

CHARNOCK RICHARD PARISH COUNCIL

www.charnockrichard-parishcouncil.co.uk

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 7 November 2016 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Rooms, Charter Lane, Charnock Richard.

Present: Councillors: Mel Almond, Jan Ogden, Christina Pilling, Ann Bishop, John Taylor, Allan Shaw, Alan Cornwell, Les Cheetham and George Brennand. Also present Borough Councillor Whittaker and Borough Councillor Leadbetter.

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 – Confirmed that it is likely an amended application will be submitted by Taylor Wimpey which will go to Committee in January 2017 at the earliest. Councillor Shaw clarified that, having taken legal advice on this matter, Charnock Richard United Charity Trustees would not be in a position to refuse allowing drainage from the Taylor Wimpey site through the Trustees land as Taylor Wimpey would simply invoke their statutory right to do so if permission was withheld.

Borough Councillor Leadbetter – Confirmed that vehicles parking on the footways on Charter Lane is a constant problem and does not necessarily just occur on match days. Sometimes it may be 1 vehicle but sometimes it could be several. It was reported that the rubble on the Football Club car park should be moved to provide additional parking and, that the large green container is an eyesore. It seems inappropriate to suggest in the Chronicle that residents should look to improve the look of the village for the Best Kept Village Competition when the Football Club allow the look of their site to deteriorate. The general feeling is that the Football Club has a duty/responsibility to remove the rubble and make the green container more presentable and improve the overall site. The suggestion of a bandstand on Orchard Gardens was again discussed and concern was expressed that, whilst this is a nice idea and would enhance the village, would it actually be used appropriately? or, would it become a meeting place which was spoiled by graffiti and could become an eyesore? These matters will be given serious consideration before a firm decision is made to include a bandstand at Orchard Gardens.

Parish Councillors – Borough Councillor Whitaker agreed to follow up grass cutting issues in the Parish, including full width cuts on the A49, Preston Road, where high nettles and long grass are clearly visible in the verges and in between street furniture. Questions were again raised in relation to the line of sight when exiting the Thomas Mawdesley development off Chorley Lane. Residents present argued at the time of the planning application that the sight lines were inadequate, but these comments were ignored by LCC who subsequently confirmed that Chorley Lane would need to be narrowed at this point to provide adequate sight lines from the development site. Residents in this vicinity believe that the pinch point now created is very dangerous and reported that, if 2 large vehicles meet at this point, they are forced to mount the footways on either side to pass. Residents reported serious concerns about highway safety. Councillor Bishop confirmed that she had seen 2 large vehicles trying to pass at this point and they were very close with wing mirrors almost touching. Councillor Bishop went on to say that she does not think that the traffic is slowing down at the narrowest point of Chorley Lane. It was suggested that chicanes be installed on Chorley Lane to prevent large vehicles from being able to pass side by side. These would also have the effect of slowing the traffic down however, not everyone will think they are a good idea. Councillor Taylor agreed to check carriageway widths on Chorley Lane and report back to the Chairman and Clerk, who will then request the installation of chicanes, if the road is considered suitable. It was also reported that photographs have been taken to support residents of Nursery Close and Meadowlands arguments, that the houses on the Thomas Mawdesley site are approx. 1m higher than those in Meadowlands and Nursery Close. This means that windows in some of the bungalows being built will overlook the gardens of homes in Nursery Close and Meadowlands. It was reported that a site meeting has been requested to discuss this as it was understood that planning permission was granted for ground level development. It was confirmed however, that the height of the road and the houses is ultimately a decision for Chorley Council as the planning authority. The site is outlined by a French

