

# CHARNOCK RICHARD PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 7 April 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Rooms, Charter Lane, Charnock Richard.

Present: Councillors J Taylor, A J Shaw, J Hill, M Almond, Mrs J Ogden, Mrs C Pilling, H Heaton, Mrs A Bishop, L Cheetham, A Cornwell and G Brennand. Also present Borough Councillor Leadbetter

## **REPORTS, COMPLAINTS AND CONCERNS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT** **Including reports from the Police, Borough or County Councillor**

The Chairman began with a one minute silence in memory of Joseph Edge who tragically died in a motorbike accident recently.

Public Present – A number of Town Lane residents attended the public meeting in Eccleston to discuss proposals for the Camelot site and they are not sure the residents of Charnock Richard are aware of the implications of the development. Is it necessary to hold a public meeting to raise awareness? The proposals do not include any shops, doctors or other facilities and there are no additional school places available locally. It was stressed that Chorley Council could gain several million pounds from the development in CIL money and ‘New Homes Bonus’. It was confirmed by Borough Councillor Heaton that planning officers will make their decision on planning grounds and not for financial gain. The Chairman read aloud the Parish Councils objections to the proposals which he felt reflected all that was needed. Councillors agreed with the observations submitted which were as a result of a democratic decision. Some Councillors still believe that a meeting with the developers would have been helpful however Story Homes declined the invitation to attend a Meeting. A meeting may have resulted in facilities being included in the proposals. It is still possible that, even if Chorley Council refuse the application, development could be permitted on appeal. It was also felt that no account had been taken of problems already existing in this area eg: drainage issues, water pressure and the road infrastructure which it is believed cannot support this development. There is no ‘need’ for so many houses in this area and many believe that any development should be proportionate to the percentage requirement needed. Councillor Taylor confirmed that drainage and infrastructure issues are dealt with by consulting United Utilities and LCC Highways, neither of whom have responded to the proposals to date. It was confirmed that Chorley Council officers, in pre-application discussions with the developers, included education provision, doctors etc. but the developers chose to ignore these points. Councillor Heaton again stressed that Charnock Richard is designated for small developments and infill.

Borough Councillor Leadbetter – reminded those present that this is only an outline application and that over the next few years the developers will have to apply for full planning permission. Those applications can be fought as they arise and discussions could still include the provision of facilities.

Town Lane – There are 2 public footpath signs, one has a litter bin on it which is almost impossible to access, could this be moved to the other sign. Flooding has also occurred on Town Lane recently.

Water is running over the gullies near Heaton’s Farm on the A49. All the gullies in this area appear to be silted up on both sides of the road and require attention. Flooding also occurred on Chorley Lane.

Back Lane – It was reported that there is a septic tank on private land which should be maintained by the residents of 1-7 Back Lane but which is now causing problems. One resident has also been allowed to build over sewage pipes. Surface water is being allowed to go into a foul water system rather than a soakaway. Borough Councillor Heaton agreed to pursue this matter for the gentleman present.

Wind Turbine in a neighbouring Parish – residents were present to request the Parish Councils support for their objections to a proposed wind turbine on land off Carr House Lane. The turbine will be clearly visible by Charnock Richard residents. It was stressed that this is proposed in close proximity to listed buildings and a site of significant heritage value. This is the latest in a number of applications for wind turbines in Wrightington and the residents believe that this is inappropriate development in the Green Belt and green energy should be located in appropriate areas. The Parish Council agreed to support the residents of Wrightington in their objections which will be confirmed under the Planning Agenda Item.

Borough Councillor Leadbetter – reported that the original Scarecrow Festival Committee has now ceased but another committee has been formed to raise money for the village. He enquired whether a

volunteer representative from the Parish Council would like to join the committee. There were no volunteers. Councillors agreed to go away and think about it.

143. **Apologies** – All serving Councillors were present.

144. **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 - **Councillor Heaton declared an interest in Planning, as a member of Chorley Council Planning Committee, he can take part in discussions but not in decisions.**

145. **To Accept the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 3 March 2014** - The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 3 February 2014 had been circulated in advance of the Meeting. **RESOLVED: The Minutes were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

146. **Update on Matters Arising from previous Meetings for note by the Council:** Report 1 (page 5) – ACCEPTED including the following items:

**Report 1e)** – The commissioning plan mentions footway resurfacing on Town Lane, Heskin.

Councillor Taylor questions whether this should refer to Town Lane, Charnock Richard. It was confirmed that footways on Town Lane, Charnock Richard, were slurry sealed last year. Councillor Taylor will pursue this matter and obtain clarification.

**WW1 Anniversary** – The Clerk confirmed that a Service at Church is agreeable to the PCC.

**Planning** – The Council are now aware that planning permission has been granted for a single storey side extension at Charnock House Farm, Preston Road, however, the previous owner of the house was sure that he had extended to the maximum 50% allowed. Councillor Heaton will check this.

