

HEATH CHARNOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, 15 June 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 (from 8.30pm) and John Donnellon (from 7.40pm); Lancashire County Cllr Kim Snape from 7.50pm and Christine Bailey, Parish Clerk

Apologies for absence: were received from the Parish Council: Cllr Michelle Le Marinel; SE Chorley & Heath Charnock Ward Cllr Bev Murray and Cty Cllr Kim Snape

Declarations of Interest: None

1. Minutes of 11 May 2023 meeting: were proposed by Cllr Power, seconded by Cllr Ashworth and signed by Cllr Carpenter.

2. Matters arising for information:

HCPC noted that:

- a. Cllr Donnellon has met Simon Forster, Chorley Council to agree that the Wicket Gate, Weavers Brow public information board will be positioned/secured on the main road to maximise visibility.
- b. The household waste collection event is confirmed with the incoming landlord and Chorley Council for Saturday 14 October at the White Horse Pub car park from 8.30am-12 noon.
- c. Cllr Carpenter said that the Adlington Food Club is continuing to be well supported and in demand.

3. Planning:

HCPC commented as a consultee on:

- a. 23/00458/FULHH: Single storey rear extension and single storey side extension at Yealand, Long Lane, PR6 9EQ and has no objection.
- b. 23/00441/ADV: Application for advertisement consent for the display of 1no. internally illuminated digital LCD (shop menu) display screen at Fredericks Ice Cream, Park Villa, Bolton Road, PR7 4AZ and has no objection, but suggests the sign should not be illuminated overnight
- c. 23/00400/FULHH: Two storey rear extension at Ivy Cottage, Long Lane, PR6 9EE and has no objection.
- d. 23/00370/FUL: Erection of stables building and siting of static caravan (Retrospective) at Liptrot Farm, Gilbertson Road, PR7 4DJ (previous and proposed site plans enclosed). Application 17/00483/FUL (Demolition of existing equestrian centre and its replacement) gave planning consent for three dwellings only and not the four that had been applied for. The Parish Council agreed with this to avoid overdevelopment of the site and to restrict new construction to being within then existing built footprint to protect the greenbelt location. The Parish Council wants this principle of restricting the replacement buildings on this site to be maintained. The current planning application requests the 'erection of temporary timber horse stables' which itself are fairly large in scale proposed to be located outside of the previous building footprint on land that has never previously been developed. The Parish Council's preference would be for consent to be refused for temporary stables to protect the greenbelt location. The Parish Council and local residents are aware that it is a regular route of progression in Heath Charnock and in other rural Parishes where applicants secure consent for stables and use it to apply for consent to demolish the stables and replacement with a residential property. If consent is granted for the proposed timber stable block, the Parish Council asks that it be conditioned that it is built in timber and, as a sectional building, when no longer required for horses, it is dismantled and the ground returned to its original condition as land never previously developed in the green belt. The Parish Council has received an objection from a nearby resident and wishes to support the concerns of residents and to protect the greenbelt. Although

small in scale, each application is having a detrimental incremental impact which is slowly changing the character and appearance of the greenbelt in Heath Charnock which is undermining its overall purpose and integrity.

e. The Parish Council decided to defer the raising of concerns to a future Chorley Liaison meeting around what seems to be a 'loop hole' in the national planning system as described in d above which allows progression from a consent for a temporary stable to be granted at a later date for residential use when the stables are supposed to be no longer required. This is due to the loop hole in the national planning system which incrementally is changing the character and appearance of the greenbelt in Heath Charnock.

4. Community Issues:

a. The contractor is proposing a start on site to replace Walter's log roll with a low rise stone wall planter in week commencing Monday 3 July providing that the grass is cut by Chorley Council to avoid rubble being lost/left within it. This was agreed and has been actioned.

b. Three alternative options to plant the two shrubs intended for the rear of the Gateway Stone walled structure were discussed. It was agreed to await the advice from the Adlington in Bloom volunteers who maintain the planting at Skew Bridge before making a decision. This will be circulated on receipt.

c. In reply to the consultation, HCPC agreed with the principles behind the widening of the criteria for grant support, with the proposed appointment of an Occupational Therapist to support adaptations needed to facilitate discharge from hospital and to increase the range of funding available through the revision of Chorley Council's Housing Assistance Policy.

d. The notes from the 18 May 2023 meeting about the road safety concerns and potential options in the Nickleton Brow, Knowsley Lane and Rivington area, and the date of 27 June 2023 for the next meeting with Mr Pratt, the Deputy Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner were agreed. Cllrs Ashworth and Carpenter will represent HCPC.

e. The Lancashire Partnership Against Crime (LANPAC) network has received no applications for projects on projects in the Adlington District or Heath Charnock Parish area. Applications are invited. This was noted.

