

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF BRINDLE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 31ST MARCH 2014
AT THE COMMUNITY HALL
WATER STREET BRINDLE**

PRESENT:-

**COUNCILLOR D.CRANSHAW (CHAIRMAN) D. METCALFE (VICE CHAIRMAN) -
COUNCILLORS J.BALDWIN, C. HINDLE , MRS S. LONG, W. NELSON, MRS
B.ROBINSON, AND T.SHARRATT.**

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: DISTRICT COUNCILLOR DICKINSON AND FIVE
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR D.DICKINSON AND FIVE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

3777. FORMER COUNCILLOR MRS J. CROASDALE:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw) reported that Mrs Croasdale would be presented with Maundy Money by Her Majesty the Queen at the Maundy Day Service in Blackburn Cathedral on Thursday 15th April 2014.

3778. Ms C. ROSCOE:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw) reported that Ms Roscoe had taken early retirement from Chorley Council a new Neighbourhood Officer was to be appointed shortly. He also reported that PCSO Appleton had given birth to a baby girl in February.

3779. HIGHWAYS CONTACT NUMBER.

The Clerk reported that from 27th March 2014 the main general contact number for the County Council was 0300 123 6701. Specific numbers for individual services were listed under Contact Us at the LCC website - www.lancashire.gov.uk/enquiries

3780. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE:

An apology for absence was submitted from Councillor J. Swann.

3781. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL/PREJUDICIAL INTEREST:

In accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Members Code of Conduct the Clerk asked if any Member wished to declare an interest in any matter to be considered by the Parish Council at the meeting. No one declared an interest at this stage.

3782. MINUTES:

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meetings of the Parish Council held on 10th February 2014 having previously been circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3783. ADJOURNMENT:

THERE THEN FOLLOWED AN ADJOURNMENT TO ALLOW THE PUBLIC TO RAISE ISSUES AND QUESTION THE PARISH COUNCIL REGARDING MATTERS DEALT WITH. THE FOLLOWING MATTER WAS RAISED: -

IRON MAN BIKE RIDE:

A local resident and representatives from St. James Parish Church attended the meeting to express their concerns relating to access and the Church Service during the proposed road closures.

The Chairman (Councillor D.Cranshaw) explained the position as far as the Race Organisers were concerned.

He offered to approach the organisation to ask them to meet the residents and the church to discuss the issues they had raised.

Resolved:- That the course of action proposed be adopted.

3784. POLICE LIAISON:

(A) NEWSLETTERS:

As the police were not in attendance no report was presented.

It was reported that there had been an increase in police patrols in the Parish during March. The Vice Chairman (Councillor D. Metcalfe) reported that the next PACT meeting would be held on 1st April 2014.

Resolved:- That the reports be accepted.

(B) CONSUMER ALERTS – TRADING STANDARDS:

The Clerk circulated copies of the latest consumer alerts from the County Council's Trading Standards Officer.

Resolved: - That the report be accepted .

3785. COMMUNITY HALL:

A report was presented on current activities. The Management Committee thanked the Parish Council for the donation of funds for the bench to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Community Hall.

The Management Committee was liaising with the Church and the Historical Society to arrange an event to mark the start of World War One.

Resolved:- That the report be accepted.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw) and Councillor Mrs S.Long declared personal and non prejudicial interests in this matter in respect of being representatives of the Parish Council on the Community Hall Management Committee.

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3786. LALC REPORT:

The Clerk reported details of the current newsletter.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw) reported on the LALC Chorley Area Committee meeting held on 13th February 2014. The meeting was attended by the County Council's Parish Council Champion who referred to funds for Parish Councils. The Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw) suggested that grants may be available for the Parish Pound.

The meeting also considered the changes to the Chorley Three Tier Forum. This was to be reconstituted to allow representatives from all the Parishes in Chorley to attend and would be open to the Public. An Agenda and Minutes would be published for each meeting. The Forum would merge with the Borough /Parish Liaison Committee.

The Clerk reported that a consultation document on the proposed changes had been produced and circulated to all Members of the Parish Council. Comments were required by 8th April 2014.

The Parish Council welcomed the changes.

Councillor Sharratt reported that he would be attending the LALC Spring Conference as a representative of the Parish Council. The Conference was at the Leyland Hotel on Saturday 5th April 2014.

Resolved:- That the reports be accepted and the changes to the Chorley Three Tier Forum be agreed.