147. **Correspondence and Information items requiring discussion or action:**

- a) Confirmation that some minor re-decoration will be completed at 97 Chorley Lane – **Noted.**
- b) Info. on opting in to the Public Rights of Way Local Delivery Scheme for 2014/15 – **On File.**
- c) Notice of the Annual Audit of Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2014 – Audit date set for 30 June 2014 – **Noted.**
- d) Info. on proposed changes to the Three Tier Forums and request for your views on the proposals – **Resolved: If/when a representative is required Councillor Taylor will attend.**
- e) Current position with regard to watering of Welch Whittle Gardens and the hanging baskets – **Councillor Taylor has been following this matter up with Chorley Council officers. It was confirmed that Chorley Council had watered Welch Whittle Gardens at the end of last season, free of charge. A quotation has been received of £35 per watering of the 8 hanging baskets and, Welch Whittle Gardens will be included at no extra charge. Watering will take place twice per week for between 17 and 20 weeks, a total approx. cost of £1050. This was felt to be too expensive and the Lengthsman currently waters the hanging baskets. He will be asked to continue doing so. Councillor Taylor will request a price for watering Welch Whittle Gardens and report back at the next Meeting.**
- f) Request from Chorley Council for details of Parish Assets for inclusion on their website and to assist with dealing with reports to the Borough Council – **A list will be compiled and submitted in due course.**
- g) Copy Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Supplementary Planning Document – Consultation (can be viewed online at [www.chorley.gov.uk/planning](http://www.chorley.gov.uk/planning)) – for comment/observations – **Councillor Taylor agreed to look at this document.**
- h) Info. from LCC (via LALC) on the Tour de France and how it will affect roads on the Lancashire/North Yorkshire boundaries – **Noted.**
- i) Info. from LALC – Newsletter March 2014 – Reminder, Planning, Insurance, Investment Workshop on Saturday 17 May – Minutes of the Area Committee Meeting, Feb 2014 – **Noted.**
- j) Details of late items of correspondence received i) Request to display posters for Chorley Civic Society Awards – **Will be put in the Notice Boards until the closing date.** ii) Info. from Chorley Council on Chorley Fairtrade Steering Group – **Councillor Cornwell will attend.**

iii) The current position with the Orchard Gardens Project – **Noted.** iv) Notification that the post box will be re-instated at the Dob Brow end of Chorley Lane – **Noted.**

**148. Reports, Complaints and Concerns from Parish Councillors**

- 1) Pot-holes at the following locations require attention: - junction Charter Lane/Church Lane, on Charter Lane, on Southgates, Neargates and Merefold, at junction of Meadowlands/Church Lane.
- 2) Gullies on Chorley Lane, going towards the Hinds Head, are blocked. All the gullies on Dob Brow are blocked. Councillor Taylor will pursue this matter.
- 3) Network Rail will be asked to litter pick the railway embankment adjacent to the public right of way from Freemans Lane to Coppull Mill.
- 4) Arley Homes will be asked to ensure blocked gullies on Cherry Tree Close are cleared.
- 5) It was confirmed that the amenity grass cut has been undertaken at Meadowlands today.
- 6) The Lengthsman will be asked to paint the backing boards on the village name signs black.
- 7) Councillors were asked to look at the MUGA on Springfield Road, Coppull, as an example of the type of improvement which could be undertaken at Mossie Close Play Area.
- 8) The Clerk will request an update on when superfast broadband will come to Charnock Richard.
- 9) A litter bin will be located at Pole Green Nurseries.
- 10) The gully outside 115 Chorley Lane, near the Southgates junction, needs emptying.
- 11) It was suggested that the telephone box, adopted by the Parish Council on Chorley Lane, could be used as a book exchange. Photographs will be taken of the one at Whittle-le-Woods.
- 12) The Council will ask Chorley Council officers to pursue the dog nuisance issue on Delph Lane.
- 13) Councillor Taylor will enquire how many amenity cuts will be undertaken this season.
- 14) Councillor Hill reported, having assessed the situation with the swings at Mossie Close Play Area, that the clamp cannot be tightened any more. Councillor Heaton agreed to liaise with Councillor Hill to determine a suitable solution to this problem.
- 15) There is a tree leaning on Plymouth Bridge which could be affecting the structure.
- 16) Councillor Shaw will provide the Clerk with a copy of the Local magazine so that items can be included for Charnock Richard.
- 17) The street light opposite 87 Chorley Lane is on all the time.
- 18) Councillor Shaw gave his apologies for the May Meeting but stressed that he would still like to take the position of Chairman. Councillor Taylor will remain in the Chair for the May Meeting.
- 19) Councillor Taylor reported that the Mayor's Comedy Evening was excellent.
- 20) Councillors Taylor and Mrs Bishop agreed to meet an LCC rights of way officer to discuss Japanese Knotweed on land adjacent to, and affecting, the public right of way at Sharratts Path.
- 21) Councillor Shaw confirmed that the milestone/distance stone embedded in the tarmac at the field entrance on Chorley Lane is the same as one on the Blackrod By-pass. Following a suggestion that the milestone be unearthed, restored and re-located, Councillors Heaton and Shaw will excavate the stone in due course.

