

DRAFT
MINUTES OF 1001ST MEETING
OF HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 15TH MAY 2006
AT THE VILLAGE HALL
PRESENT: -

COUNCILLOR D. DICKINSON (CHAIRMAN) COUNCILLOR T. GREENWOOD (VICE CHAIRMAN) COUNCILLORS J.BALDWIN, J. PROCTOR, AND MR. T HARKNESS (CLERK).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: ONE MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC.

8. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillors E. Miller-Crook. Ms M. Urry and Pc Evans (Community Beat Manager).

9. 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.

10. MINUTES:

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 24th April 2006 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

THERE THEN FOLLOWED AN ADJOURNMENT TO ALLOW THE PUBLIC TO RAISE ISSUES AND QUESTION THE PARISH COUNCIL REGARDING MATTERS DEALT WITH. THE MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT RAISED THE FOLLOWING MATTERS: -

11. TRAFFIC SPEEDS – HOGHTON LANE:

The Member of the Public asked about the latest position regarding the traffic scheme. The scheme was now officially included in the 2006/7 Local Safety Schemes Programme. Detailed designs would be undertaken followed by consultation with members of the public with properties fronting onto the road and also with the Parish Council. The scheme, which involved changes to the road markings, was better carried out in the summer months so realistically it was unlikely that works could commence on the ground until spring 2007 at the earliest.

12. REFUSE COLLECTION:

The Member of the Public supported the comments made by Councillor Ms Urry at the last meeting when it was reported that when the wheelie bins were emptied on Houghton Lane they were left on the pavement which meant pedestrians and particularly the disabled had to walk in the road. It was felt that emptied bins should be returned to the curtilage of the property.

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The Chairman reported that the new Cabinet Member responsible for the refuse collection service had promised to undertake a review of the method of collection and the replacing of bins to the appropriate property.

THERE WERE NO FURTHER MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC AND THE PARISH COUNCIL RETURNED TO THE BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA:

13. POLICING REPORT:

In the absence of the Community Beat Manager the Clerk circulated his report on policing in the parish during April 2006.

14. LAPTC REPORT:

The Clerk submitted the current Newsletter of the Association.

15. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:

(A). TRAFFIC SPEEDS – GIB LANE:

The Community Beat Manager would monitor the speed of traffic using Gib Lane

(B) OVERGROWN FOOTWAY - GIB LANE:

The Clerk had not received an estimate from a local contractor for the clearing up of the footway. It was suggested that a possible solution would be to cut back the hedge.

The Clerk would write to the landowners, the de Hoghton Estate, to ask them to cut back this hedge.

(C). GRASS VERGE BY BUS SHELTER – BOARS HEAD:

The Lancashire Highways Partnership (Area County Surveyor) was considering the suggestion regarding the kerb.

(D). BUS SHELTER A675 RILEY GREEN:

The Borough Council had inspected the bus shelter and it was considered safe. The list for the provision of new shelters had been prepared in order of usage, which serve the most residents, and if this shelter was to be included in any repair list it could be removed and might not be replaced for some time.

(E). LAND ADJACENT TO THE BOARS HEAD:

The Brewery had tidied up the land for which they were responsible, the brambles in remaining area of land had not been removed because this land did not belong to the brewery.

The de Hoghton Estate was to write to the Lancashire Highways Partnership (Area County Surveyor) about the possible removal of the brambles from the land.

(F). ACCIDENT OPPOSITE THE BOARS HEAD:

Details of the accident which occurred on 13th May 2006 were reported.

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(G). LIGHTS ON CAR PARK AT BOARS HEAD:

The car park lights at the Boars Head were intrusive and needed adjusting and several complaints had been made about them.

The Clerk would contact Chorley to see if they contravened planning permission.

16 CHORLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT:

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

17. PLANNING REPORT:

The applications for the promotional illuminated display unit Boars Head (app no 06/00433/ADV), the proposed garage to side of property Woodside Station Road (app no 06/0250/FUL) and the emergency repairs to two separate three flue chimney stacks on ridge line of south wing Hoghton Tower (app no 06/0319/LBC). Had all been approved.

18. ACCOUNT FOR PAYMENT:

The Clerk submitted the following account for payment.

1 H. Fowler	Notice boards	£495.00
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The Account was agreed and a cheque was signed.

(The Vice Chairman declared a prejudicial interest in this matter and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon)

19. INSURANCE PREMIUM - RENEWAL.

The Clerk submitted details of the Parish Council's current insurance cover requested the Council to consider whether this was adequate and reported that the cost of renewing this would amount to £640.26 an increase of £28.93. over last year's premium. It was noted that there was an excess of £125.00 on each claim and an annual index linking increase of 7% on property valuations. A sum of £700.00 had been included in the Parish Council's Estimates for this premium in 2006/07.

After discussion of the valuation of the property insured (War Memorial, bus shelters, notice boards ,roadside seats) The annual premium of £640.26 was agreed to be paid to Allianz Cornhill and a cheque was signed.

20. PRECEPT.

The precept for 2006/07 amounting to £3,500.00 had been received from Chorley Borough Council and banked.

21. VILLAGE HALL – GRANT:

The Secretary of the Village Hall had submitted a request for a grant towards the upkeep of the Village Hall.

The matter would be considered at the next meeting.

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

22. AUDIT OF PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS:

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that the Audit for 2005/06 would take place on 28th July 2006.

He also reported under the procedure it was necessary for the Parish Council to approve a statement of assurance that the accounts had been undertaken in accordance with prescribed regulations. A copy of the Annual Return and Statement of Assurance was circulated to each Member.

The Parish Council acknowledged its responsibility for the preparation of the accounts and confirmed, to the best of its knowledge and belief that the Council's accounts for the year ended 31st March 2006 were true and correct and that they had considered the statement of assurance in connection with those accounts.

23. 1000TH MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL - BENCH:

A site for the location of the bench had been agreed outside the entrance to the Village Hall some work was required to make it suitable and Mr Ormerod had been asked to submit an estimate for the site clearance work.

If this was satisfactory the work would be put in hand and arrangements made for the bench to be supplied by Brinscall Builders at a cost of £120.00 plus VAT and a £5.00 delivery charge.

24. MOTORCYCLES – HOGHTON LANE:-

The speed of motorcyclists using Hoghton Lane was once again a problem particularly at weekends.

The Community Beat Manager would be notified of this.

25. LOCAL AUTHORITY BYELAWS:

The Parish Council considered the consultation document issued by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.

26. CPRE.LANCASHIRE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER APPRECIATION DAY:

The CPRE had organised a Lancashire Landscape Appreciation Day on 22nd June 2006.

27. REVISED GUIDANCE ON SPEED LIMITS FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES:

Lindsay Hoyle MP was to question the Secretary of State for Transport regarding the intended date for the publication of the revised guidance.

28. ANNUAL MAYORAL PROCESSION:

The Parish Council had been invited to take part in the Annual Mayoral Procession to church on Sunday 21st May 2006 following the installation of the new Mayor.

29. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 19th June 2006 at 7.30.pm at the Village Hall

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.35.p.m