drain and it was suggested that if the development site, houses and roads, are 1m higher than surrounding development, flooding will occur. It was reported that despite correspondence seen from Chorley Council confirming that the French drain is in place and working properly, residents cannot see any evidence of a drain having been installed. Borough Councillor Leadbetter suggested that maybe the Chorley Council officer who assessed the French drain, looked in the wrong place. It was confirmed that drainage issues will have been specifically detailed in the planning permission granted and the developer must show that he has complied with the permission granted. Discussions then took place on the TPO'd trees at the rear of the houses on the Cherry Tree Close development. It was agreed that the trees would remain as screening between the Cherry Tree Close development and existing homes on Nursery Close. Many residents of Cherry Tree Close are now applying to remove or prune the TPO'd trees which residents of Nursery Close think is unacceptable. It was confirmed that the TPO'd trees were included in the deeds to the houses on Cherry Tree Close. As this is a blanket TPO, it is possible to ask Chorley Council Tree Officer for a report on every tree protected by the blanket TPO. Borough Councillor Whittaker agreed to obtain this information and pass to the Clerk. Borough Councillor Leadbetter confirmed that the trees removed were reported as being dead trees, however, Councillor Bishop confirmed that she had not seen any trees along this route without leaves on, which would indicate that they may be dead. Residents feel strongly that Chorley Council granted permission for the Cherry Tree Close development with the tree line very much in place. The Parish Council and residents now need to ensure that the trees are not removed or pruned unnecessarily.

16/00580/FULHH – The Parish Council, having discussed this as a late planning application at their October Meeting and reported that they had no objections to the proposals, were asked to reconsider their observations in light of the information now reported. There will be a significant detrimental impact on the neighbour at No.51 Chorley Lane if planning permission is granted for the proposed extensions at No.49 Chorley Lane. Light into one of the windows of No. 51 will be obstructed by the proposed side extension which, it is proposed, will be built right up to the neighbours building line at No. 51. The volume of the proposed extension is extremely large and excessive in comparison to the existing dwelling at No.49. The 2 existing detached bungalows at No.49 and No. 51 Chorley Lane will appear to be connected once the extension is in place, giving the impression of semi-detached properties. It was stressed that this application was considered as a late application by the Parish Council, having been received after the Agenda had been compiled but, a decision being required before our next Parish Council Meeting. Borough Councillor Whittaker confirmed that the application would be going before Planning Committee on Tuesday 8 November with a recommendation of approval. The Parish Council will discuss this application again under Planning following which, they will amend their observations. The Clerk will copy Borough Councillors Whittaker and Leadbetter, who will be attending the Planning Committee Meeting, in to the Parish Council response thus ensuring that the revised observations of the Parish Council are taken into account at tomorrow's Planning Meeting. Parish Councillors stressed the importance of residents attending Parish Council Meetings to raise objections or provide observations on planning proposals which could have an effect on their property or their lives. If residents do not attend Parish Council Meetings to make their views known, the Parish Council must assume that there are no objections to the planning proposals for discussion. It is imperative that residents convey their thoughts, observations or objections to a Parish Councillor prior to the Meeting or, to the Parish Council at a full Council Meeting.

88. Apologies - Were received and accepted from Councillors: Harold Heaton (holidays), Ellen Walmsley (illness), James Hill (unavoidably delayed).

89. 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 Pilling declared in interest in Agenda Item 10 (Donations). No further declarations were made at this point however Councillors will declare them should they arise in the Meeting.**

90. To Accept the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 3 October 2016 - The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 3 October 2016 had been circulated in advance of the Meeting. **Resolved: The Minutes of the Meeting were accepted as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.**

91. Update on Matters Arising from previous Meetings for note by the Council: Report 1 (page 6).
Bin bags for collection on Charter Lane – The Clerk confirmed that Chorley Council will collect any black bin bags of refuse taken from the litter bins on the public footpath route through the golf course, if left next to litter bins on Charter Lane on Thursdays when routine emptying is undertaken.
Chains for the swings – The Clerk reported the cost of replacement chains and seats for the swings. It was agreed new chains and seats will be ordered. Shrinkage of safety surfacing will be assessed.
Blocked gullies – Councillor Taylor confirmed he had prodded the gullies on Mill Lane and Park Hall Road and confirmed that all those he tested appeared to have been emptied properly. It was reported that not all the gullies had been emptied, in particular in the Heskin direction and, if the gullies were empty why is this road still flooding? Councillor Taylor suggested that root growth in the drains could be a problem and agreed to check remaining gullies for the next Meeting.

