

MINUTES OF 1037TH MEETING OF HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 19TH OCTOBER 2009 AT THE VILLAGE HALL

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: MS. S. LINLEY AND MR. J. PEET – NEIGHBOURHOOD OFFICERS CHORLEY, MS. S. COOPER CHORLEY COUNCIL EXTERNAL FUNDING OFFICER AND MR D.MCQUEEN WIGAN AND CHORLEY GROUNDWORK TRUST, AND ONE MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC

1. WELCOME:

The Chairman on behalf of the Parish Council welcomed Ms S. Cooper Chorley Council External Funding Officer and Mr. D. McQueen Wigan and Chorley Groundwork Trust to the meeting.

CHORLEY COUNCIL RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT:

Prior to the meeting officers from Chorley Council and Groundwork Trust made a presentation on the use of renewable energy and suggested that a pilot project could be undertaken in Hoghton.

A letter had been circulated to all local residents inviting them public meeting which would be held in the Village Hall on 22nd October 2009.

The officers were thanked for their presentation.

The Parish Council then commenced the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillor Ms Urry and District Councillor C. Hoyle.

3. COUNCILLOR MS URRY:

Councillor Proctor reported that Councillor Ms Urry had recently been admitted to hospital for tests.

The Parish Council would send her a letter wishing her a speedy recovery.

4. 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.

5. MINUTES:

- **(H(HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL – 19TH OCTOBER 2009)**

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 21st September 2009 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

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

A. TREES – HOGHTON LANE:

The Member of the Public reported that following discussions with the Chairman the owner of the land opposite his property was making arrangements for the trees to be cut back which would allow him to use the traffic mirror properly.

THERE WERE NO FURTHER MATTERS AND THE PARISH COUNCIL CONTINUED WITH THE AGENDA.

7. POLICE REPORT:

In the absence of the Police the Clerk circulated a copy of the police newsletter for September 2009 which showed that there had been one reported incident of crime during the period. The Chairman referred to the recent burglary at Arkenfield Riding Centre. Councillor Sharratt also commented on the matter.

The Clerk reported that the working arrangements for the Community Beat Manager had changed.

The Chairman reported the proposed closure of Wheelton Police Station.

8. LALC REPORT:

The Clerk submitted the current Newsletter and reported that the Lancashire County Council/Parish Council Conference would be held on 21st November 2009 at County Hall. The Chairman would attend.

9. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:

HOGHTON LANE - TRAFFIC SPEEDS:

Following the last meeting when the traffic speeds on Hoghton Lane had been discussed again the Clerk had informed the Parish Council that he had asked the Road Safety Partnership to consider putting Hoghton Lane on a list of roads in the County where it was intended to provide mobile speed enforcement cameras in 2010/2011.

The County Council had replied that they were to undertake a speed survey on the Blackburn Old Road (A657) and had requested more specific information as to exactly where the problem was to ensure that the monitoring equipment was placed in the correct location. An automatic traffic counter was frequently used at a site on this road (A675) at The Straits. This counting box was sited approximately 1 Km from where the road became Blackburn Old Road and it was possible that this site would provide relevant data to the location about which there was concern.

Following discussions with the Chairman the County Council was currently undertaking a survey of traffic speeds. The Clerk would ask for the results of the survey once completed.

(HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL – 19TH OCTOBER 2009)

Councillor Proctor indicated that traffic speed strips were located all over the County, it was understood that these were in connection with a study of traffic volumes.

With regard to the branches of a tree which obscured the speed limit sign at Park Gates the tree had been cut back.

(B) FOOTWAY – PARK GATES:

An inspection of the footway had been carried out by Highway Inspectors and further developments were awaited.

(C) FOOTPATH – BRINDLE LODGE:

The Public Rights of Way Supervisor had met the local landowner and he had agreed to work being carried out but the County Council was now recommending that this footpath be upgraded to a bridleway. It was pointed out that the footpath was actually located in Brindle and it was suggested that this proposal be reported to them for attention.

Ms Linley left the meeting at this point

(D) SALT BINS:

The County Council had completed its assessment of the current state of salt bin provision, and a report on this would be submitted to the November meeting of the Lancashire Local – Chorley. There was concern that the damaged bins at Hoghton Bottoms would not be replaced before the winter.

County Councillor Devaney had informed the Clerk that the assessment was due to be published at the beginning of November and he would inform the Parish Council of the decisions made.

(D) DOG BIN – HOGHTON BOTTOMS:

The dog bin had not yet been re-sited, the Neighbourhood Officer would contact the Dog Warden Service about this.

(E) LITTER PICK:

The Neighbourhood Officer had recently undertaken a further litter pick of the Parish and would continue to make regular inspections to see if further litter picks were required.

(F) HOGWEED - FINNINGTON LANE:

The hogweed had now been removed.

(G) OVERGROWN BRANCHES – DOVER LANE:

The Chairman had reported that the overgrown branches of a tree in Dover Lane had been cut back following a request to the Environment Directorate.

(H) FOOTPATHS - HOGHTON BOTTOMS:

At the last meeting Councillor Sharratt reported the postponement of the work to the footpaths. County Councillor Devaney had informed the Clerk that the `Public Rights of Way Section` had asked the Highways Engineers to organise the design and re-construction of two washed-out sections of footpath 13.

