

CHARNOCK RICHARD PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 4 April 2016 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Rooms, Charter Lane, Charnock Richard.

Present: A J Shaw (Chairman), J Hill, A Cornwell, Mrs A Bishop, Miss E Walmsley, Mrs J Ogden, H Heaton, L Cheetham and J Taylor.

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)

Story Homes – Representatives, John Winstanley (Strategic Land Manager NW), David O'Reilly and Siobhan Sweeney from Story Homes, were present to introduce the team based at the Chorley Office and to provide a general update. The Chorley Team will be managing the Camelot site, timescales etc, based in the Head Office for the North West on Ackhurst Business Park. David O'Reilly and Siobhan Sweeney will be dealing with the panning aspects at this site. Site investigations will commence this week for approx. 2-3 weeks the results of which will help inform the plans as they evolve towards a community consultation event. After reviewing previous work already carried out at the site a number of additional technical surveys are required. The results will be used to update, refresh and improve results obtained previously. This project will be driven from a local level and will include planners, architects and consultants. It was stressed that Story Homes are keen to engage with the Parish Council and the Community and, that attending this meeting is an indication of the level of engagement they are prepared to include. The Chorley Team will be leading the scheme themselves rather than a consultant lead scheme and, will be looking to increase community involvement whilst being prepared to listen to positive and negative views on the proposals. Story Homes will be looking to restart the consultation process from the beginning, commencing in June. The results of the previous consultation will also be considered and, following the forthcoming consultation process, they are hoping to submit a planning application around September time. It was confirmed that the previous application was for 420 houses and, whilst there are no fixed numbers at the moment, the development will not be as large as the initial proposals. Story Homes will be looking at the constraints of the site and will then gauge the number of units proposed. They are currently looking to see what benefits can be gained from the scheme and assessing whether the proposals are viable. There are no concerns about market demand for the houses on the site and they do not feel there is any risk in developing the site. Mr Winstanley confirmed that the rides on the site are owned by a third party and, that both the site and the rides were purchased out of administration by two different parties. Members of the public present stressed that they do not like the idea of a satellite village being created within the Parish of Charnock Richard. The closest Doctors surgery is in Eccleston and it is full, all the local schools are oversubscribed and, amenities/facilities in the Parish are limited and, it is difficult to see how the development can be sustainable. Mr Winstanley confirmed that this is the type of information they require and, will enable them to address the lack of facilities and amenities in the Parish when formulating their proposals. Story Homes were asked, besides the s106 and CIL money generated from the development, what kind of benefits could they bring to the Parish? Mr Winstanley confirmed that they could take account of drainage and flooding issues in the Parish and, possible improvements to the infrastructure. It was pointed out that the proposed development will also affect neighbouring Parishes such as Heskin and Eccleston. Mr Winstanley confirmed that they will be attending Parish Council Meetings in other Parishes. Councillors present confirmed that they are pleased that they have attended this Meeting as, in the interests of openness and transparency, the Parish Council does not conduct closed Meetings. The Parish Council confirmed that any development in the Parish will put pressure on existing resources locally eg: doctors, dentists and schools and, that many residents will not want to see any development take place on this site. Mr Winstanley confirmed that Story Homes are open to listening to what the community want and, what is required or what needs to be improved. Therefore, between now and September there will be a workshop in June designed to be a fact finding exercise, a consultation event

around mid July and a final exhibition, before the submission of a planning application around September. The workshop will be by invitation to interested parties who can have a positive input on the proposals. Councillor Mrs Bishop confirmed that she will be carefully examining the ecology and wildlife on the site, both of which will need to be protected and, it may be necessary to apply to Natural England if there are any proposals to alter or move wildlife habitats. Mr Winstanley confirmed that they do not think a licence will be necessary as there are no plans to affect the wildlife and, that they are in fact looking to minimise the impact of any proposals. Borough Councillor Whittaker expressed his concern at the inadequacy of the previous consultation and, stressed that it is difficult to have any positive input on proposals unless the number of houses proposed is known. He stressed that the timing of the workshops also requires some thought ie: should they be held before or after the public consultation as, until some proposals are formulated there is not actually anything to deliberate on. It is very obvious that the number of houses proposed for this site will be a crucial factor in any discussions. The Chairman thanked the representatives of Story Homes for attending this meeting.