3787. HIGHWAY MATTERS:

(A). LITTER BINS:

The Clerk reported that Chorley Council had erected dog/litter bin near the Methodist Church and the Black Horse Hotel Gregson Lane.

Councillor Hindle reported that the bin had been removed following consultation with local residents.

He reminded the Parish Council that he had recommended that the bin should be sited towards Friths Court.

He also suggested that a dog bin should be located at the ginnel near Gregson Lane County Primary School and in Brindle Lodge.

Resolved:- (1) That the Clerk ascertain the situation relating to the bin on Gregson Lane and request that if it is to be replaced it be located beyond Friths Court.

(2) That Chorley Council be requested to consider providing bins at the ginnel adjacent to Gregson Lane Primary School and in Brindle Lodge.

Resolved:- That the report be accepted.

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(B). POTHOLES:

The Clerk reported that the current situation regarding the potholes in Smithy Lane, Pippin Street, Birchin Lane Hillhouse Lane, Holt Lane and Denham Hill.

Councillor Sharratt reported that the drain cover on the east side of Mintholme Crossing was broken.

Resolved:- That the Clerk ascertain the current position regarding the filling of the potholes and notify the County Council regarding the broken drain cover at Mintholme Crossing.

(C). SANDY LANE B5256:

The Chairman (Councillor D.Cranshaw) reported that patching had been undertaken and that the County Council would surface dress the B 5256 during the summer.

Resolved:- That the report be accepted.

(D). SPEED LIMITS GREGSON LANE/MINTHOLME:

The County Council County had reported that the speed limit on Gregson Lane outside the village was derestricted going towards the railway crossing and all the way towards Sandy Lane via Hillhouse Lane. They had been requested to erect the appropriate signs relating to the derestricted roads.

Resolved:- That the Clerk request the County Council for an update on this matter.

(E). HEDGE AT FORMER SAND QUARRY:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw) reported that the hedge had been cut back and the footway was now passable.

Resolved:- That the report be accepted.

(F). GRIT BIN - HOLT LANE:

The County Council had notified the Clerk that the suggested location for a grit bin at Holt Lane did not meet the criteria. The requests had therefore been refused.

Resolved:- That the report be noted.

(G). BRIDLEWAY - GORTON BROOK:

The Clerk reported that the County Council had investigated the overgrown bridleway and further developments were awaited.

Resolved:- That report be noted.

(H). MARSH LANE:

The Chairman (Councillor D.Cranshaw) reported on the outcome of a site meeting with the County Council held earlier on 31st March 2014. The ditch near Sandy Lane would be dug out and the drains near Leigh Farm would be cleaned. The Highway drainage system at Harry Croft had collapsed and further investigations would take place regarding the responsibility for repair.

It was also reported that the flooding problem in Water Street had been solved .

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A local farmer reported that the water flowing near his farm into Water Street was from a natural spring and would take some time to dry up.

Resolved:- That the reports be noted.

(I). FOOTPATH SIGN - WINDMILL LANE:

The Vice Chairman (Councillor D. Metcalfe) reported that the footpath sign at Thorncroft still needed attention. The Clerk had notified the Footpaths Officer at the County Council.

Resolved:- That the Clerk ascertain the current situation.

(J). WINDMILL LANE:

The Vice Chairman (Councillor D. Metcalfe) had reported that the two areas of the road surface on Windmill Lane still required attention.

Resolved:- That the Clerk ask the County Council to expedite this matter.

(K). FOOTWAY - SMITHY LANE:

A local resident had reported that the footway at 42 Smithy Close was subsiding.

The Clerk had contacted the County Council about this.

He reported that in the latest Environment Bulletin for Chorley issued by the County Council the footway at Smithy Lane from number 17 to 43 was to be resurfaced during the current financial year.

Resolved:- That further developments be awaited.

(L). ROAD MARKINGS - SMITHY CLOSE /SMITHY LANE.

At the last meeting a local resident reported that the white line markings on the road from Smithy Close on to Smithy Lane were badly worn away.

The Clerk had notified the County Council and this was being investigated

Resolved:- That the Clerk report be noted.

(M). KERB STONES - PRIVATE ROAD:

The Vice Chairman (Councillor D. Metcalfe) reported that the gap in the kerb stones near Holly Bank on Private Road had still not been attended to.

Resolved:- That the Clerk ascertain the current position.

(N) HEAVY GOODS VEHICLES - ORAM ROAD:

At the last meeting Councillor Hindle reported problems with heavy goods vehicles trying to get to Brindle Mill being misdirected by satellite navigation systems into Oram Road.

