

HEATH CHARNOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, 5 August 2021 at 7.30 pm at Adlington & District Community Centre, Railway Road, PR6 9RF

Attendance:

Cllrs Graham Ashworth (Chair), Cllr David Carpenter (Vice Chair), Robert Darbyshire, County Cllr Kim and Christine Bailey, the Parish Clerk.

Apologies: Parish Cllrs Tricia Power and Richard Cornes and SE Chorley and HC Ward Councillor representative, Cllr Alistair Bradley. Cllr Cornes had offered to take part by an on-line link.

1. Co-option of an additional Parish Councillor: The Chair welcomed John Donnellon a resident of Heath Charnock Parish who had replied to the Parish Council's co-optee vacancy notice. His application, which had been circulated, was discussed. The Chair proposed that the applicant be accepted as a co-opted Parish Councillor until the next election. This was agreed. Cllr Donnellon completed the Declaration of Office and Register of Interest forms.

2. Announcement of a Resignation from the Parish Council: The Chair confirmed that Cllr Oakes had contacted him and the Clerk to confirm that, after 25 years of service, it was with some regrets that Cllr Oakes was tendering his resignation as a Parish Councillor with immediate effect. The Chair thanked Cllr Oakes for his service to the Parish and the Parish Council. The vacancy will be advertised.

Declarations of Interest: None.

3. Minutes of 10 June 2021: These were proposed by Cllr Darbyshire, seconded by Cllr Carpenter and signed by Cllr Ashworth.

4. Matters arising for information:

4.1. Chorley Council will be carrying out an on-line public consultation to assess demand and identify potential locations for Electric Vehicle charge points to assist those living in terraced properties where a home charger might not be feasible. It will be for discussion at a future Chorley Liaison meeting.

5. Planning: for consideration and comment as a consultee (information enclosed)

a. **21/00769/FULHH:** Erection of 2no. single storey front extensions and a single storey rear extension at Pavilion House, 168, Rawlinson Lane, PR7 4DJ. This is a replacement dwelling currently under construction of a former stable block granted by application 16/00905/FUL. A subsequent request (17/00731/FUL) to remove condition 10 of the replacement dwelling consent which had removed its permitted development rights was refused. Under Policy HS6e of the Chorley Local Plan 2012-2026, the enlargement limit on replacement dwellings is restricted to a maximum of a 30% volumetric increase, not the 50% which is referred to in the application which is Policy HS5d for extensions to existing dwellings. On this basis HCPC asks the Local Planning Authority to refuse this proposal.

b. **21/00775/FULHH:** Erection of a single storey rear extension at 2 Fairfield Villas, Wigan Lane, PR7 4DA. HCPC noticed that the proposed extension was slightly longer than the existing conservatory but suggested the views of neighbouring residents be considered.

c. **21/00663/FULHH:** Single storey side/rear extension following conversion of attached garage to habitable accommodation and demolition of existing conservatory at 5, Danesway, PR7 4EY. No comment. Consider the views of neighbouring residents.

d. **21/00780/FULHH:** Erection of a detached garage at The Coach House, Slacks Lane, PR6 9EL. No comment.

e. **21/00705/FULHH:** Single storey front/side extension with balcony above and single storey side/rear extension at Limbrick House Long Lane Heath Charnock Chorley PR6 9EE. No comment.

f. **21/00576/FULHH**: Single storey rear extension and first floor side extension (following demolition of existing conservatory) at 9, Long Lane, PR6 9EE. No comment.

g. **21/00523/FUL**: Erection of detached bungalow, following demolition of existing garage at Hoole Cottage, Wigan Lane, PR7 4BY. This application is outside the Parish Boundary and was not considered.

5. Community Issues:

a. The Parish Council discussed the **potential impact of proposed planning reforms on local consultation in areas proposed for growth and renewal**. The Parish Council is not clear whether the proposed reform of the planning system, if agreed, would remove the rights' of local residents to object to *all* individual planning applications in their own neighbourhood if the area is zoned for growth or renewal or just those relating to new build development proposals. The Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) in its Summer 2021 Fieldwork newsletter is expressing a similar concern about "the loss of local democracy if, as proposed, people lose the right to challenge individual planning applications". On this basis, the Parish Council agreed to support the motion put forward by Steve Reed MP, the Shadow Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government on 7th July 2021 that "The House believes planning works best when developers and the local community work together to shape local areas and deliver necessary new homes; and therefore calls on the Government to protect the right of communities to object to individual planning applications." It was agreed that the Parish Council would inform Sir Lindsay Hoyle MP.

b. The online Chorley Liaison Meeting, 21 July 2021 included a presentation on **Neighbourhood Planning**. HCPC proposed that a joint SE district approach towards the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan might be appropriate to comprise Adlington Town Council and Anderton, Rivington and Heath Charnock Parish Council areas if all four councils agree to work together and Chorley Council accept the proposal. Cllr Ashworth has also asked Chorley Council whether planning applications in Heath Charnock Parish could for clarity be listed separately on the planning portal from those in the South East Chorley Ward.

