

**HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL – 20TH MAY 2013**  
**MINUTES OF 1077TH MEETING OF**  
**HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON 20TH MAY 2013**  
**AT THE VILLAGE HALL.**

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

**1. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE:**

An apology for absence was submitted from Councillor M. Watson.

**2. 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.

**3. MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 15th April 2013 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**4. 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.**

**5. POLICE REPORT:**

**(A) NEWSLETTER:**

The Clerk circulated a copy of the April 2013 local newsletter which indicated there had been one reported incident of crime in Hoghton during the period.

Councillor Ms Urry referred to the recent crimes in Samlesbury and Higher Walton.

**(B) CONSUMER ALERTS – TRADING STANDARDS:**

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

**(C) POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER:**

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

He also circulated a copy of the press release issued by Lancashire Constabulary which reported a 3.7% reduction in crime throughout Lancashire from December 2011 to December 2012 as compared with the previous twelve months.

**6. LALC REPORT:**

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The Clerk reported details of the current newsletter.

### **7. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:**

#### **(A). FOOTPATH - BRINDLE LODGE:**

The Clerk reported the current situation regarding the footpath scheme .

Councillor Watson had informed the Clerk that the tree blocking the foot path in Brindle Lodge had been cleared and the hand rail to the foot bridge replaced however the rail needed attention.

The Clerk would discuss the improvement of the hand rail with Community Payback.

#### **(B). GRASS VERGES:**

At a previous meeting the Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) requested that the cutting of grass verges from the Boars Head to the Village Hall, and Councillor Baldwin asked for the grass verges from Station Road to the Boars Head to be cut.

The Clerk had contacted Chorley Council about these requests and they were arranging for the work to be done.

Councillor Baldwin reported that some grass cutting had taken place .

#### **(C). POTHoles:**

County Councilor Devaney had asked that Parish Councillors should notify the County Council direct about any potholes rather than wait for Parish Council meetings.

The Clerk reported a pothole near the Boars Head.

Councillor Baldwin reported that there were several potholes in Quaker Brook Lane, He also requested details of the recent closure of the road.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) informed the Parish Council that this closure was carried out by United Utilities who were repairing a leak.

The Clerk would notify the County Council about the potholes in Quaker Brook Lane circulate details of the County Council Highways contact number and arrange for it to be inserted in the two Parish Magazines.

#### **(D). STATION ROAD:**

At the last meeting Councillor Baldwin reported that although part of Station Road had been swept not all of it had been done. He now reported that the whole of Station Road needed doing again.

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

The Clerk would ask Chorley to sweep Station Road again and make arrangements for the kerbs to be treated.

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### **(E). PAVEMENTS - BOLTON ROAD TO SANDY LANE :**

At the last meeting the Clerk reported that County Councillor Devaney had asked the

Parish Council to arrange for Community Payback to do some work on the pavements on both sides from the Bolton Road up to Sandy Lane. The verges had encroached leaving relatively little walking room and this would also benefit by some hedge cutting.

The Clerk had discussed this issue with Chorley Council who had replied that :-

The Council had no objections to Community Payback doing this task, but suggested that when trimming the edges of the footpath, that the cut offs were removed to underneath the hedgerow/wall and not put on the verge as this caused problems when mowing the verges. The cutting of the hedgerow at this time of year may disturb nesting birds and extreme caution must be taken if this is done at this time.

The Clerk would discuss these issues with Community Payback before they started the work.

### **(F). SATELLITE NAVIGATION SYSTEMS:**

The Clerk circulated a copy of a letter from the Department of Transport setting out the views of the Department on ensuring that heavy goods vehicles were not routed down inappropriate roads.

### **(G). REFILLING OF SALT BINS:**

County Councillor Devaney had informed the Clerk that it was the County Council policy not to refill the bins during the summer they would be done in the Autumn .

### **(H). REPAINTING WHITE LINES:**

County Councillor Devaney had reminded the Parish Council that the standard criteria for repainting of white lines is once every five years however if there are any lines in the Parish which need attention these should be reported to the County Council.

The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) would inspect the SLOW markings on Gib Lane to see if they need repainting.

### **(I). DOG BIN RILEY GREEN:**

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) reported that he had asked Chorley Council to provide a dog refuse bin at Riley Green.

### **(J). TRAFFIC SPEEDS - HOGHTON LANE:**

Councillor Ms Urry reminded the Parish Council of the problems with traffic speeds after leaving the 30mph zone on Houghton Lane. Although the speed limit increased to 50 mph traffic was speeding up considerably and taking the bend at excessive speed.

The Police would be asked for their views on this situation before an approach was made to the County Highways Authority.

### **(K). ARTHUR`S WIFE`S BROW:**

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Councillor Sharratt reported that water was leaking onto the road at this location near the Railway Bridge. In the past the Parish Council had been unable to ascertain the cause but he was concerned that there would be erosion and this would affect the road foundations.

Councillor Baldwin also reported flooding at Yew tree Farm.

The Clerk would ask United Utilities to investigate the cause of the leaks.

### **8. CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:**

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) reported that the next meeting of Chorley Council would be held on 22nd May 2013.

