

**HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL- 22ND OCTOBER 2012**  
**MINUTES OF 1070TH MEETING OF**  
**HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON 22ND OCTOBER 2012**  
**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:** POLICE COMMUNITY BEAT MANAGER P. HARRISON.

**1. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE:**

An apology for absence was submitted from County Councillor Devaney

**2. COUNCILLOR J. PROCTOR:**

The Chairman referred to the recent death of Parish Councillor J. Proctor and referred to his long service on the Parish Council. All present stood silent for a few moments as a mark of respect.

**3. POLICE COMMUNITY BEAT MANAGER:**

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) welcomed PC Paul Harrison the new Police Community Beat Manager who was attending his first meeting of the Parish Council.

**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. No one made a declaration at this stage.

**5. MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 17th September 2012 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. AS THERE WERE NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT THE PARISH COUNCIL CONTINUED WITH THE BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA.**

**7. POLICE REPORT:**

**(A) IN THE KNOW NEWSLETTER:**

Police Community Beat Manager Harrison circulated a copy of the September local newsletter, showing one reported incident of crime during September.

Councillor Ms Urry informed the Parish Council of a road traffic accident which was thought to have occurred at the junction of Station Road and the A675. The police did not have any information on the incident.

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She also asked for any information on the appointment of a Police Commissioner for Lancashire.

It was understood that further information was being circulated by the Government.

Councillor Sharratt expressed his concerns about the proposal and considered that there were no genuinely independent candidates.

### **(B) TRAFFIC SPEEDS:**

The Clerk asked the police for an update on the monitoring of traffic speeds on Gib Lane and Hoghton Lane.

PCBM Harrison would contact the traffic unit about this.

Councillor Sharratt informed the Parish Council of the proposed introduction of a 20 mph limit by St Patrick's RC School Walton le Dale which would mean there were three different speed limits in just over half a mile.

The Clerk was awaiting information regarding the review of speed limits on the A675 in Hoghton by the County Council.

### **(C) POLICE AIR SUPPORT PACT MEETING :**

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) reported on the Police Air Support Unit PACT Meeting held on Thursday 27th September 2012 at the Black Horse Hotel Gregson Lane.

Councillor Ms Urry reported on the effect of the proposed merger of the Air Support Units in Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Merseyside.

She also reported on the need to publicise the work of the Unit in local schools and to other organisations.

### **(D) CONSUMER ALERTS – TRADING STANDARDS:**

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

### **(E) RURAL WATCH:**

The Clerk reported on the Rural Watch Meeting held at the Community Hall Brindle on 3rd September 2012.

He also referred a Police a Rural Crime Workshop held on Friday 12th October at Myerscough College.

### **(F) RELOCATION:**

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that the police staff had now relocated to Clayton Brook. Their new address was Clayton Brook Village Centre Neighbourhood Policing Team Office . Phone number 01772 315749.

### **8. LALC REPORT:**

The Clerk submitted the current newsletter .

He reported on the meeting of the Three Tier Forum held on 11th September 2012 when the following issues had been discussed:-

#### **(i). 2012/13 QUARTER 1 ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD.**

It was suggested that more regular cleaning of gullies, particularly in areas prone to flooding, would reduce flooding. It was noted that whilst the cleaning of gullies was a matter for the County Council the Borough Council would clean any weeds etc from

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gutters.

### **(ii) 2013/14 ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE DRAFT CAPITAL PROGRAMME:**

The Forum considered a prioritised list of proposed capital schemes and associated estimated costs. It was also suggested that the proposed programme be shared with other members of the Borough Council and Parish Councils in order that consideration could be given to potential schemes.

The following schemes in Hoghton had been selected.

11	A6061 Green Road	Riley Switch	Carriageway Surface Dressing 2 Layer	A675 Bolton Road to No 39 230m	£9,030
15	A6061 Green Road	Riley Switch	Carriageway Surface Dressing	No 39, 160m East	£6,600

The Parish Council had been asked to notify the Parish Council representative on the Forum of any local schemes not included in the list.

