

**DRAFT MINUTES OF 1017TH MEETING  
OF HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON 19TH NOVEMBER 2007  
AT THE VILLAGE HALL  
PRESENT: -**

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

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER A. CROW.**

**142. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE:**

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

**143. COUNCILLOR E. MILLER-CROOK:**

The Chairman welcomed back Councillor Miller-Crook following his recent illness.

**144. 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.

**145. MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 15th October 2007 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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

**146. POLICING REPORT:**

The Police Community Support Officer gave a report on policing for October and November 2007, during which time there had been four reported incidents. He also informed the Parish Council of forthcoming police activities.

The Chairman reported on the PACT Meetings held since the last meeting of the Parish Council. The Clerk also circulated the latest edition of the Police Newsletter.

**147. LAPTC REPORT:**

The Clerk submitted the November Newsletter giving details of the next best kept village competition, the Annual Report of the Association salary increases and mileage allowances.

The Chairman and Councillors Sharratt and Urry reported on the Annual General Meeting of the Association held on 3rd November 2007.

**148. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:**

**(A). TRAFFIC SCHEME – HOGHTON LANE:**

The Clerk reported on the current progress regarding the implementation of the scheme following the objections made to the Traffic Regulation Order. The County Council had indicated that the objection made by the Parish Council would be considered by the Lancashire Local – Chorley at its next meeting.

The Chairman also reported the comments of The Environment Director to Lindsay Hoyle MP regarding the recent fatal accident and the latest position regarding the implementation of the scheme.

**(B). LAND ADJACENT TO THE BOARS HEAD:**

The tenant of the Boars Head had made arrangements to cut the brambles at the appropriate time. The de Hoghton Estate had been notified of the present position.

**(C) FOOTPATH NO 5:**

The repaired footpath was now well used. The replacement gates had been ordered and these would be erected as soon as possible. The County Council would be responsible for the future maintenance of the footpath

**(D). GIB LANE:**

The County Council had agreed to take responsibility for the lamp post at Bell Villas and arrange for it to be repaired. The Vice Chairman reported that the lamp was still out. The Clerk would contact the County Lighting Division about this.

**(E) GRASS CUTTING:**

Councillor Miller Crook queried the quality of the grass cutting service and suggested the use of ride on mowers. Further down Hoghton Lane in South Ribble ride on mowers were used but not in Hoghton . It was agreed to ask the County Council why there was a difference.

**(F). 40 MPH SIGN RILEY GREEN:**

The sign was leaning and required urgent attention. The Clerk would contact the Area County Surveyor about this.

**(G) STATION ROAD - SIGN:**

This sign was leaning and badly damaged. The Clerk would contact Chorley Council about this.

**(H) ROAD MARKINGS – MOTORWAY ROUNDABOUT:**

The Highways Agency had still not painted road markings on the roundabout to the M65 at Riley Green despite promises to do so. The Clerk would contact them about this.

**(I) FOOTPATH REAR OF HOGHTON LANE:**

The stiles to this footpath prevented easy access for the disabled and the path itself required attention. The Clerk would notify the Footpaths Officer.

**149. CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:**

The Chairman reported on issues affecting the Parish Council.

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**150. PLANNING REPORT:**

The Clerk reported that the application for the single storey extensions to the front side and rear at Newlands Quaker Brook Lane (app no 07/1002/FUL applicants Mr and Mrs Heeney) had been withdrawn.

The following applications had been submitted to Chorley Council since the last meeting:-

1. Erection of two storey rear extension 1-2 Spring Bank Cottages Viaduct Road (App no 07/01081/FUL). Applicant Mr. Quail.
2. Emergency repair/rebuilding one flue chimney stack and lead repairs behind single flue chimney stack on west range and repairs and minor rebuilding work to two single chimney stacks on south wing Hoghton Tower Blackburn Old Road (App no 07/01141/LBC) Applicants Hoghton Towers Preservation Trust.

*Councillor T. Sharratt declared a prejudicial interest in these applications and did not speak or vote thereon.*

3. Replacement of modern patio doors with European oak screen School House Blackburn Old Road (App No 07/01120/LBC) Applicant Mr Hantom.

The Parish Council made no observations on these applications.

**151. ACCOUNT FOR PAYMENT:**

The following account was submitted for payment

1 J. Whiteside	Repairs to walls at Village Hall and the Pinfold	£474.49
2. P. Whitehead	Cleaning of War Memorial	£80.00
3. H. Holmes Florists	Wreath – Remembrance Sunday	£35.00
4. S.Ormerod	Maintenance Work War Memorial	£97.00

The accounts were agreed and cheques signed.

