



# COPPULL PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

**MEETING: PARISH COUNCIL  
WEDNESDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2020 - 7.00 P.M.  
SPRINGFIELD PARK LEISURE CENTRE,  
SPRINGFIELD ROAD NORTH, COPPULL**

**PRESENT:** Parish Councillors Michael Atherton (Chair), M. Parkinson (Vice-Chair), Nora Ball, Pauline Cobham, Matthew Crook, Paul Eastham, Elaine Jones, Steve Holgate, Lynne Moores, Maggie Peel-Impey, Paul Taylor, Ashley Whittaker, Susan Edwards (Clerk), Dorian Pilkington (Parish Champion), County Councillor Julia Berry (from 7.30 pm) and District Councillor Alex Hilton

**1. ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Councillors Neil Coggins (another commitment), Janette Colecliffe (working), Sheila Makin (another commitment)

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL / PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS** (Members of the Parish Council are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provision of the Local Government Act 2000)

- Councillors Paul Eastham and Lynne Moores – Item 10.16 – Allotments
- Councillors Mick Atherton and Pauline Cobham - Item 10.17 – Leisure Centre

2.1 **DECLARATION OF GIFTS** – None.

**3. AMENDMENT/APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATED 8 JANUARY 2020** (emailed/distributed to Parish Councillors)

PROPOSED: Councillor P. Cobham  
SECONDED: Councillor M. Parkinson

**RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the above meeting be approved as a correct record.

**THE CHAIRMAN PROPOSED THAT STANDING ORDERS BE SUSPENDED TO ALLOW REPRESENTATIVES OF OUTSIDE BODIES AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK.**

**4. POLICE REPORT** – None.



**5. COMMUNITY CHAMPION'S REPORT** – Dorian wrote a very good letter to the Police Crime Commissioner to get feedback from what is going on in the village. He got a quick response back with some routes for funding. Dorian is trying to do something locally to get the youth engaged in something different. Premises are needed, but funding is there for this. The Crime Commissioner is interested in coming to Coppull to a pre-arranged meeting one evening and it was agreed that this would be better out in the streets, to show him the problems as they are occurring and what the Parish Champion is doing. This will be at the end of March, beginning of April. Cllr Crook stated that there was an offer of an apprenticeship from a local engineering firm in Coppull if any of the youths were interested.

**6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** – Councillor Julia Berry is attending another meeting and will attend as soon as possible.

### **7. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

7.1 Councillor Julia Berry – as above.

7.2 Councillor Alex Hilton reported on the following:

- Anti-Social Behaviour in Coppull - there have been two meetings with the Police, who have taken action both openly and under cover. After this, there have been three arrests. One has been charged and the other two have been referred to an offending team. They are trying to engage with the children. It was felt that LCC have failed the children, not offering enough support. There will also be intervention with some of the other children. However, evidence is needed, hearsay cannot be accepted. 101 is sometimes difficult to get through to. Crimes can be reported on line or at Crime Stoppers anonymously. 999 should be contacted for any real trouble, e.g. throwing projectiles. There have been 2/3 reports since the arrest. CCTV is being arranged for the black spot near the bridge, which will cover Regent Street as well. This will cost £20k+ to have installed and the upkeep. Funding is required and it was asked if the Parish Council would consider putting some money into the fund. LCC are taking one down at the Late Shop. A meeting has also taken place with the Youth Zone and it is hoped to work together with the Parish Council to combat these problems.
- Local Plan – many people still do not know about the plan, but consultation is taking place in the areas which might be affected. As many people as possible are being encouraged to complete the survey. If land has been allocated under the local plan for commercial or housing it is very difficult for Chorley to refuse it.

7.3 Councillor Steve Holgate stated that it was a sad state of affairs that it has taken such a long time for action to be taken in Coppull and also felt that it was due to failures by various statutory organisation and credited the Parish Champion, the Parish Council,



Chorley Council and Lancashire County Council for haranguing the Police to take some intervention. It has been a lot quieter over the last two weeks or so, but everyone must be vigil and report everything to get the evidence base to continue with the level of activity in monitoring anti-social behaviour and taking the appropriate action. Cllr Taylor reported that staff at the Spar shop had been harassed by youths and were advised to contact the Police.

