

# CHARNOCK RICHARD PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 6 July 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Rooms, Charter Lane, Charnock Richard.

**Present:** Councillors M Almond (Acting Chairman), A Cornwell, Mrs A Bishop, L Cheetham, J Hill, H Heaton and J Taylor. Also present Borough Councillor Leadbetter and Borough Councillor Whittaker.

## **REPORTS, COMPLAINTS AND CONCERNS OF THE PUBLIC, PARISH, BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS PRESENT**

(At this point in the Meeting members of the public present can report, ask questions, raise issues and make observations on parish matters or items appearing on the Agenda. Reports, Complaints and Concerns will also be received from Parish, Borough and County Councillors if attending – Once closed the Chairman will only suspend standing orders to allow further participation if it will aid discussions)

Borough Councillor Whittaker – Reported the appeal date against the refusal of permission for 18 affordable homes has been set for 29 July 2015 at Chorley Town Hall, Councillor Whittaker will be attending the hearing. Story Homes has contacted Chorley Council to have an exploratory meeting on 22 July 2015 with Councillors and Officers to discuss how to progress their proposals. It was confirmed that both Borough Councillors are hoping to attend. Councillor Whittaker reported that the Rural Action Plan covers 4 areas in the Borough. £200,000.00 has been set aside to deal with issues in these 4 geographical areas which also include the Rural Communities, comprising of 15 Parishes. The themes of the action plan are: i) Health & Social Inclusion, including social isolation. ii) Digital access. Some areas do not have superfast broadband. iii) Traffic & Transport. iv) Employment Opportunities. Chorley Council will be trying to help businesses to utilise empty shops/properties. As Champion of Rural Areas at Chorley Council, Councillor Whittaker confirmed that this process will also include trying to get ideas from Parishes of what issues are important in rural areas. It was confirmed that the power point presentation used at the recent Meeting on this subject has been circulated to Parish Councillors. Councillor Whittaker therefore invited the Parish Council to think about Parish requirements and, if any ideas arise inform him in due course. It was confirmed by Councillor Whittaker that issues regarding a planning application for additional signage at Heskin Hall are in hand.

Members of the Public – Reported that the litter bin at the bottom of Town Lane has not been emptied for months. It was confirmed that hedges on Chorley Lane from the bus shelter, through the S-bends and up to Charter Lane will be due to be cut by the contractor sometime this month. It was reported that the homeowner responsible for the hedges on the S-bends does cut back the hedges however, as the Parish Council feel that if they were cut back even further this would reveal a wider footway for pedestrians to use, they have agreed to the Parish Council arranging for these to be cut back further. The Lengthsman will be asked to undertake this. Following a report of significant duplication of information in the most recent Parish Chronicle, it was confirmed as a mistake on the part of the Editor which will be rectified in the next edition. It was also reported that the Editor will be retiring after the next edition. The Parish Council has not received any feedback from LCC on drainage work undertaken on Preston Road near Town Lane. It is unclear whether the root cutter was used or not. It was reported that the road gully cover near street light No.26 going towards the motorway on Mill Lane, is missing.

Borough Councillor Leadbetter – Confirmed that he will be speaking at the appeal hearing to discuss the proposals to erect 18 affordable homes on land off Chorley Lane on 29 July and, he will be attending/listening at the Meeting with Story Homes on 22 July. Councillor Leadbetter thanked all the volunteers who attended and helped with the Balsam Bashing on 22 June, it was a successful initiative. Councillor Leadbetter confirmed that, when the wood donated by the Borough Council to enable short term repairs to be undertaken to the wooden train play equipment at Mossie Close becomes available, he will contact the Councillors who volunteered to help.

Parish Councillors – Reported that cars and motorbikes are frequently seen and heard, to be speeding along the A49 Preston Road near Town Lane and also near the Crematorium on Preston Road. It was confirmed that this problem is getting worse. Councillor Taylor reported that the shared SPID is currently in for repair at the moment, he will check progress on this matter. It was also confirmed that mobile speed enforcement has been present in the Parish recently. Councillor Mrs Bishop stated that she feels it is pointless if Borough and County Councillors are either not present or leave before the end of

this Reports part of the Meeting. The Parish Council amended the order of their Agenda to allow Parish Councillors to report or raise items in the presence of Borough and County Councillors. It was pointed out that Borough Councillor Whittaker did ask the Chairman for permission to leave the Meeting and, that if Councillor Mrs Bishop wanted to ask something, she should have done so before he left.