The County Council had been requested to erect a sign to stop such vehicles from using Oram Road.

Resolved:- That the Clerk ascertain the current position.

(O). DIRECTION SIGNS TO PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN BOURNES ROW:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw) reported that he had asked County Councillor Devaney to investigate the possibility of the County Council to provide a directional sign on Gregson Lane indicating the location of Brindle St. Joseph's RC Primary School.

He also felt that because of the close proximity of the two schools there should also be a location sign to Brindle Gregson Lane Primary School.

Resolved:- That further developments be awaited.

3788. CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:

The Clerk reported on issues affecting the Parish Council.

Resolved: - That report be accepted.

3789. PLANNING REPORT:

(A). DECISION:

The Clerk reported the following applications had been granted since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

1. Construction of New Storage Building Westwood Nursery Brindle Road (App no 14/00006/FUL) Applicant: Places for People.
2. Office Extension Westwood Nursery Brindle Road (App no 14/00010/FUL) Applicant: Places for People.

Resolved: That the report be accepted.

(B). APPLICATIONS:

The Clerk reported that the following planning applications had been received since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

1. Erection of a detached garage to rear of existing dwelling 60 Bournesfield (App no 14/00213/FUL) Applicant Mr. Carter.

Details were circulated to all Members and as no objections had been received, the Clerk had informed Chorley Council.

Resolved:- That the report be accepted.

2. Installation of 4 communication dishes and ancillary equipment Communications Mast Holt Lane. (App no 14/00240/TEL) Applicant Telefonica UK Ltd.

Details were circulated to all Members and no objections had been received,

Resolved:- That the Clerk inform Chorley Council.

3. New access road to existing farm Leigh Farm Marsh Lane (App no 14/00242/FUL) Applicant: Mr. Ormisher.

Details were circulated to all Members and no objections had been received,

Resolved:- That the Clerk inform Chorley Council.

4. Erection of Agricultural Storage Building Pippin Fold Pippin Street (App no 14/00314/FUL) Applicant Mr. Dewhurst.

Details had been circulated to Members of the Parish Council and Councillor Swann had commented :-

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The site referred to as Pippin Fold was not a bona-fide farm. It was a field which had no structures until consent was given for a stable block.

The site was now used without planning consent as a base by the applicant from which to operate an agricultural and industrial contracting and road haulage business. The site was also used by the applicant without planning consent for the storage, marketing and sale of tractors, agricultural and industrial equipment and motor vehicles as mentioned in the applicant's website

The commercial use of the site created significant inconvenience, nuisance and disturbance to nearby residents. HGV road traffic accessing the site was an issue for the wider community using Pippin Street.

Chorley Council should consider using enforcement powers before this commercial activity became established.

The photograph of hundreds of wrapped hay bales with the application was of hay grown elsewhere and not on that site and on that basis its inclusion was disingenuous. A 2.5 hectare site was capable of producing around 50 wrapped bales, not the hundreds shown.

In terms of baled, unwrapped hay the site could produce around 70 cubic metres. The existing barn had a storage capacity of around 1100 cubic metres and on that basis was adequate for the needs of this site.

The proposed location was directly across the road and in front of nearby residential properties and would have a detrimental impact on their amenity. The photograph of the hundreds of wrapped bales in front of the nearby houses showed the applicant's lack of consideration for neighbours.

The stable block justified the need for a barn. If the stables were no longer needed then neither was the existing barn. On any basis an agricultural need for a further barn could not be made.

In view of the existing unauthorised use of the site any further buildings erected under the guise of agricultural need would be likely to increase the commercial activity on the site.

There was also activity late into the night and in the early hours.

Councillor Mrs Robinson had commented that the site could not be considered to be a farm and referred to the mound at the entrance to the field.

The residents at Grimes Farm had also objected to the application and a copy of their letter was circulated.

The Parish Council were reminded that in the past concerns had been expressed to Chorley that the road was inadequate for vehicles going to the site.

District Councillor Dickinson agreed to speak to the Planning Officer to express the Parish Council's concerns regarding this application.

Resolved: (1) That the Parish Council objects to this application, the views expressed form the basis of the objection and the Clerk notify Chorley Council.

(2) That the Parish Council considers that the application should be considered by the Planning Committee and not delegated to officers to decide.

3790. ACCOUNT FOR PAYMENT:

The Clerk submitted the following accounts for payment.

1. A. Harkness	Poppy Seeds	£150.00.
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Resolved:- That the account be paid.