**8. ITEMS INTRODUCED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – None.**

**THE CHAIRMAN REIMPOSED STANDING ORDERS.**

**9. NO MEETING OF THE MANAGEMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING IN JANUARY 2020** - the next meeting to be held on Wednesday 26 February 2020 at 7 pm.

**10. GENERAL MANAGEMENT/FINANCE**

- 10.1 Accounts – any concerns from the last accounts which were emailed to Parish Councillors (next accounts due after the end of the financial year). No concerns reported.
- 10.2 Social Media Policy (emailed/distributed to Parish Councillors). Councillors approved the draft policy, but as this had only just been emailed through, it was agreed to take to the next meeting for formal adoption, when everyone has had the chance to look through it. A list has been received from SLCC on suggestions for policies and documentation. This was circulated around. Many of them have already been adopted by the Parish Council, the others would be looked into.
- 10.3 Transparency Code for smaller authorities. The Clerk had looked through this information and it was only for authorities under £25k, which are not subject to audit.
- 10.4 Website Accessibility training. This webinar training costs £120.00 over two days. It was **RESOLVED** not to participate, but to check with the website provider in regard to what is required.
- 10.5 Parish Council Insurance £3,530.66 for one year. It was £3,297.98 last year. The three year contract has now come to end, another three year contract would cost £3,360.47 or five years at £3,190.21. Another quote has been requested from Came & Co. To await their response and the Chair, Vice-Chair & Clerk to make a decision taking into account best value.
- 10.6 Preferred contractors list. It was **RESOLVED** to hold a list of preferred contractors, with copies of their insurance, public liability, etc. There is already a preferred suppliers list.



10.7 New nursery at the Village Hall. As there was not enough interest in opening just a pre-school, longer/flexible hours are now being offered and another open day is being held on Friday 14 February 2020. The Clerk will contact the organisers to ascertain how this has been received and if the Nursery will be opening on 24 February, as previously scheduled.

10.8 Response from landowner in regard to a location for a new Village Hall. Unfortunately, the landowners cannot come to a decision on this land at the present time, although it will be discussed again in the near future. Therefore, it was agreed that an article be placed in the next newsletter asking if anyone has any available land on the Old Parish side of the village, suitable for a new village hall.

Councillor Taylor mentioned two possible sites, owned by Chorley Council. It was **RESOLVED** to put these in the call for sites to ascertain whether they would be accepted.

10.9 CIL Funding – proposal to use the money reserved for a footpath on Clancutt Lane (not going ahead due to the cost) to put a new footpath in at the Leisure Park. The cost for the main area needing doing is approximately £1,000, for the whole path would be approximately £3,500. Cllr Ball asked if we could get the stone from Mr & Mrs Armstrong, but the Chairman replied that a lot of stone was required and this was included in the quote from J. Hill & Son. It was **RESOLVED** to have the main problem area replaced once the quote in writing has been received.

10.10 Neighbourhood Plan – Report from the public meeting. Approximately 30 people turned up for the meeting and were very positive towards undertaking a Neighbourhood Plan. However, it was agreed to put this matter into the next newsletter, to ascertain what support there is for the plan, or if there are any objections to it, as if it got to Referendum stage, 51% of those voting were needed to push the plan through to the next stage. One resident has emailed through to say he is in agreement with the PC proposals, but would also like the safety of the zebra crossing near the Spar looked into and also some action on climate change in the village, eg. the opening of the railway station and perhaps planting more trees.

10.11 Community Speedwatch Group (PT). This group will fund or part fund a speed camera. Cllr Taylor to get more information for the next meeting.

The speed indicator device is set at 20mph and Cllr Coggins had informed Cllr Taylor that he has updated the software to remedy this. He is to be reimbursed for any parts required to do this (discuss at the next meeting).



- 10.12 Chisnall Hall visit – report (MP/LM/Clerk). This was a very informative visit with Tim Blythe from LCC and he showed the expanse of this area, the work that has been done (ie planting of trees and extension of footpaths) and the work in progress. It has a good diversity of trees and plants, mixed in with grazing of animals on open spaces. A small article to be put in the next newsletter.
- 10.13 Christmas Fair (PT). Cllr Taylor would like to help organise some sort of fair or event in Coppull (perhaps a market). However, it was felt that there were already so many events around Christmas time, that an event around Easter or in the summer would be more beneficial. Cllr Taylor will look into this.
- 10.14 Information on sandbags. A great deal of information has been on the SLCC website recently due to the amount of floods and although sandbags are helpful for residents whose houses do flood, the practicalities and insurance for storing these and delivery to households is very detailed to say the least. It was agreed that the Fire Service should be contacted first for any problems with flooding.

