

MINUTES OF 1080TH MEETING OF HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 16TH SEPTEMBER 2013 AT THE VILLAGE HALL.

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS M. APPLETON AND L. BOTTOM.

1. DEDICATION OF BENCH:

The Chairman thanked Members of the Parish Council for their attendance at the ceremony to dedicate the bench at the Pinfold to the memory of former Councillor Proctor and in particular Councillor Peter for the fixing of the plaque.

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 15th July 2013 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:

(A) NEWSLETTER:

The Police circulated the latest police newsletter which indicated there had been no reported incidents of crime in Hoghton during August 2013. Reference was made to the increase regionally in thefts of stone .

The Chairman (Councillor D.Dickinson) reported that the Police Air Support PACT Meeting scheduled for 5th September 2013 had been postponed and would now be held on Wednesday 9th October 2013 at 10.00 a.m. at the Black Horse Gregson Lane.

(B). CONSUMER ALERTS – TRADING STANDARDS:

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

(C). TRAVELLERS:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) reported the action taken following the occupation of the grassed area at the Village Hall by Travellers on 15th July 2013.

(D). NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH:

The Clerk submitted information concerning the establishment of Neighbourhood Watch. Details would be put on the Parish Council's Notice Boards.

(E). TRAFFIC SPEEDS - HOGHTON LANE:

The Clerk reported that the police had agreed to carry out a traffic speed survey on Hoghton Lane but it was not known when this would take place.

6. LALC REPORT:

The Clerk reported details of the current newsletter and on the NALC survey of the operation of the Quality Parish Council Scheme.

The Clerk reported details of the Three Tier Forum and asked if there were any projects which the Parish Council wished to be considered for the 2014/15 Road Maintenance Programme.

Councillor Peter referred to the recent filling of potholes in Quaker Brook Lane. The manner of filling them in was unsatisfactory and the Clerk would notify County Councillor Devaney.

Councillor Sharratt reiterated his opposition to the way Forum meetings were organised.

He requested the County Council should be asked again why meetings were held in secret, that these should be announced, publicised, minuted and the public should be admitted to the meetings.

The Clerk would write again to the Acting Chief Executive of the County Council about this.

7. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:

(A). FOOTPATH - BRINDLE LODGE:

The Clerk reported the current situation regarding the footpath scheme.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) would speak to County Councillor Devaney about this.

Councillor Watson reported the hand rail to the foot bridge still required attention.

The Clerk would request Community Payback to improve the hand rail once more and if the work was not done in a reasonable period of time then alternative arrangements be made.

(B). VALLEY FOOTPATH - HOGHTON BOTTOMS:

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At the last meeting Councillor Watson reported that the footbridge over the stream had become unsafe and needed attention and that a tree was blocking the path.

The Clerk had notified the Footpaths Officer at the County Council and the work had been carried out.

(C). STATION ROAD:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) reported that there was still grass growing out of the kerb edgings.

The Clerk would ask Chorley again to make arrangements for the kerbs to be treated.

It was also reported that there was an upturned grid in Station Road which had been reported to the Highways Engineer.

(D). DOG BIN RILEY GREEN:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) reported that the Neighbourhood Officer had provided the dog/litter bin at Riley Green.

(E). FOOTPATH – PARISH CHURCH:

The Chairman (Councillor Dickinson) reported that the footpath needed weeding.

Councillor Peter would spray the weeds with weed killer.

(F). GRASS VERGES - CHAPEL LANE:

The Clerk reported that Community Payback were unable to do this work and he had asked Chorley Council to do it.

(G). STREET SWEEPING:

Chorley Council would be asked to sweep The Straits and parts of Blackburn Old Road again.

(H). STATION ROAD LEVEL CROSSING:

Network Rail had been asked to reduce the noise level of the siren at the Railway Crossing at Station Road. However, they had replied that they were unable to do so for safety reasons.

(I). GIB LANE :

The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) reported that the vegetation at Gib Lane was very overgrown and required attention.

The Clerk would consult the Neighbourhood Officer about this.

(J). GIB LANE - ARTHUR`S WIFE`S BROW:

The Clerk reminded the Parish Council that following the inspection by United Utilities they had been unable to identify any leaks. County Councillor Devaney undertook to speak to them about this.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) would contact County Councillor Devaney to see if there had been any progress.

8. CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) reported that the next meeting of Chorley Council would be held on 17th September 2013.

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9. PLANNING REPORT:

(A). DECISIONS.

