

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
BRINDLE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 16TH MAY 2022
AT THE COMMUNITY HALL
WATER STREET BRINDLE.**

PRESENT:-

**COUNCILLOR D. CRANSHAW (CHAIRMAN) D. METCALFE (VICE CHAIRMAN) -
COUNCILLORS Ms L. CROASDALE, Dr Ms P. McGOVERN, AND Ms C.
SINGLETON.**

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:- COUNTY COUNCILLOR A. CULLENS.

5222. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillors J. Baldwin, W. Nelson, Ms B. Robinson and J. Swann.

5223. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL/PREJUDICIAL INTEREST:

The Clerk reminded Members of their responsibility to declare any personal interest in respect of matters on the agenda in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Members Code of Conduct. No one made a declaration at this stage.

5224. MINUTES:

The Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 28th March 2022 having been previously circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5225. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION:

A. MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC RAISED THE FOLLOWING ISSUE:-

PARKING - BOURNES ROW:

At the last meeting it was reported that an area of land at Bournes Row which had been used for many years for resident parking had recently been fenced off and the residents prevented from parking.

Residents had taken legal advice on the question of land ownership. This was a private matter and the Parish Council had no involvement.

An application for retrospective planning permission for the erection of 2.45 metre high fencing had recently been submitted to Chorley Planning Department.

A letter which had been circulated to residents urging them to object was read out by the Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw).

The Parish Council objects to the application on the grounds that it affects the visual amenity of residents and creates safety issues regarding parking particularly at school opening and closing times, the proposal will also lead to hazards regarding deliveries to the adjacent industrial premises.

The Parish Council requests a site visit be made and that the application be considered by the Planning Committee and not delegated to officers.

AS NO OTHER ISSUES WERE RAISED THE PARISH COUNCIL CONTINUED WITH THE ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:-

5226. POLICE LIAISON:

(A). POLICING:

The police were not present.

There had been a range of consultations circulated since the last meeting regarding various topics.

The Parish Council was concerned that the police had not attended its meetings since July 2021 and there had been no communication during that time.

It was understood the the nominated police officer for Brindle had been seconded to other duties.

A Member of the Parish Council reported that he had emailed the police some weeks ago about the ongoing situation of cars speeding up and down Holt Lane to and from the Denham Quarry car park. They said they would ask Police Specials to investigate.

Since then nothing had happened.

Despite sending two or three emails to the police direct and via neighbourhood alert.

He considered that it was only a matter of time before someone was killed.

Recently one of the cars went out of control at speed into the ditch across the road from Weavers cottage on Holt Lane.

The householder did report it but it appeared that there had been not been any updates on that. The householder also had CCTV of the accident.

The Clerk would approach the Police and Crime Commissioner regarding the lack of policing and whether any officer had been appointed to cover for the secondment.

(B). CONSUMER ALERTS – TRADING STANDARDS:

The Clerk circulated a copy of the latest consumer alerts from the County Council's Trading Standards Officer. Various leaflets had been circulated regarding initiatives regarding making people aware of scams.

5227. COMMUNITY HALL:

A report was presented on current developments.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw) declared a personal and non prejudicial interest in this matter in respect of being a representative of the Parish Council on the Community Hall Management Committee.

5228. LALC REPORT:

Updates from LALC on current issues and various consultation documents had been circulated since the last meeting.

It was also reported that the County Council had issued a charter to allow local councils to work alongside the County Council to benefit the people of the county and achieve their respective aims.

An Environmental Fund had also been established by the County Council to further the aims of the Charter.

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that due to changes in the printing of the NALC magazine the subscription to LALC had been reduced from £258.28 to £188.78.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw) referred to the recent County Council Highways Conference when an updated version of the County Council Mapping System (Mario) had been presented. Details would be circulated to Members of the Parish Council.

It was also reported that an app had been introduced (Love Clean Streets) to report Highway Faults.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw) declared a personal and non prejudicial interest in this matter in respect of being a representative of the Parish Council on LALC.

5229. HIGHWAY MATTERS:

(A). FLOODING:

Following a site meeting with the Cabinet Member for Highways at the County Council Engineers had visited Water Street and carried out further investigations, Various works had been carried out and a blocked drain cleared. United Utilities had been asked to carry out further work to alleviate the constant flow of water.

The tree which was growing in the drainage ditch appeared to have been removed The pothole had been attended to.

The County Council had indicated that as Water Street was a rural single track road there was little to prevent vehicles mounting the verge when passing one another and concrete kerbs would not be considered in this location.