It was suggested that Station Road/The Straits and Quaker Brook Lane should be put forward.

## **9. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:**

### **(A). QUAKER BROOK LANE:**

#### **(i) RESURFACING:**

It was reported that there had been no progress on the suggested resurfacing of Quaker Brook Lane.

#### **(ii) POTHOLE**

At the last meeting Councillor Sharratt reported that another large hole had appeared, he had not reported this as he expected resurfacing work to begin. The Clerk would contact County Councillor Devaney once again about the resurfacing work and the Environment Directorate about the pothole.

#### **(iii) 20 MPH ZONE:**

The Clerk reported that to date no decision had been made on the introduction of a 20 mph limit

#### **(iv). SEWER WORK:**

At the last meeting it was reported that sewer work was carried out at the end of August and this had caused disruption to traffic. The County Highways Department had been asked to look into this and the work had now been completed. Concern was expressed that the Parish Council had not been notified about this work prior to its commencement.

The Clerk had contacted the County Council about the lack of consultation.

They had replied that they endeavoured to inform people what was happening and relied on the contractor to do so, who on this occasion made no effort what so ever. They ask that contractors plan works and were considerate to residents and road users in the adjacent areas, however some contractors were more pro active than others. They had apologised to the Parish Council and would endeavour to work closer with utility contractors to ensure they were complying with their requests to communicate in the future.

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

It was reported at the last meeting County Councillor Devaney had undertaken a site inspection with the Woodlands Officer regarding the tree which was leaning across the road and was in danger of falling down. A survey report was awaited.

The Clerk would contact County Councillor Devaney regarding the outcome of the survey.

### **(E). OVERGROWN HEDGE – CHAPEL LANE:**

At a previous meeting the Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) reported that he had received a complaint from a local resident that the hedge on Chapel Lane was overgrown causing pedestrians to walk in the road. The Clerk had notified Chorley Council but no work had been done.

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) would speak to Chorley Council about the cutting back of the hedge.

### **(F) GULLEY - CHAPEL LANE:**

At the last meeting Councillor Peter reported problems with the gulley near the entrance to Chapel Lane. This was a three hundred year old gulley and the County Council had not maintained it properly.

The Vice Chairman (Councillor Greenwood) confirmed that there had been severe flooding in this area because of the gulley.

The Clerk had asked the Environment Directorate to take appropriate action following consultation with Councillor Peter.

Councillor Peter reported that he had spoken to an officer from the County Council and the gulley had been inspected and barriers placed round it but nothing further had been done.

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) would speak to County Councillor Devaney about the lack of progress.

### **(G) POTHoles - CHAPEL LANE:**

At a previous meeting the Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) had reported that there were large potholes on Chapel Lane near the former Methodist Chapel. The Clerk had notified the Highways Inspectorate. The work had still not been done. County Councillor Devaney had advised that there was a backlog of road works which the Environment Directorate was attempting to reduce.

The Clerk would ascertain the current position.

### **(H) SIGNS – WEASEL LANE:**

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) reported that HGV Warnings signs had been erected and this seemed to have an effect. Chorley Council had also been asked to erect a street nameplate.

The Clerk reported that Chorley Council had indicated that they did not erect signs on private roads.

Councillor Baldwin suggested that the local business should provide the sign.

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The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) would discuss the the business proprietor whether he would be prepared to provide a sign.

### **(I) HEDGE - STATION ROAD:**

At a previous meeting Councillor Baldwin requested early action regarding the cutting back of the hedge.

The County Council had delegated the cutting of hedges to Chorley Council and the Clerk had requested them to take action.

### **(J) FOOTPATH 19 RILEY GREEN:**

The Clerk reported that the condition of this footpath was currently being investigated.

### **(K). FINGER POST SIGN:**

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) reported that he had asked Chorley Council about the replacement of the finger post sign at the Boars Head.

He understood that a finger post sign had been ordered by Chorley Council but was the wrong size. A fresh order had been made and once the signs had been delivered arrangements would be made for it to be erected.

The Vice Chairman (Councillor Greenwood) felt that some of the road signs in the Parish needed repainting.