**152. PARISH COUNCIL ESTIMATES 2008/09:**

The Clerk submitted a report (circulated) dealing with the Parish Council's Estimates for 2008/09, the report gave details of actual spending in 2006/07 together with an update of spending in the current financial year and set out the proposed estimated spending for 2008/2009.

It was agreed: - That the Estimates for 2008/09 as set out below be approved and that the Parish Council's precept on Chorley Borough Council for 2008/09 amount to £4,250.00

**ESTIMATES 2008/09**

LAST 2006/07	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	CURRENT YEAR 2007/08		ESTIMATE 2008/09
			ORIGINAL £	TO 2008 MARCH £	
ACTUAL £					
RECEIPTS					

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4115.34	B/FWD	2743.89	2743.89	1885.26
3,500.00	PRECEPT	4000.00	4000.00	TO BE DECIDED
49.32	VAT	61.66	61.66	65.00
74.12	INTEREST	60.00	60.00	70.00.
7738.78	TOTAL RECEIPTS	6865.55	6865.55	2020.26
PAYMENTS				
825.00.	CLERK – SALARY	1250.00	1250.00	1250.00
201.12.	EXPENSES	250.00	300.00	300.00
635.00	GRANTS AND DONATIONS INCLUDING SECTION 137 PAYMENTS	700.00	700.00	700.00
652.08	BENCH	NIL	NIL	NIL
640.26	INSURANCE	700.00.	688.36.	720.00
1381.00	REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	1179.00	1100.00	750.00
180.74	FEEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS	280.00	200.00	250.00
58.75	AUDIT FEES	59.00	58.75	59.00
102.96	PHONE RENTAL	170.00	200.00	250.00
90.00	HIRE OF ROOMS	90.00	129.00	90.00
123.40	STATIONERY AND EQUIPMENT	140.00	155.25	200.00
NIL	TRAINING	NIL	NIL	50.00
30.00	WREATH	30.00	30.00	35.00
75.00	COMPUTER RENTAL	100.00	100.00	100.00
NIL	ELECTIONS	NIL	NIL	400.00
4995.31.	TOTAL	5171.00	4933.86	5154.00

**153. GRANTS  
(A) BRINDLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY:**

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The Clerk resubmitted the application for grant from Bindle Historical Society together with the Society`s Annual Accounts.

*Councillors Proctor and Sharratt declared a prejudicial interest as Members of the Society and did not speak or vote on this matter.*

A grant of £50.00 was agreed and a cheque was signed.

**(B). AUTUMN CLUB**

A request was submitted from Chairlady of the Autumn Club for a donation towards their funds.

*The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) declared a prejudicial interest in this matter and vacated the Chair. The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) took the chair during consideration of this application.*

The Parish Council agreed a donation of £40.00 and a cheque was signed.

*The Chairman returned to the chair at this point.*

**(C). NORTH WEST AIR AMBULANCE:**

The Air Ambulance North West had requested a donation. It was agreed to donate £100.00 to the Air Ambulance and a cheque was signed.

**(D). DONATION - CARE VILLAGE:**

The Chairman reported that CARE had done some work at the War Memorial. Mr. Ormerod had also reported that CARE had cut the grass despite him doing it for the last few months.

It was agreed to donate £30.00 to CARE in respect of the work carried out and that the Clerk should ascertain the reasons why they had recommenced work at the War Memorial.

**154. BENCH – POST OFFICE:**

The Chairman reported that Chorley Council had agreed to donate a bench to be sited on land near the Post Office on Hoghton Lane. The de Hoghton Estate as landowner had given permission for the siting of the bench subject to:-

1. The bench being a traditional wooden bench.
2. No costs falling on the Estate
3. The Parish Council being responsible for its future maintenance and repair.
4. The Parish Council to indemnify the Estate against any claims arising.
5. That the consent of the tenant being obtained.

The Parish Council agreed to comply with all these conditions. The Chairman would now make arrangements for the supply of the bench. The Clerk would send a letter of thanks to Chorley Council for the supply of the bench and inform the De Hoghton Estate that the Parish Council complied with all the conditions requested and arrange for the bench to be included in the Council`s Insurance Cover.

**155 WREATH LAYING CEREMONY SUNDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2007:**

The Parish Council reviewed the arrangements for Remembrance Day. The general arrangements, police presence and provision of the wreath all merited favourable

comment. The Chairman complimented Mr Ormerod and Mr. Whitehead on the quality of the work they had done.

The Clerk would send letters of thanks to the police, Mr Ormerod and Mr. Whitehead.

**156. DOG FOULING:**

The Clerk reported the current position regarding the installation of the dog fouling bins.

**157. BOROUGH/PARISH LIAISON COMMITTEE:**

The Chairman reported on the meeting of the Liaison Committee held on 17th October 2007.