92. Correspondence and Information items requiring discussion or action:

- a) Minutes of the last Chorley Liaison Meeting on 19 October, plus a request for agenda items for the next Meeting on 18 January. Also, information from Inspector Cox regarding local policing – **Resolved** – **The following will be suggested as Agenda Items: 1) Could Parish Councils be given comparison figures showing the amount of money spent in recent years on Chorley Town Centre as compared to the amount spent by Chorley Council in the Parishes. 2) Is there any truth in the rumours that money is being moved around or diverted within the Borough Council finances into Town Centre improvements e.g. the use of s106 monies possibly generated from development in the Parishes being used or channelled into the Town Centre? if this is incorrect, could an explanation be provided as to how this misconception may have been reached?**
- b) Email from a resident concerning village matters – **It was confirmed that it is sometimes difficult to use the lay-bys in the Parish because of the cars for sale. The Council will write to the person known to be selling vehicles in this way with a request that he cease doing so. The Clerk will confirm that Councillors were insulted with some of comments in the email.**
- c) Email from residents regarding parked cars on Chorley Lane obstructing sightlines for motorists exiting Robin Close – **Councillor Bishop reported informing the Police about a van parking in this manner following which, the van has not been seen parking at this location since. The Police will be asked to undertake additional patrols as it is illegal to obstruct footways.**
- d) Email from a resident regarding parked cars on the pavement on match day on Charter Lane – **It was confirmed that the Police will react if this is reported. It was agreed that this is becoming a major problem. The Council will ask that the Football Club steward the car park more effectively on match days, that the rubbish on the car park is removed as soon as possible thereby allowing for more cars to be parked off road and, the Council will suggest that private functions are not booked in the Football Club if matches are on.**
- e) Request from a textile recycling company working in partnership with Against Breast Cancer to locate a recycling bank within in the area – **The Parish Council think that this is a good idea however, there is no suitable site for location of a textile recycling bank in the village.**
- f) Draft Chorley Householder Design Guidance SPD – consultation – **The Parish Council agreed that this should be left to professional officers at Chorley Council.**
- g) Planting and Pruning at Welch Whittle Gardens – at the request of a resident – **It was reported that residents in this vicinity were disappointed that pruning of the perennials had not been undertaken earlier in the season and, that more colourful bedding plants were not planted during the summer months. It was Resolved – That Pole Green Nurseries will plant both Delph Gardens and Welch Whittle Gardens with winter pansies and will check planting at Mill Lane to see if the planters there require the addition of winter pansies and report back**
- h) Info. from LALC – A request that Parish Councils adapt the template letter relating to Council Tax Referendums and send it to your MP, opposing the government proposals which in effect caps Parish Council Precepts – **Resolved** – **The Parish Council will modify the template letter and send to Lindsay Hoyle MP with a request for his support in opposing these proposals.**
- i) Re-open discussions on the possible creation of a concessionary footpath from the golf course through to Charter Lane – **Resolved** – **The Council will pursue the agreement for a concessionary right of way with Wigan Athletic. It was suggested that if the hedge was cut**

back, the kissing gate could be installed adjacent to the existing gate. Once confirmation that Wigan Athletic accept the agreement has been received the kissing gate will be ordered

- j) Reminder - Remembrance Day Service, Christ Church, Sunday 13 November, 10.30am – **Noted.**
- k) Parish Council Christmas Meal – Tuesday 6 December, Dog & Partridge, 7.00pm for 7.30pm.
- l) Details of late items of correspondence received i) Request from Chorley Council for Southern Parishes Neighbourhood Priorities for 2017/18 – **This will be placed on the December Agenda allowing Councillors time to think about this.** ii) Request from Highways England for the Council to complete the Stakeholder Perceptions Survey – **Councillor Taylor agreed to look at this and complete the survey if he feels it necessary.**