### **9. PLANNING REPORT:**

#### **(A) DECISIONS.**

The Clerk reported that the following planning application had been approved.:-

1. Erection of part two storey part single storey side extension incorporating Juliette balcony 1-2 Spring Bank Cottages Viaduct Road (App no 13/00241/FUL) Applicant Mr. Quail.

#### **(B). APPLICATION:**

The Clerk reported that the following planning applications had been received since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

1. Resubmission of planning application for the conversion of a redundant farm building to a single dwelling Home Farm Hoghton Lane (App no 13/00118/FUL) Applicant Mr. Wilmer.

The Parish Council had been consulted on this as an adjoining local council.

Details were circulated to all Members and it was decided to make no further comment. Chorley Council had been informed.

2. Creation of a new drive way 29 Bell Villas Gib Lane(App no 13/00377/FUL) Applicant Mr. Hoodless

Details were circulated to all Members and it was decided to make no comment. The Clerk would inform Chorley Council.

*The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood ) declared an interest in this application and did not vote on it.*

#### **(C ) HELICOPTER FLIGHTS:**

The Clerk reported that he had asked the Enforcement Officer at South Ribble Council to contact Councillor Ms Urry about this matter

She informed the Parish Council that no - one had done so.

The Clerk reported that the owner of Beeston Manor had contacted him to say the

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flights were made by his private company not Beeston Manor and the log book showed only a few flights since last October. He was extremely concerned that the comments made reflected badly on the restaurant.

Councillor Ms Urry expressed her concern regarding fire work displays at Beeston Manor which seemed to occur regularly on Saturday evenings.

The Clerk would ask the Enforcement Officer at South Ribble to contact Councillor Ms Urry as soon as possible to discuss the helicopter flights and the Fire Work Displays.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) would ask Chorley Council about the requirements for the staging of fire work displays and speak to the owner of Beeston Manor about the issues raised by Councillor Ms Urry.

### **10. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:**

The following accounts were submitted for payment.

1. Chorley Council	Dog Bin Annual Rental	£86.15
2. T. Harkness	Payroll - Quarter ending March 31st 2013	£505.04

The Accounts were approved and an appropriate cheque signed

### **11. INSURANCE PREMIUM - RENEWAL.**

The Clerk submitted details of the Parish Council's insurance quotation from Aviva for the period from 1st June 2013 to 31st May 2014 . and reported that the cost of renewing this would amount to £548.74 - compared with a figure of £559.66 for 2012/13 a decrease of £10.92 since last year.

The Parish Council was requested to consider the offer, and to decide whether the cover offered was adequate.

A sum of £625.00 had been included in the Parish Council's Estimates for this premium in 2013/14.

The insurance cover was considered adequate, the quotation from Aviva was accepted in the amount of £548.74 and a cheque was signed.

### **12. AUDIT OF PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS:**

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that the Audit for 2012/13 would take place on 18th June 2013.

The Independent Internal Auditor had examined the Parish Council's Accounts and procedures, confirmed that they were in order, agreed the Audit Report and submitted it to the Parish Council for approval.

The Clerk also reported that under the procedure it was necessary for the Parish Council to approve a statement of governance that the accounts had been undertaken in accordance with prescribed regulations. A copy of the Annual Return Statement of Accounts, Annual Governance Statement and the Independent Auditors Report was circulated to each Member.

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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 2013 were true and correct and that they had considered the statement of governance in connection with those accounts.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) then signed the Annual Return where appropriate.

### **13. 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 was arranging for Community Payback to lay the stones.

Chorley Street scene was arranging for the erection of the fence.

Mr Peet the Neighbourhood Officer had indicated that any further work would have to be done after breeding season.

The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) referred to the ditch on Estate land and the Clerk had contacted Mr. Forrester the Land Agent regarding the work to be done.

The erection of a No through Road sign at the entrance to Cripplegate Lane was awaited. The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) would speak to County Councillor Devaney regarding the matter.

At the last meeting the Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) reported that a local resident had informed him that the footpath was impassable and needed attention. The Clerk had notified the County Footpaths Officer. This was still to be attended to.

### **14. PRECEPT 2012/13:**

The Clerk reported that the precept had been paid into the Parish Council's Bank Account. The Council's current balance was £7344.59

### **15. EQUALITY FORUM:**

Councillor Ms Urry reported on the meeting of the Forum held on 18th April 2013.

### **16. FIRE AUTHORITY DRAFT INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2013-2017:**

The Clerk submitted this consultation document.

No comments were made.

### **17. VAT REPAYMENT:**

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that the VAT for 2012/13 had been reclaimed amounting to £162.98.

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### **18. WAR MEMORIAL:**

The Clerk reported that he had received an estimate from P. Whitehead Stonemason for the cleaning of the column of the War Memorial The cost was estimated at £1800.00.

The Parish Council felt that additional information should be sought regarding the estimate as this would give an indication of the type of work required.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) would discuss possible funding sources with Chorley Council and Councillor Ms Urry would consult other authorities locally about the costs they incurred in maintaining war memorials.

### **19 . CPRE - LANCASHIRE BRANCH AGM:**

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) reported on the Annual General Meeting of the Lancashire Branch of the CPRE held on 18th May 2013.

### **20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

Monday 17th June 2013 at 7.45.pm at the Village Hall.

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

**SIGNED  
CHAIRMAN**

**17TH JUNE 2013**