

CHARNOCK RICHARD PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 6 August 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Scout Hut, Charter Lane, Charnock Richard.

Present: Councillors A J Shaw (Chairman), Mrs A Bishop, Mrs J Ogden, J Hill, Mrs C Pilling, L Cheetham, A Cornwell, H Heaton, Miss E Walmsley, Mrs L Watson and G Brennand. Also present Borough Councillors Leadbetter and 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 an update on the railway bridge on Chorley Lane – engineering work has commenced underneath the bridge, however, no progress can be seen on the visible part of the bridge. A large scale copy of the proposed warding arrangements by Chorley Council was provided with the proposals being based on population numbers and, which link Charnock Richard with Eccleston, whilst Chisnall will go into Coppull completely. Heskin PC is disappointed with their proposed links with Chorley Rural West and Councillor Whittaker is of the opinion that this option does not satisfy the 3 criteria for the proposed warding. He will pursue this matter further. It was confirmed that the Local Plan – Call for Sites Consultation will shortly begin. Councillor Bishop asked whether any information is available regarding a date for the closure of the Southbound side of the motorway access roads from Mill Lane, work to the Northbound side now having been completed - No information available. Councillor Whittaker confirmed the local MP is suggesting looking into the possibility of another motorway access located somewhere between the current junctions 27 and 28.

Borough Councillor Leadbetter – Reported that the boundary review is proving more difficult than anticipated to work out and put into practice, with the proposals seeming somewhat disjointed around the areas of Heskin, Charnock Richard and Eccleston. There is however still time to comment.

Members of the Public Present – reported that a collapsed drain on Chorley Lane/Preston Road was reported to LCC and work was undertaken to address this the same day which was excellent service. Parking problems associated with the children's homes on Town Lane has not really changed much despite the promise following the last meeting, however, work has now started on the house between the 2 children's homes, which may pose a problem. Weeds on the edges of the footways on Chorley Lane, near the s-bends, are terrible and show no evidence of recent weed spraying by Chorley Council. Councillor Cornwell asked Mrs Stewart for permission to erect a temporary flagpole in the Memorial Garden to allow the Merchant Navy Red Ensign flag to be flown on 3rd September – This was agreed.

40. Apologies – No apologies required.

41. 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 – **Councillors Mrs Watson, Mrs Pilling and Heaton declared an interest in the Agenda item Donations and Councillor Heaton declared a further interest in Planning Application 18/00704/OUT. No further declarations were made at this point however Councillors will declare them should they arise in the Meeting.**

42. To Accept the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 2 July 2018 - The Minutes of the previous Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 2 July 2018 had been circulated in advance, and it was **Resolved: The Minutes of the Meeting were accepted as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.**

43. Update on Matters Arising from previous Meetings for note by the Council: Report 1 (page 5) – Agreed. Report 1(a) – Councillors think that the 75% reduction is drastic and do not remember the figure quoted in the application being such a large percentage. The Clerk will request clarification.