It was also reported that despite gulley cleaning along certain sections of Pippin Street flooding continued to be a problem. It appeared that gulley cleaning had been done on the right hand side of the road but not on the left hand side.

This would be reported again to the Highways Gulley Cleaning Team.

(B). GINNEL SMITHY CLOSE:

The quotation for the repair work had been accepted and work would start as soon as possible.

(C). M61 UNDERPASS:

At the last meeting it was reported that the underpass required tidying up and maintenance work done to the lighting.

The Highways England would carry out the maintenance work to the lighting and Chorley Council would remove the litter.

The Countryside Officer had been asked to replace the stile on the footpath to allow disabled access.

(D). SPID POLICY AND PROCEDURE:

The County Council had issued a questionnaire about Spids

The Parish Council had responded that there were some issues with this idea and the County Council had been informed.

The Parish Council was reminded that the Road Safety Partnership had been regularly siting a SPID on Sandy Lane and notices were erected advising motorists about speeding.

(E). WALKING AND CYCLING SURVEY:

The County Council had undertaken a survey which the Parish Council had responded to.

(F). SLOW DOWN SAVE LIVES RESOURCES:

The County Council was undertaking a publicity campaign aimed at traffic speeds and had offered posters etc to display on roads. The Clerk had applied for them.

5230. CHORLEY COUNCIL REPORT:

Details of the matters affecting the Parish Council were reported.

5231. PLANNING REPORT:

(A) Decisions:

The following decisions on the applications had been made since the last meeting of the Parish Council:-

1. Conversion of existing barn to dwelling and partial demolition and conversion of existing stable block to create ancillary accommodation Town House Farm Sandy Lane (App no 21/01246/FUL). - Granted.
2. Single storey side extension Birch House Oram Road (App no 22/00092/FULHH).- Granted.
3. Notification of intention to upgrade existing telecommunications equipment including replacement of 9 existing antennas with 6 new antennas,

installation of remote radio units on existing tower, replacement of existing ground based equipment cabin and associated minor ancillary works Communications Mast Holt Lane (App no 22/00437/NOT). - Approved.

(B). APPLICATIONS:

The following applications had been submitted since the last meeting.

1. Installation of composite timber weather boarding to north western elevation (retrospective) 5 Smithy Lane Brindle (App no 22/00394/FULHH).
2. Application for a certificate of lawfulness for a proposed single storey side extension 4 Lower Copthurst Birch Lane . (App no 22/00352/CLPUD).
3. Widening of existing driveway, removal of front boundary wall and extension of existing dropped kerb Ivy Cottage Water Street .(App no 22/00395/FULHH)
4. Application for a minor non-material amendment to planning permission ref: 19/00566/FUL (New treatment plants to replace existing septic tanks) to substitute Klargester Tanks for Matrix Tanks (alternative product) Brindle St Joseph s Roman Catholic Church Chapel Fold Private Road (App no 22/00449/MNMA).

No comments were made on these applications and Chorley would be noted.

5. Conversion of garage to habitable accommodation, single storey rear extension to garage, single storey side extension to main dwelling to connect the converted garage to the house, and pitched roof across extended garage incorporating 6no, roof lights and flue Cross Keys Barn Sandy Lane.(22/00434/FULHH).

The plans accompanying this application did not show how much on site parking would be provided and the sight lines at this location was restricted and on street parking would cause a hazard.

(C). UNAUTHORISED DEVELOPMENTS:

Following the report of extensive ground works at Breworth Fold Farm. The Planning Obligations Officer (Enforcement) and the Environment Agency had been asked to investigate. A retrospective application was to be submitted.

The developments at Anderview Farm and Crabtree Farm were being investigated.

5232. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

The Clerk reported the following accounts for payment .

1. Brindle Community Hall	Hire of Room May 2022	£20.00.

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2. A. Harkness	Salary and Expenses quarter ended 31st March 2022 .	£1145.20.
3. HMRC	Tax quarter ended 31st March 2022 .	£329.55
4. Whitehead and Aldrich	Payroll Administration	£57.60.

The accounts were approved and cheques signed.

5233. AUDIT OF PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS:

The Clerk reported that the Audit for 2021/22 would take place on 1st July 2022.

He reminded the Parish Council the arrangements for Smaller Authorities and proposed that the Parish Council should apply for a certificate of exemption from external audit.

It was still necessary for an internal audit to take place and the Independent Internal Auditor had examined the Parish Council's Accounts and procedures, confirmed that they were in order, had agreed the Audit Report and submitted it to the Parish Council for approval.