**149. Reports from Committees and Representatives on Outside Bodies** – Report on Stocks Hall Public Exhibition. Councillor Taylor confirmed that a number of Councillors had attended the exhibition and were impressed with what they heard and confirmed that the proposals will improve the existing site. – Villages in Partnership AGM. Unfortunately Councillors could not attend.

**150. Acceptance of Annual Audit Plan for forthcoming year and review of documentation in the Parish Councillors Information Pack** – Councillors reviewed their copies in their own time before this meeting to discuss possible amendments required prior to adoption in May. **Resolved: The Annual Audit Plan was accepted for 2014/15. Councillors remain happy with the contents of their Councillors Information Pack without amendment.**

**151. Best Kept Village & Best Kept Garden Competitions** – Discussions between the Clerk and Mrs Stewart, a Community Centre Trustee, lead to the suggestion that the garden adjacent to the old School House on Charter Lane could be cut back and cleared and sown with poppy seeds, becoming a remembrance garden and forming part of the WW1 Anniversary plans in the Parish. This was felt to be an excellent idea and it was suggested that each Councillor could pay for a pack of poppy seeds and that the primary and pre-school children in the Parish could be involved in the planting of them.

This would also enhance the area for the Best Kept Village Competition. Councillors agreed to meet, to assess the work required, at the end of the week. It has been suggested to the Chairman that another category be added to the Best Kept Garden Competition ensuring that hanging baskets, planters, pots and window boxes can be judged and the competition will become more inclusive. It was reported that the judge does take account of these items and that not all winning gardens have had grass and lawns. Gravel gardens with planters and pots have been amongst past winners.

**Resolved: The competition will remain unchanged.**

- 152. Planning** – The Council will be required to make observations on the following applications:
- 1) 14/00194/COU – Part retrospective application for change of use from Offices (B1) and Storage (B8) to Offices (B1) and Workshop (B2), replacement of roof covering to rear of existing building and siting of 3 no. storage containers in rear yard. Texserve, Preston Road, Charnock Richard. **The application was WITHDRAWN therefore no observations were submitted.**
  - 2) 14/00195/FUL – Creation of a 20m x 40m outdoor riding arena incorporating four 4m high floodlights for private use. Yew Tree Stables, Preston Road Charnock Richard. **No Objections.**
  - 3) 14/00281/FUL – Single storey rear extension. 62 Chorley Lane, Charnock Richard. **No Objections.**
  - 4) 14/00328/FUL – Installation of canopy to external play area to facilitate outdoor teaching. Christ Church Charnock Richard C of E Primary School, Church Lane, Charnock Richard. **No Objections.**
  - 5) 14/00338/NLA - **Neighbouring Parish Application:-** 2014/0091/FUL – Erection of a single 100kw wind turbine with a hub height of 23 metres and a maximum height to the blade tip of 35 metres to generate electricity – Land to the North-east of Copyhold Farm, Carr House Lane, Wrightington. **The Council support the residents of Wrightington and strongly object to the proposals as they would constitute inappropriate development in the Green Belt. The proposals would have a detrimental impact on the openness of the Green Belt and on the visual amenity of nearby residents. The introduction of a columnar structure would have an adverse impact on the Grade II listed buildings in close proximity, on the public right of way, on the site of special scientific interest, on what has been identified as a significant heritage site and on an area described by LCC as being of County Importance. The structure is too close to homes which would be affected by the noise, nuisance and flicker/strobe effects associated with the turbine. The proposal is contrary to numerous Planning Policies and would be completely out of character with the rural landscape.**

**153. Accounts**

Accounts for Payment:

Mrs C A Cross	Salary – (Net)	£470.27
HM Revenue & Customs	Tax due by Clerk	£71.40

**Resolved: That payment of the above accounts is approved.**

- 154. Lengthsman's Payment** – Work undertaken this month totals 125 Hours @ £7.50 per hour = £937.50 + £37.92 materials = **Resolved: Total Paid £975.42.**

Next Meeting: Monday 12 May 2014      Annual Parish Meeting 7:00 pm  
Annual Meeting of the Parish Council 7:30 pm  
Members of the Public and Press are Welcome to Attend

Meeting Closed: 10:00 pm

Chairman:

Date:

## REPORT 1

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

- a) Notification permission and Listed Building consent REFUSED for extension to form open plan kitchen/dining/family living area. Heidale, Preston Road,
- b) Notification permission GRANTED for erection of single storey side extension and detached garage including new driveway. 2 Old Hall Lane.
- c) Notification permission REFUSED to continue to use a static caravan in farm yard as an office for a temporary period of 1 year. Lancaster House Farm, Preston Road.
- d) Notification CPRE are increasing their membership fee to £36 per year with effect from 2014.
- e) Copy of the Chorley 2014/15 Environment Directorate Commissioning Plan for info/comment.
- f) Copy of Heskin PC's objections submitted to Chorley Council re: proposed devt. at Camelot.
- g) Request from a resident for info. on how devt. at Camelot will affect the rollout of superfast broadband in the County – Answered to a degree and forwarded to County Councillor.
- h) Copy CPRE Fieldwork - Spring 2014
- i) Copy CPRE Countryside Voice - Spring 2014.

#### **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.