**MINUTES OF 1173RD MEETING**

 **OF HOGHTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 16TH JANUARY 2023**

**AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH**

**HALL .**

**PRESENT: - COUNCILLOR T. GREENWOOD (CHAIRMAN) COUNCILLOR B. MATTOCK (VICE CHAIRMAN) COUNCILLORS Ms J.CATON,A. CULLENS M. GRAHAM,Ms Y. HARGREAVES AND Ms M. URRY AND MR. T. HARKNESS (CLERK).**

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: NINE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.**

1. **CHORLEY STREET SCENE STRATEGY:**

Prior to the start of the meeting an officer from Chorley Council attended to report on the principles contained in the strategy and invited the Parish Council and Members of the Public present to raise any concerns about street scene issues.

It was felt that the major difficulty was directing issues to the right person.

The Clerk would collate the issues raised and refer them to the appropriate officer at Chorley.

**1101. 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.

**1102. MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 21st November 2022 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman (Councillor T. Greenwood).

**1103. ADJOURNMENT:**

**THERE THEN FOLLOWED AN ADJOURNMENT TO ALLOW THE PUBLIC TO DISCUSS ISSUES AND ASK QUESTIONS RAISED VIA PRIOR WEBSITE NOTIFICATION.**

**PLANNING APPLICATION - FORMER POLICE HOUSE RILEY GREEN:**

Members of the public expressed their concerns regarding the conversion of the former police house from a dwelling at 10 Riley Green to a childrens home for 11 to 18 year olds.

There was much opposition to this locally and residents were asked to submit individual letters of objections to the development on planning grounds.

In the meantime the Parish Council would object to the proposals on planning grounds.

**1104. POLICE REPORT:**

The police were not present.

A local resident police would provide up to date details.to the Clerk

There had been a range of consultations circulated since the last meeting regarding various topics.

It was reported that quadbikes were becoming a problem at Hoghton Bottoms the police would be asked to investigate this.

**(B). CONSUMER ALERTS – TRADING STANDARDS:**

The Clerk circulated a copy of the latest consumer alerts from the County Council’s Trading Standards Officer.

**1105. LALC REPORT:**

Various consultation documents had been circulated to the Parish Council together with updates from LALC. The e - newsletter had also been circulated..

**1106. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND CONCERNS:**

**River Darwen Survey**

It had been agreed with the Ribble Rivers Trust that that the survey would take place between 10:30 to 12 noon on Sunday 30th April. 2023, The Tower Estate would be approached to pay for a skip again and a leaflet would be produced for distribution locally and details would be published on social media.A copy of a previous leaflet was circulated and this will be updated with a Hoghton Parish Council ‘header’.

Details would be published in the Parish Council`s Newsletter and on its

Facebook page.

**1107 .HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:**

**(A). FOOTWAYS A675/STATION ROAD:**

The footway paths along the A675 from the Boars Head to Hoghton Tower Cottages and along Jack Pits were overgrown and in places impassable. They needed weeding and clearing.This required extensive work to remove them.

The hedges and footpaths along Station Road also required similar work

The question of weed control on the pavements and gulleys in the Parish had

been referred to Chorley.

They replied they had returned to using herbicides on all adopted roads as they found that treatment through the hot air kits or manual removal was not providing effective control. The treated weeds were often recovering with residents then contacting them for repeated treatment within a matter of weeks. They still aimed to keep glyphosate usage to a minimum so had moved to a product that

contained approx.1/3 the volume of glyphosate compared to herbicides previously used.

The situation with regard to verges on country lanes was mentioned and it was suggested that weed control be used sparingly as sometimes there was no vegetation left after spraying. This was environmentally unsound and it was felt that grass cutters should be used on rural verges so as not to affect wildlife.

The current procedure was being reviewed and alternatives sought. The issue Himalayan Balsam was also under review.

Chorley Council replied that there was some misunderstanding. They were not

currently reviewing treatment for Himalayan Balsam. They would would

continue to treat by either manually pulling or herbicide application as required.

They would continue to review weed treatment with view to identifying

glyphosate free alternatives that provide similar levels of control.Their current

responsibilities towards using herbicides were taken very seriously and only

used by fully trained and qualified staff who should be following best practice.

This meant not spraying verges along country lanes or using the hand lance

whilst driving the quad bike. Essentially they would only be treating the curbs

edges, walls etc. along pavements and the roads. Grass verges along rural

lanes that they were responsible for were cut using the tractor and flail

A recent example of the devastating affect of spraying herbicides was at the

North West Electricity Substation site at Green Lane which had been sprayed

for no apparent reason.

In October a Member had reported Chorley had been out spraying weeds by

the Parish Church. They had been out twice in a couple of days. It was

understood that this was current practice.

Members of the Parish Council would be asked to submit details of sites

requiring attention to the Clerk which would then be notified to the Street Scene

Strategy Team for attention

**(B). FOOTPATHS :**

The footpath at Hoghton Bottoms had fallen away causing danger for walkers.

The Footpaths Officer at the County Council would be notified.

**(C). STREET SIGNS:**

Chorley were still to replace the sign Station Road.

**(D). ROAD MARKINGS - BOLTON ROAD/RILEY GREEN SWITCH ROAD:**

The County Council had agreed to re paint the road marking but nothing had

been done. County Councillor Cullens would arrange for this to be done.

**(E)** .**ROAD SIGNS CHAPEL LANE/VALLEY ROAD:**

 The County County Council was currently undertaking a review of the need for

designated parking on Chapel Lane and Valley Road.

**(F}. POTHOLES:**

Following the recent heavy rain the material filling the potholes from the the

railway bridge to the Blackburn/ Hoghton Boundary had been washed away

and needed refilling..

County Councillor Cullens would investigate this..