44. Correspondence and Information items requiring discussion or action:

- a) Confirmation a second weed spray took place in the village on 12th July and may take 7-10 days to take effect – **Councillors still feel that some areas in the village have been missed. The Lengthsman will be asked to weed spray near the S-bends on Chorley Lane.**
- b) Confirmation that, following a second request, a dual purpose bin will be located on the A49 at the entrance to the golf course – **Noted. It was reported that the black post mounted bin on Meadowlands Green has not been emptied and, that the large free-standing litter bin on Mossie Close play area needs to be emptied more often as it always appears to be full.**
- c) Confirmation that the staff car park at school was increased 2 years ago and in the current budget it is unlikely an additional car park can be funded – **Noted.**
- d) Response from CC Iddon to your request for footway work in the Parish – **The Council are disappointed at the negative response to their request and, have received the promise that this will be put in future years' programme of works before, with no action taken. Councillors firmly believe that some stretches of footway in the Parish are not in a safe and serviceable condition, particularly on Charter Lane which is used by the elderly, infirm and the visually impaired, as well as school children and residents going to the school, pre-school, the Scout Hut, the Football Club, the Community Centre and the hairdressers. The work on the footways on the A49 was not only poorly undertaken but was unnecessary. The Council will request a copy of the last inspections of Charter Lane, Chorley Lane and the A49 for comparison purposes. The Council has been requesting this work for over 6 years, with promises from previous County Councillors also coming to nothing.**
- e) Copy correspondence from Chorley Council in response to the complaint of noise on Croston Lane associated with the Motocross event – **Noted. It was confirmed that since the track has been altered the entrance to the site is only from Croston Lane. The Clerk confirmed that a letter has been sent to the land owner. It was reported that there were 2 similar events last year and this is the first one this year.**
- f) Consultation on ward boundaries for Chorley and request for your observations/suggestions – **Borough Councillors had explained that the attempt is to fracture up the Borough into almost equal wards in terms of electorate numbers. The current proposal from the Borough Council is that Charnock Richard is joined with Eccleston, which appears to be acceptable however, to be included with Heskin would be a better option. It was agreed that Borough Councillor Whittaker will continue to address this matter and report back.**
- g) Call for evidence on Central Governments opinions on the Rural Economy – **It was agreed that social isolation and exclusion, particularly among the elderly residents in rural areas has a significant detrimental effect. The Clerk will use Councillor Bishop's email as the basis for a generic response applicable to all rural areas.**
- h) Info. from LALC – Notification of Community Engagement with Case Studies Workshop, Thursday 6th September, Howick House, 7pm-9pm. Notification of Chairmanship Workshop, Thursday 11th October at Howick House, Penwortham, 7pm-9pm – **Councillor Mrs Bishop will confirm whether she is able to attend the Chairmanship Workshop.**
- i) Details of late items of correspondence received – i) Email report from a resident about the overgrown state of the Mosses Footpath and dog fouling along this route from Church Lane to Chorley Lane – **The Scouts will be asked to place additional dog poo bag dispensers at either end of the footpath and the Lengthsman will be asked to cut back the overgrowth and litter pick. The poor state of the footpath surface and the fact it is falling away in to the ditch adjacent will be reported to LCC. Councillor Brennand reported that 2 rotten trees along this route will be cut down soon and that litter problems from his site of Delph Lane will be addressed.** ii) Report that the Central Lancashire Local Plan- Call for Sites Consultation will commence on 17th August 2018 running for 12 weeks – **Noted.** iii) Copy of a notice which has been placed on the Church doors indicating the Mission & Pastoral Measure – draft Pastoral Scheme – for the union of the benefice of Charnock Richard & Eccleston, alteration of names of the parishes, appointment of first incumbent of the new joint benefice, the parsonage house to be in Eccleston, the disposal of the parsonage house in Charnock Richard and the future patronage arrangements for the new benefice all within the diocese of Blackburn – representations no later than Tuesday 28th August 2018 – **It was confirmed that the links in the notice do not work**

and that there has not been any public consultation on this matter. In the past there have always been public meetings to discuss and ascertain public views prior to such major decisions. It is thought that the parishioners in the village contributed towards the cost of building the Vicarage and, if this is the case, then a percentage of any money raised from the sale of the Vicarage should be given back for the benefit of the village. Councillors asked why there has been no period of interregnum. It was confirmed that the proposals suggest that the parishes will be sharing a vicar, 1/3 to Charnock Richard and 2/3 to Eccleston, however the PCC's will remain separate. Standing Orders were lifted to allow Mrs Stewart to explain that this matter was raised in late 2017 with both PCC's discussing this and it was apparent how they would subsequently vote on this matter. At a later joint meeting attended by the Arch Deacon, the voting did not go the way either PCC thought it would go, and the feeling is that some members present did not understand what they were actually voting for at that meeting. Only when the subsequent paperwork came through was there any mention of disposing of the Vicarage. It was pointed out that the disposal could possibly affect the land adjacent which is rented by the Parish Council and therefore could affect the Orchard Gardens and car park proposals, as this piece of land used to form part of the vicarage garden. It was stressed that to date there has been no benefit to the village from the rental of the Vicarage. The meeting was re-convened. Councillor Bishop will forward further information to the Clerk as received and a response will be compiled. (Since the meeting, the deadline for responses has been extended and therefore the content of a response will be discussed at the next meeting).