The Clerk would contact Community Payback regarding this.

### **(L) GIB LANE:**

Councillor Sharratt reported that water was continually seeping out onto the carriageway near the railway bridge on Gib Lane. This had been repaired in the past but was a problem again and it was not known what damage was being caused underneath the carriageway.

The Clerk had contacted United Utilities about this.

The Vice Chairman (Councillor Greenwood) reported that the grass verge along the footway from the Railway Bridge to the top of the hill was very overgrown and was virtually impassable.

The Clerk would contact the County Council about this.

### **(M). SPID DEVICE:**

The Clerk reported that at a recent meeting of Brindle Parish Council they had considered the purchase of a spid device and had suggested that if the Parish Council did not want to contribute to buying the device it might like to rent it out from them.

Councillor Sharratt considered that the responsibility for speed enforcement lay with the police and therefore the suggestion should be turned down.

The Parish Council agreed with this and the Clerk would notify Brindle Parish Council that this Parish Council did not wish to participate in the proposal.

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

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Councillor Baldwin reported that the footpath required attention.

The Clerk would contact the Footpaths Officer about this.

### 10. CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) reported on the recent meeting of Chorley Council.

### 11. PLANNING REPORT:

#### (A) DECISIONS.

The Clerk reported that following planning applications had been granted since the last meeting of the Parish Council:-

(1) Erection of part single, part two storey side extension and a single storey front extension 3 Bell Villas Gib Lane (App no 12/00789/FUL) Applicant Ms Oracz.

(2) Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a new rear conservatory The Bungalow Station Road (App no 12/00710/FUL) Applicant Mr. Archer.

#### (B). APPLICATIONS:

The following application had been submitted since the last meeting of the Parish Council:-

1. Tree works to cover TPO1 (Hoghton) 1969 Strathknoll Station Road.(App no 12/00862/TPO) Applicant Mr. Doherty.

Details were circulated to all Members and no observations were made. The Clerk had notified Chorley Council.

#### (C) CHORLEY LOCAL PLAN 2012 - 2016:

The Clerk submitted the Development Plan Document for the Chorley Local Plan.

The Parish Council had no observations to make.

#### (D) COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY - CHARGES

The Clerk reminded the Parish Council that in February 2012 they had considered the consultation document issued by the Central Lancashire Authorities on the way in which developers could be required to fund infrastructure. The levy would replace in part and partly be in addition to developers contributions to providing infrastructure under Section 106 of the Town and Country planning Act 1990.

He now submitted a schedule of proposed charges.

The Parish Council made no observations on the scale of charges.

### 12. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

The Clerk submitted the following accounts for payment

1.T. Harkness	Clerk – Salary June – September 2012 (Payment by Direct Debit)	£362.50.
2.Douglas Tonks Ltd	Payroll Administration Fee for payment of salary. (Payment by Direct Debit)	£14.04
3.T. Harkness	Clerk – Expenses June September 2012.	£154.30

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	(Payment by Direct Debit)	
4. M. Savage	Grass Cutting Pinfold September and October 2012	£70.00
5. H. Fowler	Repairs to Notice Board - Boars Head	£155.00

The accounts were agreed and the cheques signed.

*The Vice Chairman (Councillor Greenwood) declared an interest in Account no 5 and did not speak or vote thereon*

### **13. HALF YEARLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT:**

The Clerk submitted a half-yearly financial statement (circulated) to 30th September 2012 indicating deposits of £8486.28 and expenditure of £1831.39 leaving a balance of £6654.89 A forward projection of expenditure to the year-end would amount to £6115.00 and give an estimated balance of £2373.00.

The financial statement was accepted referred to the Independent Financial Auditor and the Accounts Book signed by the Chairman Vice Chairman and Clerk.

### **14. BUDGET PROCESS:**

The Clerk submitted a report on the process for the making of the annual budget.

### **15. PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER:**

The Clerk reported that he had made arrangements for the publication of a Parish Council Newsletter to be incorporated in the Parish Church Magazine and suggested that a donation of £50.00 be made towards the publication costs.