**At this point in the meeting Cllr Berry arrived after attending another meeting and the Chairman proposed that Standing Orders be suspended to allow her to speak.**

Councillor Berry reported on the following:

- Railway Subway – there had been a meeting with the rail authority and member of parliament in regard to getting the Coppull Station reinstated. This will need the backing of LCC and other Lancashire representatives. This is part of the Local Plan and could be included in the Parish Council’s Neighbourhood Plan, working with councils and local businesses. It would be beneficial if a fund could be set up and events organised to bring people together and this would contribute greatly to getting this passed. A huge amount of money would be required for this project. Cllr Berry will formally write to the Parish Council to see if this can progress.
- Anti-Social Behaviour – Thanks to Cllrs Hilton and Holgate who have been working as a team to get the Police to take action and also working the Youth Offending Team and LCC as these children should be in school. A lot of work is going on behind the scenes. A meeting was held with Licensing and the taxi drivers and funding is being sought to put some activities on at the Library. Residents must be informed not to take the law into their own hands as this is a crime in itself. Report everything. Mores resources are being requested for the Police, as front line staff are not there anymore.
- Grange Drive mini-roundabout – LCC will not do anything at this stage. Residents have arranged a petition, but all incidents (near misses, etc) must be reported. There is an on-line system for reporting. This is also a problem at the mini-roundabout near the Spar.



- Flooding – Preston Road and Town Lane in Charnock Richard have been flooded in places. The Environment Agency and a Cabinet Member attended. Spendmore Lane also had two houses under water. Most of these are older, more vulnerable people. United Utilities said it was nothing to do with them. There will be an event in the Library in the near future to inform residents how to deal with flooding problems. The Flooding Authority, LCC and District Council have some obligation to help clean up after a flood, but the Fire Authority must be the first point of call.

**The Chairman proposed that Standing Orders be Reimposed and the meeting resume.**

10.15 Recycling. Chorley Council was asked if they could supply recycling bins for use by the Parish Council. These would be the same as supplied to residents and there would be no cost if a used bin is supplied. They would have to be put out for collection on Springfield Road. Cllr Hilton said an assisted collection could be asked for. It was **RESOLVED** that this go ahead.

10.16 Allotments update and request for a club to have an allotment. The Boxing Club at the Enterprise Centre has requested an allotment to be used by some children who they are teaching to cook and would like to teach how to grow their own food. The Parish Council was in agreement with this, as long as the children were always accompanied by an adult. The Allotment Society to be informed.

10.17 Leisure Centre update (PC/MA). The Centre is ticking over. The café fridge broke down and also the boiler. The boiler has been repaired and a company is coming out to look at the fridge to ascertain if it can be repaired. There are now three schools using the hall during the week.

10.18 Dog Fouling (to be put on every PC agenda until further notice). This is still a problem, but will hopefully get better as it usually does during the lighter mornings and evenings. The four dog bag dispensers have not yet been put up. An article will be put in the newsletter as to where they are located.

10.19 Village Grot Spots (to be put on every PC agenda until further notice).

- Cllr Peel-Impey stated that the fence on the Longfield Avenue Play Area needed to be inspected as it was in a very dangerous condition. Cllr Holgate stated that this is shortly to be removed and improvements are being made to the play area.

Cllr Holgate stated that the built up area in the middle of the estate is in a pretty bad condition with debris everywhere and wheelie bins being stolen. A skip day has been arranged for Saturday, along with an amount of free bins. A community litter



pick has also been arranged. Leaflets have been distributed to the whole area and it is hoped to see a big improvement in that area.

- The branches which had been left on the Berry Garden have now been removed by Chorley Council.

## **11. DECISIONS MADE UNDER THE CLERK'S DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

(After consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair)

- Pendulum seat for zip wire at Leisure Park - £52.00 plus vat
- New work boots for Chairman - £32.00

The Council **RATIFIED** the above decisions.

The Chairman reported that he had met with the play equipment inspector from Chorley Council to ascertain where some of the faults are on the Leisure Park.