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

- 1) The litter bin in the lay-by at Charnock Brow is missing.
- 2) The Lengthsman was thanked for cutting back hedges overgrowing the footway on Charter Lane. Landowners will need to undertake this work in the future. Councillor Watson will try to determine with the land registry responsibility/land ownership of the vacant plots on Charter Lane.
- 3) An incident was reported on Town Lane involving a car with 5 youths, 2 entering a property on a suspected burglary for keys to vehicles. Following a call to the police, 2 were caught and held with 1 being arrested. They were apparently in a stolen vehicle. Vigilance at all times is required.
- 4) The next Community Centre Coffee Morning will be Saturday 11th August 2018.
- 5) It was suggested that crime appears to be increasing in both Charnock Richard and neighbouring villages. There is no police presence in the village at all and recent reports on the television confirm that rural crime figures are increasing.
- 6) Questions have been raised as to why so many trees are being felled on the Charter Lane side of the golf course and how do villagers know that the said trees are not TPO'd. Councillor Heaton reported - only saplings growing around the ponds on the golf course are being felled and chipped.
- 7) Councillor Bishop agreed to determine whether the speed limit signs at the junction of Church Lane and the A49 Preston Road are present or, need replacing.
- 8) It was reported that traffic control measures remained in place on Sibberings Brow for a week after the work had been completed. This has happened at several locations in the Borough.
- 9) Earlier reports – the roundabout at Mossie Close play area needs lubricating as it is very difficult to turn (Councillor Shaw will look into this matter) – A large hole has recently been dug in the grass and the soil scattered all over the play area (the Lengthsman has been asked to fill in the hole and clear the play area of soil) – It may be difficult for grass cutting to be undertaken under the frame of the zip wire. The zip wire also seems quite high and difficult to use (Wicksteed will be asked to check and confirm that the zip wire is working properly) – the new gate is not shutting properly, for the safety of children using the play area the spring needs adjusting to ensure that the gate closes completely (Councillor Heaton will speak to Mr Taylor who installed the gate to ask for adjustment).

46. Reports from Committees and Representatives on Outside Bodies – Chorley Liaison Meeting – attended by Councillor Cornwell who reported that CC Iddon attended to discuss repairs to footways and gullies, stating that there approx 450,000 gullies in Lancashire and that LCC has taken on extra men and vehicles to empty the gullies and undertake work required. Community Centre Trust – The Clerk read aloud a comprehensive up to date report from Mrs Stewart indicating the work being undertaken at the Community Centre costing approx £28,000. It was confirmed that there will still

be money in the bank once this work has been completed but, that further work will be required to the building next year, including the installation of a disabled toilet. It was agreed that the Community Centre Trust see little chance of them obtaining any major funding to proceed with a part/full refurbishment of the building, however, the work currently being undertaken will not need to be done again in the future. It was reported that, until the pre-school rooms are empty it is impossible to tell whether the problems found to exist with the old floor in the main hall have spread to other parts of the building.

- 47. Best Kept Village Competition and Best Kept Garden Competition** – It was confirmed that the hanging baskets and planted areas in the village are looking exceptional at the moment. The Lengthsman has had to do a considerable number of extra hours over the past month, due to the additional watering and work required during the spell of hot weather, to ensure that the planting and hanging baskets survived. The Council thanked residents who have assisted with this by the provision of water from their premises to keep all the areas watered. Both notice boards have now been painted and the bench near the Hinds Head repaired and repainted.
- 48. Annual Donations** – Following discussion of the 12 applications received it was **Proposed, Seconded and Resolved** – **That for this year the amount budgeted for donations be increased to £1200 and, that each applicant receive a donation of £100.** The following organisations received £100 each: Charnock Richard Pre-School – towards outdoor play provision. The Scarecrow Festival – towards the 2019 Festival. Charnock Richard Scouts & Guides – towards new flooring. Charnock Richard Mother, Baby & Toddler Group – towards setup and ongoing costs. Charnock Richard under 10's Football Team – towards kit. Charnock Richard PCC –towards chronicle printing costs. Charnock Richard PCC – towards churchyard maintenance. Charnock Richard Community Centre Trust – towards work in the old school. The Potting Shed Team – towards work in the memorial garden. Charnock Richard Cricket Club – towards a new score board. North West Air Ambulance – towards vital lifesaving work. Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue team – towards IT and communications systems.
- 49. Parish Council Vacancy**- No applications have been received, however, as there will be Parish Council elections in 2019 it was agreed to wait to see if anything is received prior to then.
- 50. Progress with Orchard Gardens Project** – The Clerk confirmed receipt of a proposed plan for the project which indicates a path around the outside of the garden side of the project and parking spaces on the proposed car park. The Council approved the proposed gate design but asked if the path could be brought slightly further in to the garden to allow for planting of fruit trees and bushes and sensory plants such as roses and lavender around the outside edge of the garden, to be in keeping with the name “Orchard Gardens”. Once a new plan has been generated by the Borough Council planning permission will be applied for and the project can begin. The Clerk will stress that benches removed from the site must not be disposed off as the Council hope to revamp and reuse them.
- 51. Planning** – The Council were required to make observations on the following applications:
- 1) 18/00666/PDE – Notification of a proposed single storey rear extension measuring 8m in depth, with eaves height of 2.6m and a maximum height of 3.93m. Whitelands, Back Lane, Charnock Richard. **Resolved** – **No Objections.**
 - 2) 18/00704/OUT – Outline planning including access, scale and layout (all other matters reserved) for the erection of 4 No detached dwellings, following demolition of existing buildings. Lancaster House Farm, Preston Road, Charnock Richard. **Resolved** – **The Council object to these proposals as they consider them to be inappropriate development in the Green Belt. The proposed large dwellings would not be in keeping with the existing street scene, namely low level buildings associated with a farm. Furthermore, 4 large detached homes would be out of character with the rural nature of the surrounding land and environment. The loss of businesses associated with the diversification of the current farm buildings will result in a loss of much needed employment in the village. The Council are also concerned that the current access to the site would be inappropriate to support the existing farm, granny annexe and an additional 4 detached properties.**