The Parish Council agreed to make a donation of £50.00 and a cheque was signed..

The Vice Chairman (Councillor Greenwood) reported on his enquiries into a similar report being included in the Brindle St Joseph`s RC Church Magazine as many of the parishioners lived in Hoghton.

The Clerk would discuss the action to be taken regarding the newsletter at St. Joseph`s with the Vice Chairman (Councillor Greenwood)

### **16. WAR MEMORIAL:**

The Clerk reported on the current position regarding repairs to the War Memorial.

He had also made arrangements for Community Payback to tidy up the site.

Councillor Peter offered to spray the weeds at appropriate times of the year.

The Parish Council accepted Councillor Peter's offer.

The Clerk reported that the Hoghton Women's Institute had planted the grass borders with bulbs to mark the Queens Diamond Jubilee.

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) would write a letter of thanks on behalf of the Parish Council to the Women's Institute.

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### **17. PINFOLD:**

The Clerk reported on the arrangements for the completion of the storyboard.

He also reported that Chorley Council had donated daffodil bulbs for planting in the parish and suggested that these should be planted round the bench at the Pinfold by Community Payback.

### **18. WREATH LAYING CEREMONY SUNDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2012:**

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 Community Payback 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.

Members would be reminded of the arrangements nearer the time.

### **19. BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2012:**

At the last meeting the Clerk circulated results of the Best Kept Village Competition. and had asked for a copy of the judges comments on Hoghton`s entry.

Councillor Sharratt had suggested that the Parish Council should conduct a thorough investigation when the Inspectors Report was available.

The Clerk reported that this was still awaited.

### **20. BOROUGH /PARISH LIAISON MEETING:**

The Clerk reported that the next meeting would be held on 21st November 2012 and any items for consideration at the meeting were required by 6th November.

At the Brindle Parish Council meeting they had submitted an item regarding the scheme for the implementation of Rural Broadband.

### **21. EQUALITY FORUM:**

Councillor Ms Urry reported that she had been unable to attend the Forum meeting on 11th October 2012.

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) would ask Chorley Council for a report on the meeting.

He also reported that the meeting of the LALC Area Committee for Chorley would be held on 24th October 2012.

### **22. SELRAP NEWSLETTER:**

The Clerk circulated the current newsletter for information.

### **23. LITTER BIN PROJECT:**

The Clerk reported that Chorley Council was carrying out a project to install/replace litter bins. They were doing the town centre first and parishes after that. They had asked if there were any bins in the Parish which need



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replacing or moving to a different location. They would also consider requests for new bins in areas which presently did not have them. They also wanted to know if there are any bins in the Parish Councils ownership.

The Parish Council would consider this matter at the next meeting

### **24. DUMPING OF RUBBISH:**

Councillor Baldwin reported that two television sets had been dumped at the corner of Chapel Lane. These had now been removed.

### **25. FRACKING:**

Councillor Sharratt reported on this procedure and informed the Parish Council that he had attended two meetings in St. Anne's in October when he had enquired how far the drilling would go. He was also shown a map which indicated the extent of the drilling permission issued by the Government.

The Map showed that the eastern boundary of the permission would include parts of Hoghton and Brindle. He reminded the Parish Council that drilling was currently suspended following earthquakes in the Fylde and suggested that in view of the information he had received the possibility of earthquakes in the Parish were not as remote as previously imagined.

On this basis he felt it was necessary to keep a close eye on any proposals for fracking and the Local Authorities should be asked if they have any information on them.

Councillor Ms Urry suggested that this be brought to the attention of the LALC AGM, the County Council and Chorley Council.

The Clerk would write to the County Council about this and the Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) would discuss this with the Planning Officers at Chorley.

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

The Clerk suggested that the date of the next meeting be changed from Monday 19th November 2012 to another date.

He would contact the Village Hall Management Committee about availability of rooms and then consult the Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) and the Vice Chairman (Councillor Greenwood) about a suitable date

There being no further business the Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) declared the meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.

**Signed  
Chairman**