The Clerk reported that following decisions on planning applications had been made since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

1. Application to extend time limit to implement planning permission 07/01386/FUL Conversion of former Sunday School building to residential property Former Sunday School Chapel Lane and Listed Building Consent for same.(Apps nod 11/00088/FUL and 07/01387/LBC) Applicants Methodist Church.- Granted subject to legal agreement.
2. Application to extend time limit to implement planning permission 07/01384/FUL (Conversion of former Methodist Chapel to residential property and listed building consent for same Chapel Lane (Apps nod 11/00090/FUL and 11/00091/LBC) Applicants The Methodist Church. - Granted subject to legal agreement.
3. Proposed single storey rear extension/conservatory with a maximum projection of 8m, 2.4 m high to eaves and 3.6m high to ridge The Bungalow Station Road (App no 13/00702/PDE) Applicant Mr. Archer Approved.

(B). APPLICATION:

The Clerk reported that a planning application for the extensions to the side and rear of Toll Bar Cottage Moulden Brow (App no 13/00680/FUL) Applicant Mr. Craig been received since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

Details had been circulated to all Members of the Parish Council and no observations had been made.

The Clerk had informed Chorley Council.

(C). HELICOPTER FLIGHTS:

Councillor Ms Urry reported that there had been no progress on this since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) would contact Mr. Bickerstaffe regarding a meeting with him and Councillor Ms Urry.

(D) HERRABIN FARM BOLTON ROAD:

The Clerk reported details of an alleged unauthorised use at the farm and this had been reported to the Enforcement Officer. The landowner had been contacted and he would now submit a planning application for the development.

Councillor Ms Urry referred to problems in the past regarding access to the public footpath crossing the site.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) would discuss the matter with the Enforcement Officer at Chorley and Councillor Peter would raise these concerns regarding footpath access with the occupier of the land.

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10. ACCOUNT FOR PAYMENT:

The Clerk submitted the following account for payment

1.T. Harkness	Plaque for Bench	£26.00
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The account was agreed for payment and a cheque signed.

11. CPRE - ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION:

The Clerk requested the Parish Council to consider whether it wished to continue its membership of the CPRE.

This was agreed and the annual subscription fee was £29.00 was accepted and a cheque signed.

12. GRANTS:

The Clerk submitted requests from Holy Trinity Parish Church and Brindle St. Joseph's RC Church towards the cost of printing the Parish Council newsletter in their parish magazines.

The Parish Council agreed to make grants of £75.00 each to the two churches and cheques were signed.

13. AUDIT OF PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS 2012/13:

The Clerk reported that the Annual Audit of the Accounts for 2012/13 has been completed and no issues had been highlighted. The completion of the audit had been publicised on the Parish Council Notice Boards. Following the introduction of new audit arrangements no fee was payable.

The Parish Council noted the audit opinion and approved the Annual Return.

14. REMEMBRANCE DAY - INVITATION FROM CHORLEY:

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that they had been invited by the Mayor of Chorley to Remembrance Day Parade in Chorley. The Parish Council declined the invitation with thanks and regret as they would be attending their own service.

15. BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2013:

The Clerk circulated results of the Best Kept Village Competition. He had asked for a copy of the judges comments on Hoghton's entry. Councillor Sharratt suggested that the Parish Council should enter the Competition next year in view of improvements to the Parish which had been carried out over the past few months.

16. WAR MEMORIAL:

The Clerk reported that the War Memorial needed further weeding. Councillor Peter would spray the weeds with weed killer.

The Clerk also reported the latest position regarding registering the ownership of the War Memorial.

The Parish Council considered the arrangements for the laying of wreaths at the War Memorial. The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) would make arrangements

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to recover the wreath stand and further discussions would be held at the next meeting.

17. CRIPPLEGATE LANE:

The Vice Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood) reported on the current situation.

The Cul de Sac Sign had been erected and the fencing work had been carried out some work to the recreation area was being undertaken. However, the stone chippings were still to be laid County Councillor Devaney had requested early discussions regarding the laying of the chippings.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) would contact County Councillor Devaney about the matter.

18. BOROUGH/PARISH LIAISON MEETING:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Dickinson) and Councillor Ms Urry would attend the next meeting on Wednesday 16th October at 6.30 p.m. at the Town Hall Chorley.

The Clerk also reported that the next meeting of the Equality Forum would take place on Thursday 17th October 2013. Councillor Ms Urry would attend.

19. VILLAGE HALL - REDEVELOPMENT:

The Clerk reported the Parish Council had been invited to a meeting of all user groups to discuss the redevelopment of the Hall on Monday 23rd September 2013 at 8.00 p.m.

20. LITTER BINS:

The Clerk reported that Chorley Council had requested the Parish Council to identify any additional locations where a new bin was required or where an existing post mounted or floor bin was very close to a dog waste bin so that these could be consolidated.

The Parish Council did not consider that any additional bins were required or any existing bins should be replaced.

21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 21st October 2013 at 7.45.p.m at the Village Hall.

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

**SIGNED
CHAIRMAN**

21ST OCTOBER 2013