- 3) 18/00738/FUL – Erection of closed boarded timber storage area to western elevation and closed boarded timber seating area. Dog and Partridge, 30 Chorley Lane, Charnock Richard. **Resolved** – **No Objections.**
- 4) 18/00711/FUL – Section 73 application to remove condition 10 (public open space) of planning permission 16/00316/FUL (which was for the erection of 2 no. Detached house and associated detached garages) – A public open space commuted sum is not now requested for development proposals comprising of 1 or 2 dwellings and as such this request that the condition is removed - **Resolved** – **No Objections.**

52. Accounts

Accounts for Payment:

Mrs Stewart	Honorarium for conducting Internal Audit	£25.00
Fir Tree Fishery CIC	Planting Welch Whittle/Mill Lane/Delph Gardens	£1700.00
Mrs C A Cross	Reimburse cost of Red Ensign Flag	£3.85
Emblems Gifts Ltd	Lest We Forget RAFT Bunting	£21.99
Amazon UE S.a.r.L	Epson Workforce A3 Printer	£125.00
Mrs C A Cross	Salary – (Net)	£623.68
HM Revenue & Customs	Tax & NI due by Clerk	£104.32
	NI due by Parish Council	£3.59
		£107.91

Resolved: That the aforementioned Accounts are approved payments

53. Lengthsman's Payment - Work undertaken this month totals 156 Hours @ £8.50 per hour = £1,326 + £150 for work to signs and hanging baskets + £43.48 plants. **Resolved: Total Paid £1,519.48.**

Next Meeting: Monday 3 September 2018

Members of the Public and Press are Welcome to Attend

Meeting Closed: 9.57 pm

Chairman:

Date:

REPORT 1

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

- a) Notification planning consent granted for works to protected trees Chorley BC TPO 7, 75% crown reduction to oak tree T5 and 50% crown reduction to oak tree T6. 14 Lichen Close.
- b) Notification planning consent granted for works to protected trees Chorley BC TPO 4, fell goat willow tree T1 and replacement prunus tree will be planted in close proximity to the space of the felled willow tree. 5 Cherry Tree Close.
- c) Confirmation conditions discharged re: boundary treatments, materials, ground levels, dwelling emission rates and public open space of planning permission 16/00316/FUL (2 detached houses and associated detached garages) Land adjacent 94 Chorley Lane.
- d) Confirmation that parking issues related to the Children's Homes, Town Lane, will be dealt with immediately.
- e) Confirmation your request for painting of fences at the bungalows on Chorley Lane will be looked into as part of the programme of works, however, is not guaranteed for the Best Kept Village Competition.
- f) Copy CPRE Fieldwork – Summer 2018
- g) Copy Countryside Voice – Summer 2018

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.