- 39. Apologies** - Were received and accepted from Councillors A J Shaw (illness), Mrs J Ogden (holidays), Mr G Brennand (holidays) and Mrs C Pilling (illness). Late apologies were received from County Councillor S Holgate (only picked up after the meeting)
- 40. Declarations of Interest** – Members were asked to consider any disclosable pecuniary interest they may have to declare in relation to matters on this Agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, Parish Council Standing Orders and the Code of Conduct currently in force - **No declarations were made at this point however Councillors will declare them should they arise later in the Meeting**
- 41. To Accept the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 1 June 2015** – The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 1 June 2015 had been circulated in advance of the Meeting and it was **Resolved: The Minutes were accepted as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.**
- 42. Update on Matters Arising from previous Meetings for note by the Council**: Report 1 (page 5) – ACCEPTED.  
LCC Reserves - The Clerk will ask County Councillor Holgate for clarification on the reserves carried over by LCC as requested by Councillor Heaton at the previous meeting.  
Road Sweeping & Gully Emptying – It was confirmed that the roads have been swept and weed killing was undertaken shortly after the last meeting. Some of the reported blocked road gullies have been visited. Several on the Neargates/Southgates estate are blocked and have not been emptied.
- 43. Correspondence and Information items requiring discussion or action**:
- Suggestion from a resident that the Parish Council support the Scarecrow Festival to ensure that it continues to be a successful annual event for many years to come – **It was confirmed that the Parish Council did make a donation to the Scarecrow Festival Committee last year however, they agree that financial support is a good idea. Resolved – The Clerk will contact the Committee and enquire what any funding donated will be used for.**
  - Confirmation that LCC officers have visited the sites of parked cars for sale in the Parish and, as they did not witness this, no further action is proposed at this time – **Councillor Taylor reported that there is something in the Highways Act which says it is illegal to advertise goods for sale on the highway. The Clerk reported Councillor Shaw’s concern with regard to the mini, parked on the highway near the field gate on Chorley Lane. Resolved – The Clerk will ask Chorley Council for a copy of their policy on cars for sale on the highway.**
  - Briefing note from LCC on Highway Services and Environmental Bulletin for Chorley – **Noted.**
  - Notification of the Scrutiny Consultation on Transport Services in the Parish – **Councillor Heaton reported, having used public transport recently, he found the bus service in the Parish useful and convenient and feels that the Parish is quite well serviced to and from Chorley. The service appears to be frequent and well used and his experience was a positive one. Those present agreed with these views.**
  - Invitation from LCC to join a Countywide Sign Posting Project – **Resolved – The Parish Council will express an interest in taking part in this project and request the digital maps.**
  - Consultation from the Local Government Boundary Commission on the Electoral Review of Lancashire – **Standing Orders – were lifted to allow Borough Councillor Leadbetter to take part in discussions – Councillor Leadbetter reported that Chorley Council are proposing a response which would increase the number of Councillors for Chorley to 8, and reduce Councillor numbers in Preston by 1. Councillor Leadbetter agreed to circulate Chorley Council views once known which would help the Parish Council to formulate a response at the August Parish Council Meeting. The Parish Council Meeting was re-convened.**
  - Request for your observations on the proposed diversion of Public Footpaths 10 and 11, Brook Lane, Charnock Richard – **Councillor Heaton agreed to obtain the neighbours views. Some Councillors are of the opinion that, if you purchase a property with a right of way through**

it, then you should accept this. The Clerk will request that a decision on this matter be deferred until the August Meeting to allow Councillors to view associated documents.

- h) Request for a donation from Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team – **Resolved** – Request will be added to the applications received for consideration at the September Meeting.
- i) Info. from LALC – Notification of 71<sup>st</sup> AGM 2015, Saturday 7 November, 10am, County Hall, Preston – **Resolved** – Councillor Cornwell will attend the AGM – No resolutions to date.
- j) Details of late items of correspondence received – i) Copy of presentation slides from the recent Rural Communities Action Plan Presentation which the Chairman could not attend – **Noted**. ii) Notification the appeal date against the Chorley Council decision to refuse planning permission for the erection of 18 affordable homes, including construction of access road off Chorley Lane – has been set for Wednesday 29 July 2015 at 10am at the Town Hall, Chorley. iii) Request from the Planner at Indigo Planning to meet with the Parish Council to discuss the outcomes of their recent consultation exercise relating to development by Taylor Wimpey on land off Charter Lane – **Resolved** That they be invited to attend a future meeting to discuss outcomes.

