

HEATH CHARNOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, 13 April 2023 at 7.30pm held on at Adlington Community Centre, Railway Road.

Attendance:

Parish Council: Cllrs David Carpenter (Chair), Graham Ashworth, Tricia Power, Robert Darbyshire; Lancashire County Cllr Kim Snape and Christine Bailey, Parish Clerk

Guests: Two residents for item 1 only.

Apologies for absence: were received from the Parish Council: Cllrs Michelle Le Marinel, Richard Cornes and John Donnellon; and SE Chorley & Heath Charnock Ward Cllr Samir Khan

Declarations of Interest: None

1. Cllr Ashworth, a concerned resident and the Clerk reported on their initial assessment visit on 12 April 2023 on potential locations for various road safety improvements and speed reduction measures to benefit drivers and pedestrians in the busy tourist area from Nickleton Brow to Knowsley Lane and the recent hot-spot incident sites were noted.

Proposals will be finalised to be sent to Mr Andrew Pratt and the Police prior to another site visit to involve all parties including Mr Pratt and the Police, before a report back to a stakeholder meeting which will also involve Cty Cllr Snape and United Utilities. In the meantime the logging of road traffic incidents by recording car registration numbers will continue. The Parish Council thanked the residents for their continuing interest and support. PCCSO Ben Pilling has advised that road traffic incidents should be reported to: <https://doitonline.lancashire.police.uk/>

2. **Minutes of 16 March 2023 meeting:** were proposed by Cllr Power, seconded by Cllr Ashworth and signed by Cllr Carpenter.

3. **Matters arising:** None

4. **Planning:** None

5. Community Issues:

a. Cllr Carpenter said the preparations for the launch of the Adlington District Food Club and volunteer recruitment were in hand for the Club to operate from 17 April which Cllr Carpenter will attend. Cllr Carpenter said that clarification was required about the volunteer contact procedure; that volunteers have to be trained in food hygiene standards but do not need to have a Certificate.

b. The contractor has ordered the building materials to start on site towards late April to replace Walter's log roll with a low rise stone wall planter and will keep the Parish Council updated.

c. Chorley Council has ordered the Lych or Wicket Gate, Weavers Brow public sign board, the display information, and will notify HCPC to meet on-site to agree its location proposed as close to the public right of way between the Wicket Gate and cricket pitch.

d. Cllr Carpenter reported on the 05 April 2023 joint council Coronation Planning Group meeting that: preparation for the community activities is well advanced; the allocation of a National Lottery Community Fund grant of £1k was proposed to support them; the publicity materials were finalised; the primary school visits are arranged; Cllr Power has bought the Art Competition prizes, and a final Planning Group meeting will be held on 27 April 2023.

e. The draft HCPC Annual Newsletter has been circulated, comments responded to and the proof will be finalised for the printer to include the District Coronation Celebrations programme as page 1.

f. Cllr Carpenter has reinstated the FP sign to be visible at the junction of Johnson's Fold and Bibby's Farm, but the wooden post had been removed from site. The LCC PROW team's email response says they will carry out repairs on an area basis for efficiency and will not respond to or note individual repairs requests. Alternatively local councils can carry out the repairs as part of the Public Footpath

Delivery Scheme. HCPC has not been received a response or Footpath maintenance grant from LCC in the 22/23 financial year.

g. Cllr Ashworth said the 22 March 2023 Chorley Liaison meeting had raised wider awareness and support for actions to address the concerns about speeding traffic in the rural fringes of the District.

h. The proposed calendar of meeting dates was agreed for 2023/24 with the September meeting to be held on the last day of the month due to fit with venue availability. The dates will be finalised with the ADCC's booking officer. The Council's 2023/24 web schedule of meeting dates will be updated.

