

MINUTES OF 1048TH MEETING OF HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 18TH OCTOBER 2010 AT THE VILLAGE HALL

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillors J. Proctor, N. Peter, and Ms M.Urry.

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 20th September 2010 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:

The Clerk reported that there had been two incidents of reported crime during the period. These were that 2 cars were broken into on the same night, in both instances a coat was taken, in both cases the thief carefully emptied the pockets and left the contents in the car.

At the PACT Meeting on 5th October 2010 it was reported that Police Constable Evans was back from his course.

Most Constabulary plans were on hold pending the spending review outcome, the police expected to have to save £50m over 3 years, Lancashire's Chief Constable said protecting frontline services was his priority

PCSO's were safe until the end of March 2011. Thereafter it depended on local government funding which depended on the October 2010 spending review.

Pc Evans was now trained to deploy the SPID, (rules state that 2 officers required, use vehicle to protect site, 1 officer to hold 3 rung ladder whilst 2nd officer works on SPID)

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Councillor Sharratt reported on the PACT meeting on 6th October 2010 when there had been discussion on the Air Support Unit.

6. LALC REPORT:

The Clerk submitted the current Newsletter which included details of the details of Internet Week and a report on the future of the Standards Framework for Members

7. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:

(A). SALT BINS:

The Clerk circulated a copy of the question asked at the recent meeting of the County Council regarding the timing of filling of salt bins.

When it was stated that the re-filling of grit bins took place as close to the onset of cold weather as possible, normally in October.

This year, a mix of salt and grit was being used in grit bins for the first time. The material was mixed at the Myerscough Smithy salt store, Samlesbury.

For existing grit bins the re-filling process had already started with the aim to have bins filled by 15th October 2010. Any bins that were found to be badly damaged or missing were being replaced and then filled immediately thereafter and it was anticipated that this will be completed by the end of October.

Any new grit bins would also be placed and filled before the end of October.

(B) PILOT SCHEME FOR GRIT BINS PROVISION.

The Clerk referred to the LALC Consultation letter which he had previously circulated regarding the introduction of a pilot scheme by the County Council to assist with winter gritting. The pilot envisaged that where parishes indicated their willingness they would be provided with a lockable grit box and a supply of sand/grit.

However, it was felt that further clarification was required on the scheme. LALC had responded that it was necessary to identify suitable locations that it would be necessary to seek a volunteer to spread the grit and the Parish Council would have to insure this person.

The Clerk circulated a report setting out the advice of the Council's Insurers on the operation and use of grit bins.

The Parish Council felt that on the basis of the information provided it did not wish to participate in the pilot scheme for the provision of grit bins.

Councillor Sharratt reported that at a meeting with the Environment Directorate he had asked for clarification on the County Councils statutory responsibilities regarding highways. He would inform the Parish Council once he had received a reply.

(C). HOGHTON LANE:

The resurfacing of the footpaths had taken place.

(D) QUAKER BROOK LANE - HEDGE:

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) reported hedges on Quaker Brook Lane had been cut and visibility for motorists improved.

(E) HOGHTON BOTTOMS – FOOTPATH RESTORATION

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Councillor Sharratt referred to the work being done to the footpaths at Hoghton Bottoms. He had written to the Chairman about the problems for horse riders and asked for the footpath to be confirmed as a bridleway.

The Clerk had informed Councillor Sharratt of response of the County Council he had written to the Clerk with his observations on the comments and asked the Clerk to seek the further views of the County Council.

The County Council officers had suggested that a site meeting should be held with the Parish Council. Councillor Sharratt also suggested that County Councillor Devaney should attend as well as a representative from the public who regularly used the footpath for horse riding.

The Parish Council agreed that an application should be made to upgrade the footpath to a bridleway, that a site visit should be held and the Clerk would make the arrangements.

(F) SPEED LIMIT SIGNS:

The Clerk reported that he had been informed that the speed limit signs at Riley Green and Finnington Lane had now been repainted with the appropriate speed limit.

(G) ROAD CLOSURE ORDER:

Following Councillor Sharratt`s comments at the last meeting the Clerk had contacted the County Council regarding the validity of the Order.

The County Council had replied that Private Road was shown as Mintholme Road on the relevant County Maps.

The Clerk had asked for the Maps to be amended to show the road as Private Road.

It was also reported that the suggested diversion was inappropriate for heavy goods vehicles and the Highway Authority had been informed.

(H). TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE – M65 JUNCTION 2 AND 3:

The Clerk reported that the M65 would be closed between junction 2 and 3 crossing to traffic from 10.00 p.m. on Monday 15th November to 5.30a.m. on Tuesday 16th November 2010 to allow for the installation of a new sign.

The alternative route would be via the westbound carriage way of the M65 to the roundabout at the B5257, from there northbound on London Way (A6) to the A657 Victoria Road then eastbound on the A675 to Junction3 of the M65.