**158. CHORLEY EAST COMMUNITY FORUM:**

Councillor Ms Urry reported on the meeting of the Forum held on 14th November 2007 when discussion took place on changes to the recycling service in 2009 and the problems of Back Garden Developments.

**159. FAMILY CAROL SERVICE:**

The Parish Council had been invited to the Fire Authority Carol Service at Blackburn Cathedral on 5th December 2007 at 7.30 p.m.

**160. RIVER DARWEN – WATER QUALITY:**

The Environment Agency reported that there was a slight improvement in the water quality of River Darwen at Hoghton Bottoms. Councillor Ms Urry referred to the water quality of the River Blakewater. Councillor Sharratt recommended that the Parish Council should apply for Membership of the Ribble Forum.

The Clerk would take the necessary action and send a copy of the report on the River Darwen to Councillor Sharratt.

**161. CHORLEY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK:**

Chorley Council submitted two documents. One for submission to the Secretary of State referring to policies to reduce carbon emissions and promote reuse and recycling through controls over new development and the generation of electricity through renewable energy sources. The Parish Council had previously considered the draft version. The consultation period lasted from 17 October to 28 November. Councillor Ms Urry asked about the use of domestic wind turbines on private dwellings.

The other was a further draft of the householder design guidance to assist those who wish to extend a residential dwelling and promote a higher standard of design. The consultation period lasts from 7 November to 5 December.

The Parish Council noted the documents.

**162. LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL RECEPTION FOR PARISH COUNCILS:**

The Chairman had been invited to the County Council evening reception for Parish Councils at County Hall on Thursday 29th November 2007 which he had accepted.

**163. LANCASHIRE LOCAL – CHORLEY:**

The Chairman reported on the meeting of the Lancashire Local – Chorley held on held on 31st October 2007.

**164. CENTRAL LANCASHIRE GROUP:**

The organization had asked for comments on a paper dealing with how different places within the area would function in the future and suggested three different approaches as to how new growth could best be accommodated within the central Lancashire Area. Views were required by 14 December. They were also asking for views on a Central Lancashire Growth point which was a government initiative to increase housing in areas best able to accommodate growth.

The Parish Council made no observations on the proposals.

**165. WAR MEMORIAL INSURANCE CLAIM:**

The Clerk reported that the repair work to the War Memorial had been completed at a cost of £950.00 the Council's Insurers had agreed to meet the cost subject to the Parish Council paying an excess of £125.00.

This was agreed and a cheque was signed.

**166. CHORLEY AND SOUTH RIBBLE COMPACT:**

Chorley and South Ribble Councils were reviewing the "Working Together Compact" established in 2005 and had sent a questionnaire asking for the views of the Parish Council. The Clerk would respond.

**167. PARISH COUNCIL MENTORING:**

Chorley Standards Committee had appointed a Standards Mentor for Houghton he was District Councillor McGowan – the Borough Councillor for Chorley South East. He would contact the Council to arrange a time for a meeting with the Council.

**168. MERSEY BASIN CAMPAIGN:**

The Parish Council had been invited to the Annual Conference on 13th December 2007 at the Bridgewater Hall Salford. The invitation was declined.

**169. LANCASHIRE LOCAL CLIMATE CHANGE FUND:**

The County Council had sent further information regarding grants available under this fund.

**170. CPRE ANNUAL REPORT:**

The Clerk circulated the Annual Report of the Lancashire Branch of the CPRE.

**171. TREE WARDENS:**

The Clerk had consulted Councillor Ms Urry regarding a training course for tree wardens but she had not been able to attend because of short notice. There were continuing problems with Chorley Council regarding the training she confirmed she still wished to have the required training. The Clerk would inform Chorley Council.

**172. VILLAGE HALL AND COMMUNITY CENTRE CAPITAL FUND:**

The Clerk reported the establishment of this fund. The Chairman had passed details to the Village Hall Management Committee.

**173. LOCAL PLAN REVIEW – SAVED POLICIES:**

The Chorley Council had reviewed the Local Development Plan and had been informed that it could retain certain policies by the Government. Others would be deleted and a list of those to be deleted was circulated.

The report was noted.

**174. BULBS:**

Chorley Council had offered to donate daffodil bulbs for planting in areas of the Parish. The offer was accepted and the Clerk would make the necessary arrangements.

**175. SOUTH EAST LANCASHIRE RAIL ACTION PARTNERSHIP:**

Councillor Sharratt reported that this organisation was campaigning to reopen the Colne to Skipton section of the East Lancashire railway line through to Yorkshire and he recommended that the Parish Council support the campaign which if successful could enhance the possibility of a Rail Halt for Hoghton. The Clerk would write a letter of support to the organisation

**176. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

Monday 21st January 2008 at 7.30. pm. at the Village Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.35. p.m.

**SIGNED  
CHAIRMAN**

**21st January 2008**