following accounts for payment

| | | |
|----------------|---|---------|
| 1.Village Hall | Hire of Room Parish Council Meetings January - March 2010 | £30.00 |
| | | |
| 2. A. Harkness | Clerk Salary (£312.50) and Expenses(£113.78) January – March 2010 | £428.28 |

The accounts were agreed and cheques were signed.

12. PINFOLD:

The Clerk gave an update on the current position regarding the Pinfold.

Councillor Peter had prepared a schedule of costs for the work and this was circulated and agreed.

Discussion took place as to the inclusion of the removal of waste from the site in the tender for the work.

This would now be submitted to Chorley Council for the money to be allocated. Once this was done arrangements would be made for the work to be put out to tender.

With regard to the access to the site the Land Agent had been approached for his comments and he had suggested that he access should be taken from the gable

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end of 29 Riley Green. The Chairman and Clerk had visited the Pinfold and agreed with this suggestion.

13. WAR MEMORIAL:

The Clerk submitted the account from Harry Fowler (Joinery) for the construction of the board for the wreaths amounting to £155.00. This was agreed and a cheque was signed.

The Clerk indicated that funds for this had been granted by County Councillor Otter as well as money for the cleaning of the Memorial by Mr. Whitehead amounting to £80.00. This was agreed and a cheque was signed.

Councillor Peter reported that the De Houghton Estate had agreed to store the board when not in use.

The Parochial Church Council had replied to the query regarding the appropriate length time that the wreaths should remain on the Memorial. They had consulted the British Legion who had suggested that the wreaths remain on the Memorial for a period of one month before being removed.

The Vice Chairman (Councillor Greenwood) having previously declared an interest in this matter did not vote on the proposals.

12. VILLAGE HALL:

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that it had been invited to attend a meeting of the Houghton Recreation Development Committee on 25th March 2010 at 8.00 p.m. to discuss the development of the village hall and recreational facilities in Houghton.

The Chairman and Councillor Ms Urry would attend on behalf of the Parish Council Councillor Sharratt gave his apologies as he was involved in another meeting.

The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) reported that he had been approached by the Programme Director for Climate Change and Sustainability at Groundwork Lancashire West and Wigan regarding possible funding for work to the Village.Hall.

17. NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PLAN – BRINDLE AND HOGHTON:

The Neighbourhood Officer gave an update on the Plan.

18. LANCASHIRE LOCAL:

The Parish Council received a report on the proceedings of the Lancashire Local – Chorley held on 10th March 2010.

205. BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION.

The Parish Council had agreed to enter the Annual Best Kept Village Competition, and the Clerk had written to various organisations and businesses regarding entry in the Certificate of Merit Competition, however no responses had been received.

It was agreed that the entry fee of £10.00 be paid and a cheque was signed and the Clerk would enter the organisations in the Certificate of Merit Class should further information be available before the closing date.

25. CHORLEY STANDARDS COMMITTEE:

Councillor Sharratt reported that he had not been successful in his application to serve on behalf of Brindle and Houghton parish Councils as a Parish Council Representative on the Standards Committee of Chorley Council.

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The Clerk circulated Bulletin 47 of the Standards Board.

32. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 19th April 2010 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 9.30. p.m.

**SIGNED
CHAIRMAN**

19TH APRIL 2010