c. The Parish Council has requested that the grit bin at **Skew Bridge** be replaced with a **litter bin**. Chorley Council says is unsafe for a large service vehicle to park, empty and move off safely without causing obstruction of traffic or blocking the cycle lane on the A673. County Cllr Snape and Cllr Samir met with a Chorley Council officer. Three other options have been suggested by Chorley Council. HCPC has declined to pursue any of these.

d. **LCC Public Footpath Maintenance** Cllr Carpenter prepared the HCPC 20/21 Report which was agreed for submission to LCC. HCPC agreed to accept the LCC 2021/22 grant offer letter, grant terms and conditions and reporting requirements for £500 Footpath Maintenance grant. Both will be submitted to the LCC Public Rights of Way (PROW) team by 31 August 2021. In future a detailed list of footpath locations, with before and after photographs taken, will be required by LCC. Other Parish Councillors were asked to get involved to assist Cllr Carpenter. Copies of the Parish Footpath map will be made to allow maintenance work to be co-ordinated and all locations listed for future LCC reporting requirements. Cllr Ashworth also identified some additional locations where the vegetation is overgrown and should be cut back to maintain access.

e. The summary information from Cllr Carpenter on **allotments** was discussed. As a first step it was agreed that suitable site would have to be identified and negotiated with the landowner. Additional costs as a minimum in return for a basic rent paid would later comprise the demarcation of each individual plot, an accessible water supply and secure fencing.

f. Cllr Darbyshire has been unable to get anyone to agree to undertake the repair of the Walter Makin **log roll at Skew Bridge**. Both Cllr Ashworth and Darbyshire agreed that they will replace the logs that have rotted to ensure the structure is secure for future planting and clean the lichen from the Gateway Stone.

g. The Chair invited comment on the draft response to the **PCC & CC Housing Need & Demand Study** Questionnaire prepared by the Clerk. The Chair and Clerk will finalise the text for submission.

h. The community made good use of the Parish Council's **household refuse collection event** held on 24 July 2021. The photos taken were forwarded to Chorley Council who had kindly paid for the skip.

i. Cllr Darbyshire said that he had had no further contact from the Rawlinson Lane Residents' Group who intended to clean the glass and to paint the adopted kiosk after he had jet cleaned it. The Clerk will contact the Group to ask for an update and timetable for the next meeting.

6. Financial Update:

a. **Balance at Bank:** £20,582.84 at 25 July 2021 statement from Virgin Money. HMRC paid the VAT reclaim for 2020/21 financial year of £137.38 into the account on 8 June 2021

b. Approved expenditure debited since the 10 June 2021 meeting:

i. Clerk Salary (June 21): net £308.38

ii. Clerk Expenses (May 21): Mileage: 40 miles @ 0.25ppm £10.00

iii. Annual donations to:

- North West Ambulance Service - £200
- Shop Mobility - £50

iv. HMRC Q1 PAYE 2021/22 on Clerk's salary = £138.60

c. The Council approved the **HCPC Quarter 1 2021/22 income and expenditure budget update** and the reconciliation with 25 July Bank statement required by the annual independent audit to be signed by the Chair

d. Expenditure to be considered for approval at 5 August 2021 meeting:

i. Clerk Salary (July & August 21) net at £308.18 and £334.98 respectively per month = £643.16 as confirmed by APL Accountants Ltd on 5 August 2021

ii. Clerk Expenses (June & July 21): Admin - £0.00 and Mileage: 66 miles @ 25ppm = £16.50.

iii. APL Accountants Ltd.'s 2020/21 year-end independent audit fee £100 plus VAT@20% = £120

iv. Paul Podesta for HCPC website redesign to comply with WCAG2.1 and Clerk's training = £350

7. Correspondence:

a. In the Boro July and August 2021 were noted.

b. The notice of the proposed nightly temporary road closure on Bolton Road, Anderton from 07/10/21 to 21/10/21 between 7pm and 7am to enable Lancashire County Council to carry out the reconstruction of a collapsed retaining wall was noted.

c. A resident has asked, "Why the grass on the verge on the A6 from Rawlinson Lane junction to the houses towards Skew Bridge has not been cut? Chorley Council's reply confirms that "Chorley Council is leaving wildlife corridors across the borough to aid biodiversity and support pollinators by allowing any wildflowers within the seed bank the opportunity to grow. We will continue to regularly cut a strip adjacent to both roads and footpaths and will cut back further at junction so that sightlines are not impeded. The teams will then cut these areas back in their entirety towards the end of the mowing season."

d. LCC poster campaign to encourage reporting of pot holes and road repairs was noted.

8. Any Other Business

- a. The timescale of 22 weeks to repair the railway bridge at Skew Bridge was noted.
- b. Cllr Carpenter explained that a public consultation on the future of hospitals in Lancashire and Cumbria is underway and he would circulate the information and links for individual Councillors to consider.
- c. Cty Cllr Snape reported the reduction in the frequency of the Monday – Saturday stopping train service at Adlington from 16 May 2021 and the temporary use of buses during August to replace trains between Chorley and Horwich Parkway due to Northern Rail staff shortages as a result of the corona virus contact alerts.

9. Date of Next Meetings confirmed:

Thursday, 2 September 2021 at 7.30pm and Thursday, 7 October 2021 at 7.30pm and at Adlington Community Centre, Railway Road.

Christine Bailey,
HCPC Clerk, 17 August 2021