3791. APPLICATION FOR GRANT - BRINDLE VILLAGE SHOW:

The Clerk submitted a request from the Secretary of the Brindle Village Show for a donation towards the cost of the Annual Village Show.

Resolved: - That application be deferred to the next meeting.

3792. COMMEMORATION OF START OF WORLD WAR ONE:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw) reported on the current situation regarding the planting of the poppy seeds by local organisations.

Councillor Sharratt reported that he had recently seen two poppy crosses at Denham Hill. These had subsequently been vandalised.

The Clerk submitted a letter from the Secretary of the Brindle War Memorial Committee indicating that a commemoration service would be held in the Parish Church on 3rd August 2014 to be followed by an event at the Community Hall.

The Secretary had requested a donation from the Parish Council.

Resolved:- That a donation of £100.00 be made.

3793. DENHAM QUARRY:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw) informed the Parish Council that he had been informed by the Leader of Chorley Council that the use of the quarry for trial biking had been abandoned and that the Council was looking at other sites in Chorley.

Chorley Council had asked if the Parish Council wished to take over the Quarry on a long term lease.

The Parish Council debated this issue and Councillor Sharratt felt Chorley Council should be informed that the Parish Council was happy for them to continue with the governance of the Quarry subject to the Parish Council being consulted fully on any issues affecting the Quarry. The Parish Council agreed with this view.

Councillor Hindle felt that local residents should be asked to help to tidy up the site and that Chorley should be asked to involve local schools in its future development position regarding the management of Denham Quarry.

The damaged fencing reported by Councillor Sharratt at the last meeting had been repaired ,however, a further section to the rear of the car park was damaged.

At the last meeting Councillor Baldwin reported that two large trees had been cut down in the Quarry. Chorley Council reported that the two trees that had been removed from Denham Quarry car park were removed due to the condition of them.

However, these were not the trees mentioned by Councillor Baldwin.

Resolved:- (1) That the Clerk inform Chorley Council of the views of the Parish Council on the future management of Denham Quarry including public and school involvement.

(2). That Chorley Council be asked to repair the additional section of the fencing at the Quarry Car Park.

(3) That the Clerk seek further clarification regarding the trees reported by Councillor Baldwin.

3794. CHORLEY CIVIC SOCIETY - BI - ANNUAL AWARDS:

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had been invited to submit nominations for an award.

Resolved:- That subject to the agreement of the Community Hall Management Committee the Community Hall be nominated for an award.

3795. PARISH COUNCIL BANK ACCOUNT:

The Clerk referred to the current situation regarding the Parish Council Bank Account.

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Resolved: - That the Clerk investigate alternative Bank Accounts.

3796. LANCASHIRE COMBINED WATCH FORUM:

The Clerk submitted a invitation from the Chief Constable to a Lancashire Combined Watch Forum on 30th April 2014.

Resolved:- That the information be noted.

3797. RURAL BROADBAND:

The Clerk reported that the County Council had not been able to give a specific date for the upgrading of the broadband service in Brindle. The Chairman (Councillor D, Cranshaw) suggested an approach to the local M.P.

Resolved:- That Lindsay Hoyle MP be informed of the circumstances and asked to investigate this matter.

3798. REVISED AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS

The Clerk submitted a consultation document relating to proposed changes to the Audit process from 2016 following the abolition of the Audit Commission.

The principle changes were that there would not be an External Audit of the Parish Council Accounts but details of the accounts would be published locally and online.

Resolved :- That the Parish Council has no comments on the consultation document.

3799. NOTICE BOARDS:

The Clerk reported that he had recently removed notices which had been stapled to the notice boards. He had contacted the issuers of the notices and one of them had offered to tidy them on a regular basis as a community service.

Resolved :- That the offer be accepted and the Clerk discuss this with the organisation concerned.

3800. DOG FOULING SURVEY:

The Clerk submitted the results of a survey carried out by Chorley Council on dog fouling in the Eastern Parishes.

Resolved:- That the report be noted.

3801. RAIL HALT - HOGHTON :

Councillor Sharratt requested the Parish Council to consider the renewal of the request made some time ago regarding the establishment of a rail halt in the area for the benefit of the people of Brindle and Hoghton.

Resolved:- That the public be consulted on this proposal.

3802. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 12th May 2014 at 7.30 p.m. the Annual General Meeting to be followed by the Parish Council meeting at the Trinity Methodist Church Gregson Lane .

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There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

**SIGNED
CHAIRMAN**

12TH MAY 2014.