The Clerk also reported under the procedure it was necessary for the Parish Council to approve an Annual Statement of Governance and that the accounts had been undertaken in accordance with prescribed regulations.

A copy of the Statement of Governance, the Annual Return and the Internal Auditor's Report was circulated to each Member of the Parish Council.

Under the regulations copies of the Annual Return would be posted on the Parish Council's website for 30 working days from 13th June 2022.

It was agreed that :-

- (1) The Parish Council accept the report of the Internal Auditor
- (2) The Independent Internal Auditor's fee of £50.00 be paid.
- (3). The Parish Council apply for a certificate of exemption from External Audit.
- (4) That the Parish Council acknowledges its responsibility for the preparation of the accounts and confirms, to the best of its knowledge and belief that the Council's accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022 are true and correct and it has considered the statement of governance in connection with those accounts.
- (5) That the Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw) be authorised to sign the Annual Return where appropriate.
- (6) That the Audit documents be displayed on the Parish Council website.

5234. INSURANCE PREMIUM - RENEWAL.

The Clerk submitted details of the Parish Council's insurance quotation from Came and Company for the year from 1st June 2022 to 31st May 2023.

He reminded the Parish Council that in 2019 it had entered into a three year agreement with the Insurers. This would be subject to review would be subject to review in May 2023. Three quotations had been provided and the lowest quotation was from Hiscox Insurance Company Limited for the period from 1st June 2022 to 31st May 2023 amounting to £463.21 compared with £395.79 for 2021/2022 an increase of £67.42.

The Parish Council was requested to consider the offer and decide whether the cover offered was adequate.

A sum of £450.00 had been included in the Parish Council's Estimates for this premium in 2022/23.

In view of the recent upgrading of the Parish Pound this would be included in the Insurance Policy.

The Parish Council considered that the Council's Insurance is adequate ,the quotation from Came and Company be accepted, and that it be renewed for 2022/23 at a premium of £463.21.

5235. APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT:

(A). BRINDLE SHOW.

The Treasurer of Brindle Show had submitted a letter of thanks for the grant made by the Parish Council in respect their Annual Show in September 2022.

(B). BRINDLE WI:

The WI requested a grant towards the cost of equipment for use at their meetings.

Following consultation with Members of the Parish Council a grant of £100.00 was agreed.

5236. BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2022:

The Parish Council were reminded that inspection by the judges would start in June 2022.

5237. PARISH COUNCIL - BANK ACCOUNTS:

The Parish Council agreed to introduce on line banking for their bank accounts. The Clerk would make the arrangements.

5238. QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw) reported events proposed to mark the Platinum Jubilee including the lighting of a beacon at Denham Hill by the scouts. They had applied for a grant towards the cost of the beacon and following consultation with Members of the Parish Council a grant of £245.00 plus VAT had been made to them.

Grants had also been made to residents at Top oth Lane for their Street Party (£75.00), and the Community Hall Management Committee (£50.00) for Floral displays.

The Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw) declared a personal and non prejudicial interest in the grant to the Community Hall in respect of being a representative of the Parish Council on the Community Hall Management Committee.

5239. COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE:

Condensed versions had been submitted to Brindle Voice. Councillor Dr Ms P. McGovern was thanked for producing these.

The Clerk had circulated details of the CPRE Lancashire AGM at Mere Sands Wood on 12th September 2022.

5240. WITHNELL FOLD NATURE RESERVE:

The Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw) and County Councillor Cullens reported on the site meeting with representatives from Chorley Natural History Society to discuss possible improvements to the Nature Reserve.

The Canal and Rivers Trust was looking into grants for the improvement to the canal pathway.

5241. PRECEPT/CIL PAYMENTS:

Payment of the 2022/23 precept of £6,800.00 had been made by Chorley Council and there were no CIL payments to 31st March 2022.

5242. CHORLEY LIAISON MEETING:

The next meeting would be on 20th July 2022.

5243. PRINTER:

Following discussions with the Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw) the Clerk had replaced the printer after 14 years at a cost of £390.00. The cost would be shared with Houghton Parish Council.

5244. PARISH POUND:

Weeding, strimming and planting had taken place on 30th April 2022 the cost of the planting amounted to £189.44 and would be met by the Parish Council.

5245. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 27th June 2022 at 7.30 p.m. at the Community Hall Water Street Brindle.

There being no further business the Chairman (Councillor D. Cranshaw) declared the meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

SIGNED

**CHAIRMAN
27TH JUNE 2022**