Public present – enquired as to the results of the recent consultation on an increase in the Precept to cover repayments on a loan to support the Community Centre Trust with refurbishments to the Parish Rooms/Community Centre. The Chairman explained the responses have been received and the information will now be collated and analysed and will be reported at the May Meeting. It was reported that the litter bin at the bottom of Town lane is always full and needs emptying. It was suggested that Chorley Council be asked to replace the bin with a large free standing bin. The poor condition of the carriageway in the vicinity of the mini-roundabout at the Preston Road/Spendmore Lane junction was raised. Borough Councillor Whittaker confirmed that work at this junction to remove the raised mini-roundabout and replace with flat surfaced road markings and to resurface the carriageway is scheduled for 18/19 April, weather permitting. The poor condition of the road surface on Park Hall Road and, at the junction with Mill Lane, was also raised.

Borough Councillor Whittaker – reported that he is dealing with complaints about bus service changes, some services will be lost and others have been saved. Councillor Whittaker raised the problems caused by the Ironman event in July each year. The event caused severe disruption in Heskin a couple of years ago and, following strong complaints, the route was changed last year to avoid Heskin and Charnock Richard. The amended route through Wrightington, Standish and Coppull will be followed again this year. It was confirmed that there are several thousand participants all paying approx. £400 each to enter.

152. Apologies - Were received and accepted from Councillors Mrs Pilling (treatment), M Almond (holidays), G Brennand (illness), Borough Councillor Leadbetter (work) and County Councillor Holgate (family commitment).

153. 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 made at this point however, Councillors will declare them should they arise in the Meeting.**

154. To Accept the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 7 March 2016 - The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 7 March 2016 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.**

155. Update on Matters Arising from previous Meetings for note by the Council: Report 1 (page 5) – ACCEPTED.

156. Correspondence and Information items requiring discussion or action:

- a) Notification Audit of Accounts for year ending 31/3/16 will take place on 18 July 2016 – **Noted.**
- b) Request from Chorley & Leyland Branch NCT to display posters for charity sale – **Noted.**
- c) Notification of a Channel 4 series “Fill Your House For Free”, request to display posters – **Noted**
- d) Response from School to report of holly bush cuttings in the field opposite – **Noted.**
- e) Press Release from Chorley Council re: steps taken to save bus services – **Noted.**
- f) Notification, Parish Bus Seminar, County Hall, Preston, 7 April 2016, 6.30pm-9.30pm – **Noted.**
- g) Request for the Council to discuss speeding problems on Chorley Lane and Church Lane and the possibility of some kind of traffic calming measures – **It was confirmed the speed survey**

undertaken in 2014 indicated that the majority of speeds were between 39-40 mph. The general feeling is that the speed of vehicles has increased. LCC did accept that vehicle speeds were too high and requested increased Police enforcement measures, which has taken place albeit at the wrong times of the day. Budgets are now tighter than they were and the only thing which will influence changes would be an increase in accident statistics. It was reported that a recent incident occurred on Dob Brow. It was suggested that another request be made to LCC for speed strips to be placed on Chorley Lane before the school breaks up for Summer. It was reported that LCC accident investigation and prevention team look at accidents, where they are, the cause and outcomes and then divert money towards implementing measures to help alleviate/reduce them. It was accepted that most accidents are speed related. **The Council will request another speed survey.**