6. Financial Update:

a. The balance in HCPC's bank statement dated 31 March 2023 was £19,202.08. This is without the debit of cheque for the building materials and the LCC £396 refund for the 2022 GN22 lamp post tests has not yet been received. The Clerk will monitor and follow these up respectively.

b. The CIL income & expenditure budget during 2022/23 remains unchanged at 31 March 2023 at £11,124.86 until the payment of building materials for the low stone wall has cleared the account.

c. HCPC's own account balance at 31 March 2023 (less the current available CIL money) is £8,077.22

d. The Clerk said that the preparation of the 2022/23 year-end accounts and Annual Governance and Accounting Return (AGAR) forms information and procedure will begin to be agreed with APL Accountants Ltd, for HCPC approval and signature no later than the 15 June meeting to comply with the UK Government's requirement of completed submission by 3 July 2023.

e. HCPC confirmed the 2023/24 Parish Council budget as finalised in January 2023.

f. Expenditure to be approved at 13 April 2023 meeting:

i. Clerk gross April 23 minimum salary per month of £391.25: as Clerk net salary of £313.05 and PAYE to HMRC of £78.20 per month as confirmed by APL Accountants

ii. Clerk Expenses (March 2023): Admin: Stationery £2.40 Mileage: 19 miles @ 25ppm = £4.75. Total = £7.15

iii. The Print Quarter – print of 925 copies, A3 folded to A4 full colour, double-sided Annual Newsletter at £194.00

iv. Delivery of HCPC's Annual 2023 Newsletter - £200

v. Reimburse Cllr Carpenter for the enhancement to the HCPC Coat of Arms - cost to be confirmed.

7. Correspondence:

The Parish Council noted as received:

a. In the Boro – April 23

b. LANPAC membership leaflet at a cost of £60 plus VAT and application form, which is aimed at improved community safety measures to protect property and the community

c. The Lancashire Association of Local Council's 'Knowledge Builder' email

8. Any Other Business

a. The Parish Council were sorry to receive the Cllr Richard Cornes' resignation having served as a Parish Councillor since first being elected in May 2016. The Parish Council thanked him for his commitment, support, and service. It was agreed that the vacancy would be advertised.

b. Invitation for HCPC to nominate a Parish representative to the registered charity 'Rivington and Blackrod Grammar School and Prize Funds' following the recent death of the previous long-serving Parish representative, Mr John Sumner. Cllr Power offered to take on the role of Trustee to represent the Parish. This was agreed to be put back to the Charity Secretary and Treasurer.

c. The Clerk reported on further concerns expressed by a resident about traffic speed on Babylon Lane. The Parish Council has raised this with LCC as the Highway's authority on several occasions,

but LCC does not consider it a sufficient a priority to necessitate further expenditure nor has it supported the Parish Council's own measures to reduce traffic speed.

d. A resident's concern was discussed about a skip on Westhoughton Road, PR7 4ER said to be causing an obstruction on the pavement and not being compliant with LCC's highway requirements. Cllr Darbyshire advised that the skip had been removed.

e. Cllr Darbyshire expressed concern at the number of 'advertising banners' which have appeared on stretches of railing in the Parish, for example at the top of Rawlinson Lane or on parked vehicles or trailers. He asked for clarification on advertising controls, whether advertisers were paying the fence owners and what action could be taken.

f. Cty Cllr Snape asked whether a Parish and householder waste clean-up event would be held this year. Cllr Carpenter agreed they have previously been successful. It was agreed to ask Chorley Council if it would fund a skip and posters and to ask the White Horse if its carpark could be used on Saturday 2 September 2023.

9. Date of Next Meetings

These were confirmed to be held at Adlington Community Centre, Railway Road, as follows:

Thursday 11 May 2023 for the Annual Parish Council AGM at 7pm, the Annual Parish meeting at 7.10pm and the monthly Parish Council meeting at 7.30pm, and

Thursday 15 June 2023 at 7.30pm for the Parish Council meeting.

Prepared by Christine Bailey,
HCPC Clerk,
21 April 2023