**44. Reports, Complaints, Concerns from Councillors** - not addressed at the beginning of the Meeting:

- 1) The manhole frame on Preston Road, near German Lane, has moved over and needs re-setting.
- 2) Tractors are speeding along Town Lane. The farm owner will be asked to remind drivers that Town Lane is a residential area with a 30mph speed limit.
- 3) Hedges on Park Hall Road, the responsibility of Story Homes, need cutting back.
- 4) Councillor Heaton confirmed that he had informed the Southern Parishes Meeting that the Parish Council are prioritising the Orchard Gardens enhancement project and putting the MUGA at Mossie Close on hold. It was agreed that the Parish Council still prefer a mono-block or grass screed surface for the proposed car park adjacent. The Clerk confirmed that the Council are now awaiting written confirmation from the Dioceses that the Parish Council proposals are acceptable
- 5) It was reported that wildflower planting around street furniture in the Parish is very much a mixed bag this year. Seeds have taken in some areas and not in others. Councillor Taylor agreed to liaise with Chorley Council officers to confirm that this project has not been as successful as they promised it would be.
- 6) A request that a grass verge cut in the centre of the Parish be undertaken before walking day was agreed however, there are a number of roads and areas around the Parish which, due to time constraints, were missed. Councillor Taylor agreed to pursue this matter.
- 7) Borough Councillor Leadbetter was thanked for organising the recent Balsam Bashing at Sharratts Path. It was confirmed that this was a great success and it was nice to see the Scouts took part in this. Everyone involved worked very hard and the route looks and feels much safer.
- 8) It was reported that the post and footpath sign on Chorley Lane, at the Golf Course, is missing.
- 9) Road gullies on Nearthgates, Southgates and Merefold are blocked and need emptying.
- 10) The Acting Chairman reported his attendance at the MP's surgery in relation to his personal views on the proposed development of 18 affordable homes on land off Chorley Lane. He has since received an acknowledgement of his complaint and details of the upcoming appeal.
- 11) Pot holes in front of No.2 Southgates are now so deep the cobbles beneath are visible.

**45. Reports from Committees and Representatives on Outside Bodies** – LALC Area Committee Meeting – Councillor Cornwell attended. Reported the meeting was poorly attended. Fairtrade Committee Meeting – Councillor Cornwell attended. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer of this Committee did not attend. He confirmed that they will be booking a table at the Scarecrow Festival in September and then take this from there.

**46. Best Kept Village Competition and Best Kept Garden Competition** – Action required for both competitions. The Lengthsman will be asked to clean the bus shelter near the Hinds Head. It was confirmed that Simon's wife has been tidying inside the telephone box and tending the planted area, Councillor Mrs Bishop with thank her on behalf of the Parish Council. It was reported that the Lengthsman may have seen the Best Kept Village Competition judges before the grass cutting was undertaken. Councillor Taylor confirmed that Delph Gardens has now been replanted by Pole Green Nurseries. The Lengthsman will be asked to plant more bedding plants at Welch Whittle Gardens. It was confirmed that Chorley Council will be watering Welch Whittle Gardens, on request by the

Parish Council, on the same understanding as last year. Councillors will notify the Clerk of the gardens they nominate in the Best Kept Garden Competition as soon as possible.