- h) Request, via Borough Councillor Leadbetter, to discuss the alterations which will be made to Chorley Lane by creating the access to the development being undertaken by Mawdesley Bldrs – **When the Parish Council discussed this application Councillor Taylor made reference to site-line requirements. Chorley Council imposed a condition on the permission granted that the pavement be taken out to satisfy the site-lines required to exit the site safely. It was mentioned that narrowing Chorley Lane at this point could slow traffic down.**
- i) Minutes of the Chorley Liaison Meeting - 15 March 2016 – **particular reference was made to the request for gully emptying schedules so that this can be compared to when they do actually empty them. County Councillor Holgate will continue to pursue this request.**
- j) Advance warning details for the Ironman 2016 event, 17 July 2015 – **Noted.**
- k) Email from Borough Councillor Leadbetter, in his capacity as representative of the Pre-School, in relation to the recent Cross-Committee Meeting – **It was confirmed at this point that the Cross-Committee Meetings are exactly that, Meetings between the 2 committees whose aim is to secure the long-term future of the Parish Rooms/Community Centre, those committees being the Parish Council and the Community Centre Trust. The idea of the Meetings is to determine how the Parish Council can become involved in helping to secure this facility for the future. It was stressed however, that all users of this building are completely aware of the current position and should be encouraged to, if they are not already, be actively involved in fundraising initiatives, funds from which would ultimately be used to support the Community Centre Trust funding bid and would be clear evidence that the community centre trust users, along with the Parish Council, are totally behind the Community Centre Trust in their bid to refurbish the building. Mr Leadbetter’s comments were noted,**
- l) Info. from LALC – Notification the next Area Committee Meeting will be held on 9th June at 7pm at Chorley Town Hall – Notification of “Effective Meetings” Workshop, 14 June 2016, 7pm-9pm – Notification the Spring Conference 2016 will be held on Saturday 14 May 2016, 10.00am-4.15pm, Leyland – **Resolved – The Clerk will attend the Spring Conference.**
- m) Details of late items of correspondence received – i) A positive response from Chorley Council to the suggestion that the Football Club could be a suitable facility to hold the Digital Events – **Noted.** ii) Invitation from LCC to opt into the Public Rights of Way Local Delivery Scheme for 2016/17- **Resolved – The Council will not be opting into this scheme.**

157. Reports, Complaints, Concerns from Councillors - not addressed at the start of the Meeting:

- 1) It was confirmed that from 1/4/16 food waste can no longer be disposed of in Brown Bins – this is due to the fact that the plant is closing down as it is no longer economically viable.
- 2) Councillor Miss Walmsley thanked Councillor Cheetham for his prompt action in updating the website with the information she requested.
- 3) Pot-holes remain an issue on Park Hall Road/Mill Lane.
- 4) The chevrons on Dob Brow have been damaged in a recent accident and require attention.
- 5) The Lengthsman will be asked to cut back and remove overgrowth encroaching onto the footways on Preston Road, from Town Lane to the Gatehouse and, at other locations in the Parish where the problem is apparent.
- 6) Councillor Taylor asked whether the Parish Council still planned to unearth the almost buried milestone in the grass verge on Chorley Lane. It was suggested that this work be undertaken at the same time, using similar machinery, to that required when constructing planters on Mill Lane

- 7) It was reported that the speed warning sign on Dob Brow was being repaired, on site, today.
- 8) Councillor Mrs Bishop reported that the public footpath through Parker in the Fields, which forms part of the Chorley Circular Route, is not fit to walk and, it is not just the result of the weather. The addition of a kissing gate on this right of way near the farm is great, however, the route through the farmyard is covered with mud and slurry making it impossible to use. On a recent walk along this route Councillor Mrs Bishop was forced to turn around and go back after being laughed at by farm workers who witnessed her wellingtons getting stuck in the mud. The farmer appears to be being totally obstructive by not keeping the route clear of mud and slurry. The Council will inform LCC as this route is a definitive right of way. If this matter is not addressed, they will contact the landowner and stress that the route should be usable/walkable.
- 9) It was reported that only some, and not all, pot-holes in the Parish have been filled.
- 10) The Lengthsman will be asked to sweep the ginnell from Church Lane to Lichen Close.
- 11) It was confirmed that the amenity grassed area on Meadowlands has now been cut twice.
- 12) The litter bin in the lay-by at the top of Charnock Brow is full and needs emptying.
- 13) The Lengthsman will be asked to plant a lot more bedding plants at Welch Whittle Gardens. Signs for the sponsors are being made and will be installed when ready.

158. Reports from Committees and Representatives on Outside Bodies – Play Area Inspection & Risk Assessment Workshop – attended by Councillor Almond, written report will be circulated.