93. Reports, Complaints, Concerns from Councillors - not addressed at the beginning of the Meeting

- 1) The route of the Mosses footpath is overgrown and needs cutting back.
- 2) LCC recently filled the grit bins they are responsible for, the Lengthsman will be asked to check the Parish Council grit bins to ensure the locks are operative and that they are well stocked.
- 3) New horse warning signs have been erected on Church Lane near Delph Lane.
- 4) Councillor Bishop reported that litter is particularly bad in the village at the moment and that some has been left for a considerable time without being removed. The Lengthsman will be informed that his operatives are not doing a satisfactory job in his absence.
- 5) Speeding vehicles on Church Lane are giving cause for concern. Signs will be requested before the bridge when approaching from the Chorley Lane direction, indicating that this is a “Blind Bend” and that there may be “Pedestrians in the Road” as there is no footway over the bridge.
- 6) The public footpath sign at the junction of the footpaths off Delph Lane is still lying in the grass under the hedge and needs re-attaching to the post.
- 7) It was confirmed that the 2 gentlemen responsible for re-erecting the milestone on Chorley Lane will be attending the Best Kept Garden Presentation Evening.
- 8) The footway along Park Hall Road is overgrown. The Clerk will contact Story Homes & Welcome Break with a request that the overgrown hedges be cut back.
- 9) A request will be made to the homeowner on Croston Lane, whose hedge the “Croston Lane” street name sign is now deeply encased in, that the hedge be cut back properly to ensure that the street name sign is clearly visible.
- 10) The newly diverted public footpath at Brook Lane has now been roped at the start of the route and fenced further along. The route is now clearly marked and visible.
- 11) A large branch which has fallen from a tree at the rear of the damaged chevrons near Yew Tree Villas, Preston Road, is now lying on the chevrons and if it moves will pull cables above down.

94. Reports from Committees and Representatives on Outside Bodies – Nothing specific to report.

95. Planning – The Council observations on the following applications are as detailed:

The Parish Council has been asked to reconsider the following planning application as there are issues with the impact the proposals will have on the neighbour: 16/00580/FULHH – Erection of single storey side and rear extension with alterations to hardstanding at front, installation of new access and dropped kerb. 49 Chorley Lane, Charnock Richard. – The Parish Council submitted “No Objections” to these proposals – **Resolved - In the light of new information received since initial observations were submitted, the Parish Council would like to change their opinion. Charnock Richard Parish Council object strongly to these proposals on the grounds that the imposition of a blank brick wall so close to the property line of the neighbours home and, adjacent to the neighbours window, would constitute a significant loss of amenity for the neighbour at No 51 Chorley Lane. Furthermore, the brick wall would block light to the window in this room at No.51 Chorley Lane. The Parish Council are also extremely concerned that the volume of the proposed extension is significant and would result in No.49 and No.51 Chorley Lane almost joining up and looking like a pair of semi-detached houses, giving a terracing effect. These 2 houses have been detached dwellings since they were built and the proposed extensions at No. 49 will materially, completely and detrimentally alter the existing street scene.**

- 1) 16/00903/FUL – Proposed replacement dwelling and detached garage. 71 Town Lane, Charnock Richard. **Resolved - The Parish Council object to these proposals as the front elevation**

would not be in keeping with the existing street scene and would result in a building which appears out of character with the existing homes.