f. An update from Chorley Council on the progress and timing of the proposed installation of the SpID at Rawlinson Lane has been requested. Paul Connell from LCC has offered to meet HCPC representatives to discuss the possibility of buying an additional pole and a suitable location in upper Babylon Lane to reduce traffic speed given the concerns of a resident.

g. The concerns around Electricity NW's request to cut back the horse chestnut tree branches at the Wigan/Rawlinson Lanes junction to free power lines was discussed. Two trees will be affected. Chorley Council's advice is that a TPO is not necessary. The trees are on Parish Council owned land which should give sufficient protection. Electricity NW said HCPC would have to pay for the relocation of the electricity pole should the Parish Council wish to take this further. The Parish Council agreed that the minimal amount of between 1.5 to 2 m only should be removed to maintain the shape and health of both trees.

h. It was noted that the Parish Council vacancy is currently advertised to be filled by co-option. If no response is received by 25 June, the advert will be extended to the end of July 2023.

5. Financial Update:

The Parish Council discussed the year-end accounts at 31 March 2023 as follows:

a. The Asset Register as at 31 March 2023 was approved for signature by the Chair with the total value included in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) on page 6. It was noted

that APL Accountants Ltd have advised that the stone wall planter should be added to the Register on completion during 2023/24 and that the Parish Council should inspect all of its assets at least annually. This was agreed.

b. HCPC approved the Risk Management Register as at 31 March 2022. The Chairman signed it.

c. The HCPC Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Report for 2022/23 confirmed CIL income received and the actual net of VAT expenditure incurred during the year. This was approved and signed. It will be forwarded to Chorley Council and will be included in the Council's on-line financial papers.

d. APL Ltd as the Independent Auditor has confirmed that the Audit has been satisfactorily completed as described in page 4 of the AGAR. On receipt, the signed original copy will be incorporated into the approved AGAR 2022/23 Report for the External Auditor and display on-line.

e. HCPC Annual Governance Statement 2022/23: page 5 was noted, approved and was signed by the Chairman.

f. HCPC Accounting Statement 2022/23: page 6 was discussed, approved and was signed by the Chairman.

g. The Certificate of Exemption 2022/23: page 3 was noted, approved and signed by the Chairman.

h. Timetable for public display & submission of Parish accounts for external verification, a 6 week period was approved from Monday, 25 June 2023 – Friday 4 August 2023

HCPC's current financial position

i. The receipt of the annual precept from Chorley Council on 19 May 2023 was noted. Refunds outstanding from the 22/23 financial year and owed to HCPC comprise: £333 from Adlington District Community Association which I have been told has been paid in June 2023 and the LCC refund of £396 from the 2022 GN22 lamp post consent which the Clerk will continue to follow-up. The overall balance in the HCPC bank account at 31 May 2023 was £23,994.08

j. The additional CIL income payment of £1355.19 received on 28 April 2023 was noted giving a current available CIL budget in 2023/24 of £9,696.72.

k. HCPC's own account balance at the bank at 31 May 2023 less the available CIL balance is £14,297.36

l. The VAT reclaim from HMRC at the 2022/23 financial year-end will exclude the Dickenson public highway skip permit as although paid by HCPC, the actual VAT invoice will not be issued until the skip is required. The VAT will be recovered in the claim at the end of the 23/24 financial year.

m. HCPC considered and approved the following expenditure:

i. Clerk gross June 23 salary per month of £391.25: as Clerk net salary of £312.25 and PAYE to HMRC of £79.00 per month (confirmed by APL Accountants)

ii. Clerk Expenses (May 2023): Admin- stationery & postage -£22.45 Mileage: 55 miles @ 25ppm = £13.75. Total =£ 36.20

iii. Adlington District Community Association – room hire: 13 April 2023 – 14 March 2024 = £276.50

6. Correspondence:

a. In the Boro – June 23 has been forwarded to all Parish Councillors

b. The invitation to the Adlington Town Mayor Civic Service, Sunday 25 June at St Paul's Church to assemble at 10.15am for Service at 10.30am was noted. The Chairman will try to attend.

c. Cllr Darbyshire will represent the Parish Council at the Chorley Town East Neighbourhood Area Meeting on Tuesday, 20 June from 6.30-8pm. The content of the Agenda and papers were discussed.

d. Chorley Liaison Meeting, Wednesday 19 July at 6.30pm in the Council Chamber or on-line. Agenda items are requested by 3 July 2023. Cllr Ashworth & the Clerk will represent the Parish Council.

e. The continuing concerns from a resident about traffic speed in both directions on upper Babylon Lane were discussed. To date LCC Highways Authority has not considered any action as necessary. HCPC will continue to monitor and review the situation. A meeting to discuss a possible SpID has been agreed in principle. A date and time will be proposed.

7. Any Other Business: None

8. Dates of the next Parish Council meetings were confirmed as:

Thursday 10 August 2023 and Thursday, 28 September 2023 at Adlington Community Centre, Railway Road.

Prepared by Christine Bailey,
HCPC Clerk,
22 June 2023