- **(H(HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL – 19TH OCTOBER 2009))**

The process had begun with a site visit and discussions with local residents. The intention was to involve the local community in a proposed design in association with Lancashire County Council, the Environment Agency and the Mersey Basin group.

The earliest date for the works taking place was January 2010, this would be dependant on weather, landowner and Environment Agency consents.

(J). TRAFFIC SURVEY:

At the last meeting Councillor Ms Urry had reported that a traffic survey had been carried out at Riley green but she was not aware of the reasons.

The Clerk had contacted the Environment Directorate about this and it was understood that it was in connection with a major survey of traffic volumes on roads within the County.

(K). QUAKER BROOK LANE:

The Chairman reported that the condition of the road surface in Quaker Brook Lane was deteriorating.

The Clerk would ask the Environment Directorate to take any necessary action.

(L). GIB LANE – STREET LIGHTS:

The Vice Chairman (Councillor Greenwood) reported that many of the street lights in Gib Lane were obscured by trees and did not give off adequate light.

The Clerk would ask the Environment Directorate to take any necessary action.

10. CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:

The Chairman reported on issues affecting the Parish Council.

11. PLANNING REPORT:

The following decision on the undermentioned applications had been taken since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

DECISION:

1. Pruning of 2 Oak Trees covered by TPO 1 (Hoghton) 1969 24 Fowler Close App no 09/00589/TPO Applicant Mr. Deakin. Approved.

APPLICATION:

The following application had been received since the last meeting of the Parish Council and details had been circulated to all Members.

1. Proposed replacement dwelling Gatesgarth Quaker Brook Lane
App no 09/00572/FUL Applicants – Mr McDonnell.

This was a revised application following discussions with officers from Chorley Council.

No observations were made on the application.

12. ACCOUNT FOR PAYMENT:

The following account was submitted for payment

1 Village Hall	Hire of room July and September 2009	£18.00
----------------	--------------------------------------	--------

--	--	--

The Account was agreed and a cheque signed.

13. HALF YEARLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

The Clerk submitted a half-yearly financial statement (circulated) to 30th September 2009 indicating deposits of £5622.17 and expenditure of £2813.41 leaving a balance of £2808.76. A forward projection of expenditure the year-end amounted to £3965.91 and an estimated balance of £1656.26. The financial statement was accepted referred to the Independent Internal Auditor and the Accounts Book was signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

14. GRANT APPLICATIONS- LETTERS OF THANKS:

The Clerk submitted letters of thanks from the Hoghton District Rainbow Guide Leader for its contribution towards their Centenary Event and Chorley and South Ribble Shopmobility for the donation to its running costs.

15. WREATH LAYING CEREMONY SUNDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 2009:

The Parish Council had received an invitation from the Churchwardens of Holy Trinity Church for the Parish Council to attend the Remembrance Day Service. The arrangements for the wreath laying ceremony were as in previous years. The party would assemble on the car park of Holy Trinity Church leaving at 9.50 a.m. to walk in procession down to the cenotaph for a short service. After the Act of Remembrance the party would return to the church for the service at 10 30 a.m. The Chairman of the Parish Council would read a lesson during the service. The Clerk would arrange for the wreath. The Clerk had contacted Mr Ormerod to ask him to tidy up the War Memorial before the Remembrance Day Service and asked Chorley Council to arrange for the road to be swept. The Police had also been asked to control the event.

The Clerk also reported an invitation form the Mayor of Chorley for Members of the Parish Council to attend the Remembrance Day Ceremony in Chorley.

16. BOROUGH/PARISH LIAISON COMMITTEE:

The Chairman reported on the meeting of the Liaison Committee held on 14th October 2009.

17. PINFOLD:

The Parish Council had contacted the de Hoghton Estate about the lease of the Pinfold and this was being considered.

Ms Linley the Neighbourhood Officer reported on the timescale involved in the development of the scheme for the tidying up of the land.

Councillor Peter would speak to Sir Bernard de Hoghton to see if an agreement could be reached quickly so that any money allocated to the Pinfold under the Neighbourhood Action plan would not be lost.

18. NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PLAN – BRINDLE AND HOGHTON:

The Neighbourhood Officer gave an update of the programme for the implementation of the plan including grant aid for the Village Hall and developments at the Pinfold.

19. FINNINGTON LANE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE:

- **(H(HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL – 19TH OCTOBER 2009)**

The Neighbourhood Officer reported that Chorley Council had contacted other agencies regarding the tidying up of the site and no action would be taken at this time as the units were still in use and no danger to the general public but the site would continue to be monitored.

20. PARISH CHAMPION:

The Clerk had contacted the new Parish Council's Champion and he would attend a future meeting of the Parish Council.

21. LAND AT THE BOARS HEAD CAR PARK:

The Chairman reported that he had been informed that Lancashire County Council had agreed to undertake a small countryside improvement scheme on the land at the end of the former Council Yard which now formed part of the Boars Head Car Park. This would consist of clearing the site and planting trees. Thereafter the County Council would maintain the land for a period of two years after which time it would revert to the Brewery.

22. SELRAP CONFERENCE:

The Clerk reported details of a conference on transport organised by SELRAP.

23. EQUALITY FORUM:

The Clerk reported that this forum had been arranged for the same evening as the Parish Council meeting and no representative from the Parish Council would attend.

24. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 16th November 2009 at 7.30.pm at the Village Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.05. p.m.

**SIGNED
CHAIRMAN**

16TH NOVEMBER 2009