- 47. Parish Council Vacancy** – The Clerk read aloud additional information from Miss Ellen Walmsley of Neargates. Following discussions it was **Resolved** – **That Miss Walmsley will be offered the post of Parish Councillor with effect from the next Meeting on 3 August 2015.**
- 48. Gateway Planting** – Mill Lane/Preston Road junction – Update – Councillor Taylor apologised for not doing what he had promised to do and agreed to pursue this again this month. It was suggested that a wildflower verge could be created further up Mill Lane. It was confirmed that vehicles have not been parking on this verge in the past few weeks and they do not appear to have parked elsewhere. It was suggested that planters may prevent LCC contractors from cutting the grass verges properly. Councillors agreed that it was now too late for these proposals to benefit this year's entry in the Best Kept Village Competition. It was agreed that Councillors Taylor, Almond, Hill, Heaton and Mrs Bishop will have a site meeting on Tuesday 7 July at 8pm to discuss this matter further.
- 49. Parish Council Newsletter** – Newsletters were distributed for delivery.
- 50. Planning** – The Council were required to make observations on the following applications:
- 1) 15/00537/FUL – Erection of two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and detached garage to side of property. Brookfield, 10 Highgrove Avenue, Charnock Richard. **Resolved** – **The Parish Council has no objections provided the proposals comply with all the relevant planning legislation.**
  - 2) 15/00526/FUL – Erection of stable and tack/feed store. 7 Back Lane, Charnock Richard. **Resolved** – **The Parish Council has no objections provided the proposals comply with all the relevant planning legislation.**
  - 3) 15/00609/TPO – Tree 1 remove tree (Goat Willow) Tree has excessive lean towards property, Tree has uneven crown. Danger to property. Tree 2 (Goat Willow) Tree is diseased with Honey Fungus. Danger to property. Tree 3 Cut Tree (Hawthorn) Cut tree back. The tree has unstable root system and is leaning against property fence. Danger of damage to fence. Tree 4 (Hawthorn) Removal of branch which is pressing against property fence. Danger of further damage to fence. Tree 4 Removal of dangerous overhanging branch. Danger to property. 5 Cherry Tree Close, Charnock Richard. **Resolved** – **The Parish Council will leave this decision to the Professional Officers at Chorley Council. Following receipt of objections in correspondence from a neighbouring resident, and a site visit during the course of July by several Parish Councillors, it was confirmed that the Parish Council will leave this decision to the Professional Officers at Chorley Council.**
  - 4) 15/00612/P3PAO – Prior approval application under Part 3, Class Q (a) and (b) of the Town & Country (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 to convert as existing agricultural building into two dwellings along with the building operations necessary to convert the building. Whittle Green Farm, Mill Lane, Charnock Richard. **Resolved** – **The Parish Council has no objections provided the proposals comply with all the relevant planning legislation.**

## **51. Accounts**

### Accounts for Payment:

E.on	Electricity use at Telephone Kiosk	£0.37
Mrs C A Cross	Reimburse 50% cost of ink cartridges (£32.80)	£16.40
Collins & Darwell Printers	Newsletters	£145.00
Mrs C A Cross	Salary – (Net)	£511.37
HM Revenue & Customs	Tax due by Clerk	£57.60

**Resolved:** **That the aforementioned Accounts are approved payments. The Clerk confirmed she will contact E.on to request an annual invoice as the charges are so little.**

- 52. Lengthsman's Payment** - Work undertaken this 5 week month totals 145 ½ Hours @ the revised hourly rate of £7.88 per hour = £1146.54 + £227.96 materials. **Resolved: Total Paid £1374.50.**

Next Meeting: Monday 3 August 2015

Members of the Public and Press are Welcome to Attend

Meeting Closed: 9:45 pm

Chairman:

Date:

## **REPORT 1**

### **Matters Arising from the Minutes to be noted by the Parish Council:**

- a) Notification permission GRANTED for change of use of existing stable to riding centre and retrospective application for the change of use of land to create a sand paddock (to be used in connection with the riding centre). Whittle Green Farm, Mill Lane, Charnock Richard.
- b) Confirmation the trench reinstatement requested at the last meeting will be inspected and programmed for repair within the next 20 working days weather permitting.
- c) Confirmation that the road surface condition on the A49 opposite German Lane has been noted and any actionable potholes will be programmed for repair within the next 20 working days.
- d) Confirmation that markings at the Mill Lane/Preston Road roundabout will be inspected and programmed for repair within the next 6 months on a batched area program for cost effect purposes.
- e) Confirmation that all blocked gullies reported after last month's meeting will be programmed for cleaning within the next 20 working days.
- f) Minutes of the Neighbourhood Area Meeting – Southern Parishes – Wednesday 3 June 2015.
- g) Copy Chorley Ramblers programme of walks (in Notice Boards).
- h) Notification of Funding Sources Learning Session, Monday 6 July, 6-7pm, Town Hall.
- i) Info. from LCC on Welfare Rights.

#### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**

If the interest to be declared arises only as a result of your membership of another public body or one to which you have been appointed by the Council, then you only need to declare it if you intend to speak. If the personal interest is a prejudicial interest, you must withdraw from the meeting. You should leave the room before the business starts to be discussed. You do however, have the same right to speak as a member of the public and may remain in the room to enable you to exercise that right and then leave immediately. In either case you must not seek to improperly influence a decision of the matter.