- 2) 16/00923/FULHH – Erection of a two storey front extension and extension of a detached garage. The Stables, Delph Lane, Charnock Richard. **Resolved - The Parish Council has no objections to these proposals provided they comply with all relevant planning criteria for development in the Green Belt.**
- 3) 16/00947/FULHH - Raising of the ridge height to accommodate an additional storey and erection of rear dormer. 14 Lichen Close, Charnock Richard. **Resolved - No Objections.**
- 4) 16/00991/CLPUD - Certificate of Lawfulness for the use of an existing dwellinghouse (Use Class C3a) as a dwellinghouse for the occupation of up to four children living together as a single household with no more than two carers (Use Class C3b). 1 Town Lane Charnock Richard. **Resolved – The Parish Council appreciate that a change of use is not required for this use and have no objections to the proposed use in principle. The Council however, wonder whether it may be possible to obtain from the applicant an assurance that they will adhere to everything they have promised in their supporting documentation. Also, confirmation that the Borough Council, the Parish Council and the neighbours on Town Lane, will be notified of any changes to the proposals or increases in the numbers of children or support staff staying in the house.**
- 5) 16/01001/FUL - Alterations to previously approved house types J and D on plots 1, 3 and 4 (originally approved under 13/00600/FUL), to add an integral garage with room above to the side of plot 1 and to increase the ridge height and add roof lights to the semi-detached bungalows on plots 3 and 4 (to allow creation of a room in the roof space). Also, to amend the line of the French drain in the rear gardens of these properties to avoid the tree line on the western boundary. Land 60M North To The Rear Of 34-42 And Including 42 Chorley Lane, Charnock Richard. **Resolved - The Parish Council object to these proposals as the provision of upper floor rooms and windows would be intrusive to existing neighbouring properties.**

96. Phase III Mossie Close Play Area Refurbishments – To discuss what the Parish Council would like to be included in Phase III i.e. To retain all existing equipment and add to it or, to replace some of the existing equipment with new items and if so, which items will be replaced and with what? – **Resolved – A site meeting will be held on Monday 21 November at 10.30am at the play area, weather permitting, and a report will be made at the December Parish Council Meeting. If Councillors agree to keep all the existing play equipment in place, new chains and swing seats will be ordered. Councillors Almond, Cheetham, Taylor, Hill, Ogden, and Pilling agreed to attend and Councillor Heaton will be informed and invited to attend.**

97. Annual Donations – The Clerk reported that 7 applications have been received as follows:
1) Charnock Richard Community Centre Trust - towards replacing windows in the main hall.
2) PCC - towards cost of printing the Chronicle. 3) PCC - towards churchyard maintenance.
4) CR Scouts & Guides - towards a new water heater. 5) CR Pre-school - to enhance outdoor play provision. 6) Scarecrow Festival - towards co-ordinating the 2017 event. 7) NW Air Ambulance.
Councillors present discussed the merits of each application following which it was **Resolved – That each applicant would receive a donation of £145.00. Totalling £1015.00.**

98. Best Kept Garden Competition – Presentation Evening – Thursday 10 November, 7.30pm at the Football Club. The Clerk will arrange for flowers for the Mayor and her daughter, Port for the judge of the competition and bottles of wine for those presented with certificates of appreciation/thanks.

99. Accounts

Accounts for Payment:

Trilogy Lasercraft	Plaques for Best Kept Garden Comp. Winners	£201.48
Mrs C A Cross	Salary – (Net)	£621.68
HM Revenue & Customs	Tax & NI due by Clerk	£106.32
	NI due by Parish Council	£7.18
		£113.50

Resolved: That the aforementioned Accounts are approved payments.

100. Lengthsman's Payment - Work undertaken this month totals 125 Hours @ £8.00 per hour = £1000.00 + £28.98 for materials. **Resolved: Total Paid £1028.98.** Councillor Taylor reported that the Lengthsman's schedule of work has now been amended to reflect the monthly playground inspection he will be required to undertake, along with minor amendments to update the schedule. It was confirmed that the amendments were accepted as necessary.

Next Meeting: Monday 5 December 2016
Members of the Public and Press are Welcome to Attend

Meeting Closed: 10.34 pm

Chairman:

Date:

REPORT 1

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

- a) Notification that the Taylor Wimpey planning application is not on the Agenda for the Chorley Planning Committee Meeting on Tuesday 8 November.
- b) Copy of the letter sent by Coppull PC on behalf of 23 Parish Councils in the Borough, regarding re-opening of Chorley A&E on a part time basis and looking forward to it re-opening full time.
- c) Updated copies of the Chorley & Leyland bus timetable for information.
- d) Copies of the Chorley Ramblers programme of walks – placed in the Notice Boards.
- e) Info. leaflets from Central Lancs. Dial a Ride.
- f) Copies of the learning and development workbook for potential LCC electoral candidates.

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.