

**MINUTES OF 1088TH MEETING OF
HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 19TH MAY 2014
AT THE VILLAGE HALL.**

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: COUNTY COUNCILLOR M. DEVANEY.

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 14th April 2014 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to the Councillor N. Peter being included in the Apologies for Absence.

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) NEWSLETTERS:

The Clerk circulated a copy of the current police newsletter which showed there had been one reported incident of vehicle crime during April 2014.

As the police were not in attendance no further report was presented.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) had spoken to the police about their non attendance.

Councillor Sharratt referred to a road traffic accident in Higher Walton.

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Councillor Peter referred to recent dog attacks in the Coupe Green area.

The Clerk circulated the Spring edition of the Police Air Support newsletter.

The next Air Support PACT Meeting would be held on 26th June 2014 at 10.00 a.m. at the Black Horse Gregson Lane.

Councillor Ms Urry reported that the Autumn meeting could be the final PACT meeting as PC. Jeffrey would no longer be in attendance.

(B). CONSUMER ALERTS – TRADING STANDARDS:

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

6. LALC REPORT:

The Clerk reported details of the current newsletter.

7. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:

(A). FLOODING - CHAPEL LANE :

The County Council had been asked for their comments regarding the structure of the drain near Barracks Farm on Chapel Lane. The Clerk had asked them to speak directly to Councillor Peter about the problems. They had not done so.

County Councillor Devaney would speak to the Highways Department about this problem.

(B). GIB LANE :

The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) had reported in the past that the pavement had been swept and was now passable but the debris had been heaped by the hedge.

The Clerk had notified Chorley Council about the condition of the road and pavement and asked for action to be taken however, the debris had not been cleared.

Chorley Council had still not repaired the street nameplate.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) would discuss these issues with Chorley Council.

(C). FOOTPATH 44:

In the past Councillor Ms Urry reported that there were two stiles on the footpath which ran between properties 243 and 245 Hoghton Lane. The second stile was broken and in need of repair. The Clerk had informed the Footpaths Officer and was informed that this was on a list and would be done in order of priority.

She had also reported that the section between the first and second stile was virtually impassable. This had been inspected and the area was now passable.

Councillor Ms Urry reported that the County Council had been informed of this in October 2013.

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County Councillor Devaney agreed to investigate the reasons for the delay.

(D) LANCASHIRE`S LOST WAYS PROJECT:

The Clerk submitted details of a scheme initiated by the Lancashire Local Access Forum designed to ensure that unrecorded public rights of way were not lost when the provisions of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 came into force on 1st January 2026.

The Forum was seeking volunteers to research and identify these public rights of way.

Councillor Watson expressed an interest . Councillor Ms Urry also indicated that she was interested in volunteering.

The Clerk would put notices on the notice boards.

Councillor Sharratt hoped that this survey would also apply to bridleways.

The Clerk would ascertain the situation from the County Council.

He also reported that at the Brindle Parish Council meeting it was mentioned that there appeared to be a footpath from Dover Lane to Blackburn Old Road. There were stiles at either end but no Footpath sign it did not appear on any Public Rights of Way map.

The Clerk would ask the County Council to investigate this.

(E). CRIPPLEGATE LANE- POND:

The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) reported that pipes were being installed at the pond but it was not known who was responsible for the work.

The Clerk would contact Chorley Council about this.

(F). FINGER POST SIGN:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) reported that the Samlesbury finger post sign at the Boars Head was not correctly spelled. He had mentioned this to the Clerk who had asked Chorley Council to replace the sign.

(G). DEBRIS - A675 BLACKBURN OLD ROAD:

councillor Baldwin reported that there were several large branches on the pavement near The Old School on A675 Blackburn Old Road which had been there for some time.

The Clerk would ask Chorley Council to remove them.

8. CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) indicated there was nothing to report on this matter.

9. PLANNING REPORT:

(A). DECISIONS.

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The Clerk reported that the following applications had been granted since the last meeting.

1. Notice of Intention to install Bt Openreach High Speed Broadband Cabinet on highway verge opposite 20 metres south west of Boars Head Blackburn Old Road (App no 14/00310/NOT) Applicant Bt Openreach .

2. Notice of Intention to install Bt Openreach High Speed Broadband Cabinet on pavement 10 metres south west of telephone exchange Station Road (App no 14/00311/NOT) Applicant Bt Openreach .

3. Erection of first floor side/rear extension Trinity Cottage Valley Road (App no 14/00244/FUL) Applicant Mr. Price.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) reported that local residents had contacted in regarding the reasons for the undermentioned application.

4. Hedge removal notice for removal of 60 metres of mature hedge hedgerow adjacent to Railway Bridge no 1219 north east corner of highway boundary Railway Bridge Blackburn Old Road (App no 14/00316/HDG) Applicant Lancashire County Council.

It was understood this was being done for safety reasons.

(B). APPLICATION:

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

1. Erection of 2 two storey detached dwellings within existing residential garden The Paddock Gib Lane (App no 14/00463/FUL) Applicant Mr. McDonald .

Details were circulated to all Members present and the following comments were made.

It is considered that the development is in the Green Belt and contrary to Green Belt policies. It is also considered that the development is not infill and would set a precedent for further developments.

The Clerk would inform Chorley Council.

10. ACCOUNT FOR PAYMENT:

The following account was submitted for payment

*1. D. Tonks Ltd	Payroll Administration	£575.47
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*Payment by Direct Debit.

11. INSURANCE PREMIUM - RENEWAL.

The Clerk submitted details of the Parish Council's insurance quotation from Norwich Union for the period from 1st June 2014. and reported that the cost of

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renewing this would amount to £568.49 - compared with a figure of £548.34 for 2013/14 an increase of £19.75 since last year.

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

A sum of £650.00 had been included in the Parish Council's Estimates for this premium in 2014/15.

The quotation from Norwich Union was accepted and the premium of £568.29 paid and a cheque was signed.

12. AUDIT OF PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS:

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that the Audit for 2013/14 would take place on 10th June 2014.

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.

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 2014 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. VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

The Clerk submitted a letter from the Village Hall Management Committee indicating that the Committee was revising the Lease and Trust Deed to comply with current legislation.

The Parish Council currently had the right of nomination the Committee proposed to remove this right to allow for individuals to be elected.

The Parish Council agreed to rescind their right of nomination.

14. WAR MEMORIAL:

The Clerk reported that following discussions with The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) he had arranged for the cutting of the grass at the War Memorial by Mr. Savage the contractor who maintained the Pinfold.

The Clerk also reported that copies of the book by the local historian entitled War Memorials in Chorley could be obtained from The Chorley Remembers Project at Astley Hall.

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He also reported that correspondence had been sent to the de Hoghton Estate requesting their views on ownership.

It was suggested that the Estate be notified of the approximate cost of refurbishing the War Memorial.

The Clerk would contact the Estate again setting out the views of the Parish Council.

15. PRECEPT:

The Clerk reported receipt of the precept of £5000.00.

16. PINFOLD:

The Clerk reported that he had been informed that a hole had appeared on the Pinfold at the Riley Green end.

Councillor Peter would investigate this.

17. BRINDLE ST. JOSEPH`S COMMUNITY HALL:

The Clerk submitted a request from the Management Committee for a donation towards the refurbishment of the Hall.

The Parish Council would consider this request at their next meeting.

The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) declared a pecuniary interest in this matter and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 16th June 2014 at 7.45.pm at the Village Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.25. p.m.

**SIGNED
CHAIRMAN**

16TH JUNE 2014