



## MINUTES

**MEETING: COPPULL PARISH COUNCIL  
WEDNESDAY 12 JUNE 2024 AT 7.00 PM  
SPRINGFIELD PARK LEISURE CENTRE**

Members of Coppull Parish Council are hereby **SUMMONED** to attend the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council  
Members of the public are invited to attend and are extremely welcome

**IN ATTENDANCE** – Councillors Michael Atherton, Marjorie Parkinson, Phil Armstrong, Julia Berry, Pauline Cobham, Neil Coggins, Janette Colecliffe, Matthew Crook, Chris Kay, Sheila Makin, Ken McCrea, Maggie Peel-Impey, Thomas Robinson, one member of the public and Susan Edwards, Clerk

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Councillors Lynne Moores (another commitment), Paul Taylor (work) - **RESOLVED:** All absences accepted.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL / PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS** (Members of the Parish Council are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or prejudicial interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda in accordance with the provision of the Local Government Act 2000) and withdraw from the meeting whilst the item is discussed – **None.**

2.1 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST FORM** – it is Councillors’ responsibility to ensure that this form is up to date and to declare any interests at meetings. **Noted.** Councillor Berry stated that she would be updating her register, as she was now a governor at Coppull Primary School and her husband a governor at St. Oswald’s Primary School

2.2 **DECLARATION OF GIFTS** – **None.**

3. **AMENDMENT/APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATED 8 MAY 2024** (emailed/distributed to Parish Councillors)

**PROPOSED:** Councillor M. Crook

**SECONDED:** Councillor N. Coggins

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

**SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS (20 minutes in total allowed for the following 4 items or 4 minutes per person)**

4. **POLICE REPORT** – No official report. Statistics for most commonly reported crimes during April 2024:

- 17 Anti-social behaviour – up from 14
- 12 Violence and sexual offences – down from 13
- 05 Public Order
- 04 Criminal Damage & Arson

- Crime level overview percentage is down from 11% to 10.2%. Cllr Berry met with the local PCSO recently and was impressed with the reduction in youth anti-social behaviour in Coppull and recommended that the new Crime Commissioner be invited to a future Parish Council meeting to talk about crime.

**5& 6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – Cllr Julia Berry reported on the following:**

- Neighbourhood Priorities meeting on 15 July 2024. A meeting is to take place with Lindsey Blackstock in regard to taking this project forward.
- Issues around the mill and The Landings estate, where children are playing out on the car park unsupervised. An audit of the area to take place to ascertain who is responsible for what.
- Inspire is taking children from Coppull on Wednesdays to activities and bring them back. A detached youth team is in Coppull every week with a bus behind the Library.
- Open Reach have been on Spendmore Lane and Virgin Media, who will in future be sanctioned if they do leave their work in a satisfactory condition. Any concerns can be logged on Love Clean Streets.
- Signage to be requested for Coppull Hall Lane at the top, reminding people to walk facing the traffic. Request for this to be placed in the next newsletter.
- Concerns expressed over the number 632 bus, mainly overcrowding, turning up late, children not seated and overcharging. Raised with
- Trip hazards along the footpath on Spendmore Lane, from Lancaster Street to the junction of Roe Hey Drive. The road is also very narrow. To raise with LCC.
- Parking from people taking children to St. Oswald's School is causing problems on Hill View Drive and Meadow Way. Difficulty in seeing when leaving these roads due to the parked cars. To raise with LCC.
- Fencing on New Road, quite significant big drops down to the river which are not fenced, causing a danger for children walking to school. This has been raised, but nothing can be set up until the autumn.
- Steps up from Spendmore Lane to Mill Lane in a dangerous condition and very steep. They were fixed around 18 months ago, but need more work.
- Blainscough development – concerns from residents in regard to the public footpaths being closed and trees/hedges being pulled down. This has been referred to enforcement at Chorley Council.
- A resident of the Springfield Nursing Home who is in a wheelchair cannot get to the Library due to not enough room to get around the bin outside Bargain Booze and also because of the condition of the pavements and no drop kerbs. To raise with Chorley Council.

## 7. ITEMS INTRODUCED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – None.

### **REIMPOSE STANDING ORDERS**

#### **8. GENERAL MANAGEMENT/FINANCE**

- 8.1 Accounts – Direct debits/standing orders - Payments made and to be made (emailed/distributed to Parish Councillors). **RESOLVED** – that the above is a correct record of payments made and received.
- 8.2 Purchase of Adobe PDF programme. **RESOLVED** – not to purchase at this moment in time due to the cost. Cllr Armstrong to assist the Clerk in how to change a pdf, which is the most important feature needed at the moment.
- 8.3 Review of hourly payment to gardener – to be considered under confidential matters.
- 8.4 Consideration of purchasing a commercial tree shredder and a way to keep the shredder and the mower in the lock-up container. A quote had been received for £260 to remove branches and other garden materials which have built up over the winter months. Therefore, consideration to be given to purchasing a commercial tree shredder. **RESOLVED** - it was felt that there are too many accidents relating to using this type of machinery for the PC's employees or gardener to use. A tree surgeon to be asked for a quote to shred the branches, instead of removing.