159. Mossie Close Play Area – A public consultation needs to be undertaken which indicates several possibilities for this site eg: a MUGA, a zip wire, fitness equipment or a combination of all these. The consultation will be circulated to the organisations suggested by Chorley Councils officers to determine what is popular with the young people who will use it and, what is acceptable to those who live close by. An open day/exhibition of the possibilities will then be arranged where different schemes will be displayed and, interested parties and anyone wishing to attend or comment on the proposals will be able to do so and will be invited to choose their favourite option/scheme. Quotations for the proposed schemes will be obtained following which, a planning application will be submitted. It was suggested that the slide be removed and replaced with something more modern as part of these proposals. GD funding who attended the recent Cross-Committee Meeting will be approached for a quotation along with other play equipment suppliers once a number of proposed schemes have been decided upon.

160. Gateway Planting, Mill Lane – update and progress – It was reported that when investigations were undertaken on site it was necessary to set one of the proposed beds back approx. 0.5m to avoid a street lighting cable. The proposed free, used, sleepers may not be suitable for this project as they are all in different lengths and conditions, they may contain nails which could damage cutting machinery and, they are impregnated with tar which could prove to be an issue. It was suggested that new sleepers could be purchased, treated, which will be easier to cut if necessary, the cost of which can be met from funds allocated for parks, open spaces and highways expenditure. Top soil will also be required to fill the beds. Councillor Heaton confirmed that there is a large mound of soil on the Football Club car park which could be used to partially fill the beds which will then need a layer of good top soil on top. Work on this project will be undertaken using Lancaster House Farm as a base. It was also reported that, if the field behind the site is too wet to take the machinery required to transport and lift the sleepers into position, it may be necessary to employ a traffic management firm whilst materials are unloaded onto the site, to ensure that highway safety is not compromised. The cost of traffic management could be somewhere in the region of £400-£600. It was also suggested that large pieces of stone could be acquired to place on the grass verge further down to prevent vehicles who normally park where the planters will be located merely moving further down Mill Lane. The stretch of grass further down Mill Lane which has been weed killed by the Lengthsman, now needs rotivating in readiness for the sowing of wildflower seeds. **Resolved** – **All Councillors who wish to be involved in this project will attend a site-meeting on Mill Lane on Monday 18 April at 6pm to discuss this matter in more detail.**

161. 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 2016/17. Councillors remain happy with the contents of their Councillors Information Pack without amendment.

162. Planning – The Council were required to make observations on the following application:
16/00189/PDE – proposed single storey rear extension measuring 5.8m in depth, 6.3m in width, 2.7m high to the eaves and 3.8m maximum height to the ridge. Brookfield, 10 Highgrove Avenue, Charnock Richard. **Resolved – No Objections.**

163. Accounts

Accounts for Payment:

MC & MA Stewart Haulage Ltd – Grit for grit bins	£38.40
Mrs C A Cross Salary – (Net)	£511.57
HM Revenue & Customs Tax due by Clerk	£57.40

Resolved: That the aforementioned Accounts are approved payments.

164. Lengthsman's Payment – 104 ½ Hours @ the hourly rate of £7.88 per hour = £823.46.

Resolved: Total Paid £823.46.

Next Meeting: Monday 9 May 2016
(Second Monday)

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: 9.35pm

Chairman:

Date:

REPORT 1

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

- a) Notification of the forthcoming Election of Chorley Borough Councillors.
- b) Notification from Taylor Wimpey of the launch of 2 social media pages to ensure wider engagement with the community –
https://www.facebook.com/taylorwimpeycharnockrichard/timeline?ref=page_internal and
<https://twitter.com/twcharnock>
- c) Email regarding lack of compliance with enforcement on land opposite 71 Church Lane.
- d) Copy LCC Severe weather update bulletin.
- e) Press release from Chorley Council in relation to the land swap on Southport Road designated for housing for the Oak House site opposite the Town Hall, currently owned by Northern Trust.
- f) Posters from LCC re: the new dementia awareness campaign, supported by Alzheimer's Society.

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.