## **12. PLANNING** (N.Coggins)

### **12.1 Planning Applications:**

- App.No. 19/01121/FULHH – 47 Hurst Brook – Two storey side extension – **ALREADY APPROVED.**
- App.No.19/01098/FUL – Highfield House, Jolly Tar Lane – Detached house following demolition of existing detached house – **SUPPORT.**
- App.No. 20/00051/PDE – 124 Mill Lane – proposed single storey rear extension (conservatory) – **SUPPORT.**
- App.No. 20/00060/TPO – Chapel Lane Business Park – Application for works to protected trees – prune overhanging branches back to fence line – **OBJECT** – it was felt that there was no justification for pruning any of these trees to the extent proposed. No evidence has been submitted by the applicant, only opinions. The trees in question are integral to the character and visual amenity of the area in question, therefore, the Parish Council strongly oppose the application, unless and until evidence supporting the need for pruning is proffered. It was agreed that the only pruning needed was where the trees overhang the pavement and only by as much as is needed for people to walk along.
- A building is being erected on the Chapel Lane Business Park which may not have permission. The Clerk to check with planning at Chorley Council.



Cars are also being parked on the grass verge and pavements, making it muddy and difficult for pedestrians to pass. It is believed these are staff from the premises. Chorley Council to be informed and asked to contact the premises concerned, believed to be Screentek.

## 12.2 Planning Decisions:

- App.No. 19/01117/FULHH – 10 Pleasant View – Single storey rear extension – **PERMITTED.**
- App.No. 19/01138/FULHH – 14 Westend Avenue – Single storey side extension – **PERMITTED.**
- App. No. 16/00806/OUTMAJ – Land 120m South West of 21 Lower Burgh Way – Outline application for up to 100 dwellings with associated landscaping and public open space. Permission sought for means of access as part of this application. **PERMITTED** subject to Section 106 Agreement.
- App.No. 19/00586/DIS – Land East of Wigan Lane – Application to discharge conditions attached to planning permission for construction of dairy unit – **DISCHARGED.**

### **Additional Decisions just received:**

- App.No. 19/01166/FULHH – 273 Coppull Moor Lane – Single storey rear extension – **PERMITTED.**
- App.No. 19/01109/CLPUD – 61 Jolly Tar Lane – Certificate of lawfulness for a proposed single storey side extension to the eastern elevation, a single storey rear extension and rear dormer extension and insertion of roof lights - **PERMITTED.**

## 13. HIGHWAYS

13.1 Parking Enforcement Requests (to be put on every PC agenda until further notice). New Road – vehicles are being parked completely on the pavement, blocking it for pedestrians. LCC and the Police to be informed.

13.2 Reminder of road closure – Spendmore Lane near railway bridge, Monday 2 March 08:00 until 17:00. Noted.

## 14. CORRESPONDENCE / ITEMS FOR DECISION-DISCUSSION

14.1 Spendmore Lane Methodist Church - Request for donation towards next year's Christmas Tree. It was agreed to look at this in more detail nearer the time, but to suggest that the Parish Council would prefer to donate towards a real tree which could be planted and used each year.



14.2 Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition (emailed to Parish Councillors). It was agreed not to participate in this competition, because there is no-one who can commit to the time it takes and there is a lack of volunteers.

## **15. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / FUTURE DISCUSSION**

15.1 Coppull Centenarian. A local lady has reach 100 years old and an article is to be placed in the newsletter about her, at the request of her family. It was agreed to send the lady a letter of congratulations from the Parish Council.

15.2 Loose gravel on drives going onto pavements/roads (MP). This is causing problems throughout the village, as the stones get into the road and sometimes fly up from passing cars and if on the pavement are causing people to stumble if stepped on. Cllr Parkinson to email Cllr Hilton the problem areas.

15.3 VE Day – this is taking place over the weekend of 8 – 10 May, commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It is a Friday bank holiday and events are planned across the UK. Help is available for putting an event on. To forward to Cllr Taylor who will look into this.

15.4 Battle of Britain – It is the Royal Air Force Battle of Britain 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The official dates of the battle are 10 July until 31 October, with the annual Battle of Britain Week scheduled to take place from 7 September to 13 September. To forward to Cllr Taylor in regard to a future event.

### **THE CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING AT 8.30 P.M.**

#### **Dates of next meetings:**

**WEDNESDAY: 23.02.2020 7.00 PM MANAGEMENT & FINANCE**

**WEDNESDAY: 11.03.2020 7.00 PM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

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**Councillor Michael Atherton**  
**Parish Council Chairman**