(I) GIB LANE:

A local resident had asked the Chairman to arrange for the repair of streetlight 24 opposite Bell Villas. The Chairman reported that the County Council had repaired this street light and another one at Bell Villas.

Another resident had commented to the Chairman on the speed of traffic using Gib Lane and in particular near the railway bridge bend. He had asked for Slow Markings to be painted on the carriageway at either side of the bridge. The Vice Chairman (Councillor Green wood) reminded the

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Parish Council that there had been Slow markings in this location in the past but these had been covered over.

The Clerk had asked the County Council to consider the repainting of the Slow markings by the Railway Bridge.

(J). HEDGES – STATION ROAD:

Councillor Baldwin reported that the hedges on the footpath at Station Road needed cutting back.

The Clerk would request the appropriate authority to arrange for this to be done.

8. CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:

The Chairman reported on issues affecting the Parish Council.

9. PLANNING REPORT:

(A). DECISION:

The planning application for the erection of a single storey side/rear extension to create additional living space 42 Fowler Close (App no 10/00570/FUL) Applicant Mr and Mrs. Waddington. had been granted.

(B). APPLICATION:

The following applications had been received since the last meeting of the Parish Council copies had been circulated to all members.

1. Erection of a single storey rear extension to create an extended kitchen 13 Chapel Lane (App no10/ 00851/FUL) Applicant Mr Mocom.

No observations were made on this application

10. ACCOUNT FOR PAYMENT:

The following account was submitted for payment

1 Village Hall	Hire of room July and September 2010	£20.00
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The Account was agreed and a cheque signed.

11. HALF YEARLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

The Clerk submitted a half-yearly financial statement (circulated) to 30th September 2010 indicating deposits of £7772.00 and expenditure of £3168.34 leaving a balance of £4603.66. A forward projection of expenditure the year-end amounted to £6283.00 and an estimated balance of £1489.00. The financial statement was accepted referred to the Independent Internal Auditor and the Accounts Book was signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

12. GRANT – AUTUMN CLUB:

The Clerk submitted a request from Secretary of the Autumn Club for a donation to the Club funds.

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

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) declared a prejudicial interest in this matter in view of his connection with the Autumn Club and left the room.

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The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) took the place of the Chairman whilst this matter was being discussed.

The Chairman returned to the room at this point.

13. PINFOLD:

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

14. BOROUGH PARISH LIAISON:

The Clerk reported that the next meeting of the Borough/ Parish Liaison Committee would be held on Wednesday 20th October 2010. The Chairman and Councillor Ms Urry would attend.

15. WREATH LAYING CEREMONY SUNDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2010:

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, Mr Fowler regarding the locating of the board for the wreaths and asked Chorley Council to arrange for the road to be swept. The Police had also been asked to control the event.

16. WAR MEMORIAL:

The Clerk reported that he was now in consultation with the project manager of the Chorley Remembers Project regarding the funding of work at the War Memorial.

Councillor Sharratt referred to the ceremony he had attended on 15th October 2010 regarding the Chorley Remembers Project.

17. EQUALITY FORUM:

The Chairman and Councillor Ms Urry reported on the Forum meeting held on 6th October 2010.

18. PUBLIC TRANSPORT TO CHORLEY:

The Chairman gave an update on the operation of this service which had been raised at the Equality Forum meeting.

Councillor Sharratt reported on the discussions he had had regarding the lack of publicity about the service and the state of the information leaflets.

County Councillor Devaney had been sent leaflets about the service but the information was poorly presented and did not give any details of the fares for the journey.

19. STANDARDS FRAMEWORK:

The Clerk circulated a copy of the latest information from LALC regarding the proposals for the future of the Standards Framework in England.

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Councillor Sharratt expressed his concerns about the proposals. However, the abolition of the Standards Board had not appeared in any list issued by the Government regarding the reductions in Government Bodies.

The Clerk would contact LALC to find out what the situation was.

20. FOOTPATH – PARISH CHURCH

The Chairman reported that this footpath was overgrown. The Clerk had reported it to the Footpaths Officer.

21. TYRES – PRIVATE ROAD:

The Chairman had reported that tyres had been dumped in a gateway on Private Road this had been reported to Chorley Council and they had been removed,

22. BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION:

The Clerk reported the results of the competition. The Parish Council congratulated Brindle Parish Council on the success of the Community Hall in winning two trophies in the Certificate of Merit Competition.

23. CHORLEY CIVIC SOCIETY AWARDS 2010:

Councillor Sharratt reported he had attended the Awards Ceremony on 30th September 2010 and was impressed with the work of the Society. He recommended continued support for the Civic Society in the future.

24. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 15th November 2010 at 7.30.pm at the Village Hall

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.45. p.m.

**SIGNED
CHAIRMAN**

15TH NOVEMBER 2010.