**(G). SPIDs - POLICY AND PROCEDURES:**

Following discussion regarding the location of the signs it was suggested that

one should be located on Viaduct Road as well as a location on Blackburn Old

Road /Hoghton Lane.

***(*H).GRIT BIN VALLEY ROAD**

The bin was still to be replaced.’

**(I). WINTER SERVICE BRIEFING:**

The current briefing note from the County Council regarding their winter service

for highways was circulated.

**(J).HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME 2023/24:**

A scheme to alleviate flooding in Private Road the by the County Council had

been submitted as a project to be included in next year`s programme.

**1108.CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:**

Details of the matters affecting the Parish Council were reported ..

 **1109.PLANNING REPORT:**

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| 1. Torwood Station Road Single storey rear extension and

Elevational alterations (following demolition of existing conservatory and part single storey rear projection (App 22/01187 FULHH).- Granted.  1. 2.2. Straits Farm The Straits Application to works for protected trees Chorley BC TPO2. 1991 to crown and clear and reduce branches to allow new house build and comply with highway regulations (App no 22/01100TP). - Consent to tree works.

4F 3.Ferndale Quaker Brook Lane Section Construction of replacement detached dwelling and detached garage following demolition of existing detached dwelling and detached garage.(App no 22/01033/FULH) - Granted 1. 4. 4. Heatherdale Quaker Brook Lane Tree works to protected trees (Chorley Rural District Council TPO (Hoghton) 1991, (App no 22/01057/TPO) - Consent to tree works..

**2.APPLICATIONS:** The following applications have been received since the last meeting:-1. Great Barn Hoghton Tower applications to discharge conditions 5 (Natural England licence and archaeology) 6 (bat mitigation) 7 (materials) 8 (mortar details) and 17 Conversion of Great Barn to wedding venue and ancillary use of outbuildings 1 to 16 including the flexible use of out buildings within classE (ea) (eb ec1 ec11 and eg1 reinstatement of outbuilding 5 and temporary siting of portable toilets and catering facilities to rear of Great Barn (App nos 22/01216/DIS and 22/01218/DIS).

 No comments were made regarding this application.1. .10 Riley Green Switch Road (to change of use from (c3 Residential) to c2 Residential Institution)Children Homes, (App no23/00004/ful)

Objections were were raised on the following grounds:-.1.Inappropriate use in the area..2. Contrary to current use classes - i.e. residential. 1. Increased traffic on what is already a busy traffic junction.

 1. The site is in a residential area

 1. The proposed development would affect its setting in a residential area.
2. . The proposed development by its nature will impact on the locall area.
3. The proposal impact on the privacy of others.

 8, Does the proposal intend to preserve existing trees. 9 The project in an existing flood zone.1. Will any protected species be harmed.
2. Will an archaeological survey be required prior to the development.
3. if it relates to a public building is it easy access or everyone

5111**110. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**TheThe following accounts were submitted for payment **.**

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| 1.A.Harkness | Clerk Salary and Expenses Quarter Clerk Salary and expenses quarter ended 31st December 2022 | £1152.17. |
| 2.HMRC | Tax | £318.23. |
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| 3..Glasdon UK  | Bench Chapel Lane  | £1084 00 |
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| 4.Whitehead and Aldrich  | Payroll Fees  | £57.60. |
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| 1. 5.M. Savage
 | Maintenance Contract | £1090.00. |
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| 1. 6.M.E . Enterprises
 | Christmas Tree Pinfold  | £960.00 |
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| 1. 7.Brindle St. Josephs /T,Greenwood
 | Hire of Rooms | £60.00 |
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| 8.LALC | Training Course Fees | £35.00. |

The accounts were approved and cheques signed**1111.NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:**Details were circulated of an offer from a firm of Town Planners offering to undertake a review of our Neighbourhood Plan. It was agreed to take no further action.**1112**., **CENTRAL LANCASHIRE LOCAL PLAN:** The combined authorities of Preston Chorley and South Ribble circulated the first stage in the drawing up of further proposals.house building industry or recreational.The period for the consultation ended in February when the sites for development will be put forward. At both consultations the public could comment before and against the suggestions.The relevant parts of the consultation so far as the Parish was concerned were paragraphs 35 -37 and 67 - 77.Members and local residents were encouraged to submit any comments to the Combined Authorities.**1113. LAND ADJACENT TO HOGHTON POST OFFICE**:Hoghton Tower has agreed to give the land subject to The Parish Council meeting their share of costs.An approach would be made to various solicitor for an estimate,1. **CHRISTMAS 2022:**

A report was presented on the event. The thanks of the Parish Council to Goosefoot Nurseries for the donation of the tree,The provision of lighting at the Pinfold and the Boars Head by the lighting engineers and the ancillary work required.were also thanked by the Parish Council.The bill for ancillary work had been paid. **1115.REPLACEMENT BENCH:**The bench has been acquired but was still to be placed on siteChapel Lane**1116.WREATH LAYING CEREMONY SUNDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023**t It was agreed that discussions take place in August 2023 so that satisfactory arrangements could be made for the Annual Remembrance Day Parade,.**1117, RESIGNATION OF CLERK:** The Clerk indicated due to illness he could no longer carry on with his duties so formally resigned.The Parish Council placed on record it`s appreciation of the work of the Clerk since 2005.**1118.JOB DESCRIPTION:**A clerk`s job description had been circrlated inviting people to apply forthe post. . **1119.COMMUNICATIONS:**Several communications have been circulated as well as the consultations reported under the Police Report and LALC**.****1120. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**Monday 27th February 2023 in the Holy Trinity Church Hall Blackburn Old Road (A675) Hoghton at 7.30 p.m..Meeting ends, 9.15 pm. |  |
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