It was not felt realistic to keep the mower in the lock-up container, as it was not as secure as the room within the Leisure centre. **RESOLVED** – to make improvements to the room, including repairs to the ceiling, boxing off the old dumb waiter and putting a sealant around the door to stop the smell of petrol entering the centre itself.

- 8.5 Community Infrastructure Levy – requests for funding (emailed/distributed to Parish Councillors) (list attached). **RESOLVED** – to discuss this in more detail at a Management & Finance Committee meeting and make recommendations for full council.
- 8.6 Neighbourhood Plan update. The consultant has been signed up again to take the plan to completion, with the help of members of the NP group, but mainly Jean Tickle and Karen Hartley.
- 8.7 Clerk's meeting with SLCC – Information received that unless the Parish Council is a member of NALC, their documents (including essential Standing Orders and Financial Regulations) will not be able to be used in future and strict consequences will be taken for anyone using their copyright. **RESOLVED**: To obtain a price for joining the Local Association of Local Councils and to join as soon as possible.
- 8.8 Memorial Garden – Policy for installing memorial benches. A request has been made for a further memorial bench to be placed in the garden. **RESOLVED** – that the request be granted and a policy be looked into for future applications.
- 8.9 Play Area report and updates – The work needed for the play areas has

started and more will be in the upcoming weeks. The diamond board for the repair to the multi-unit at Byron Crescent is on order and will be cut to size. Bark has been ordered and should be delivered shortly for Byron and Springfield Park.

- 8.10 New Village Hall update. A meeting has been arranged with the builder to sort out the problems that have occurred and the fact that the hall is still not complete, despite many promises of when it would be. The groundworks are more or less finished, but there are some snags in regard to the drains. The final payment will be withheld until all snags are completed and when it has been passed by the Building Inspector.
- 8.11 Allotments meeting update. It was a very good meeting and a chance to meet up with the Allotment Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Changes are going to be made to the Tenancy Agreement, to make it easier to take people off their allotments if they are not working on it, as there is a waiting list.
- 8.12 Leisure Centre meeting update. This was a productive meeting, with the emphasis on working together to get problems sorted. The work that is needed to the centre cannot be done all at once, but needs to be prioritised. Lighting and insulation in the sports hall appear to be the most important ones. A quote has been received for the lighting and a further one is awaited. The guttering around the hall has been attended to and the walls appear to be drying out.
- 8.13 A1 Fitness update – Work has also started on the building, with the most urgent matters being attended to first.
- 8.14 Practitioners Guide – Amendments (deferred from the last meeting). The main changes for the Parish Council are in relation to email management and internal audit. A list of the changes was emailed to all Parish Councillors.
- 8.15 Dog Competition update in conjunction with Pinewood Vets, Coppull. Pinewood Vets are again sponsoring this competition and the posters are being put around the village, on the website, notice boards, etc.
- 8.16 Garden Competition update. Posters are being placed around the village, in the notice boards and on the website. Consideration of who can judge and prizes to be discussed at a future date.
- 8.17 Picnic in the Park Event Sunday 9 June 2024 – Feedback from the event. It was a very good event again, despite the wet weather on the day. The tombola proved a huge success and raised £120.20. The food/drink wagons donated £20 each, which was appreciated given the day and not as many people attending. The ice cream van gave £30 – all towards next year’s event.

## **9. DECISIONS MADE UNDER THE CLERK’S DELEGATED AUTHORITY** (in conjunction with the Chair and Vice-Chair)

- A further treatment of mole removal - £150.00

The Parish Council **RATIFIED** the above expenditure.

## 10. PLANNING (NC)

### 10.1 Applications:

- App.No. 23/01090/FULHH – Notice of Appeal – 151 Preston Road – Erection of timber summerhouse / shed (retrospective) – **error** - this has previously been discussed and granted.

**10.2 To consider** any planning applications received after publication of this agenda for which a response is required prior to the next meeting.

### 10.3 Decisions:

- App.No. 24/00239/FULHH – 29 Springfield Road – Erection of detached outbuilding – withdrawn from the agenda of Chorley’s planning committee (extension of time requested). No further information was available. Cllr Coggins to contact Chorley Council in regard to this.
- App.No. 189 Preston Road – Erection of 1.9m high fence to front boundary and new driveway materials (retrospective) – **GRANTED**
- App.No. 24/00138/DIS - Land adjacent Blainscough Hall, Blainscough Lane – Discharge of conditions – **GRANTED.**
- App.No. 22/00002/MNMA – Land 120m South West of 21 Lower Burgh Way - Minor non material amendment to substitute one house type and amend the layout of basins, pumping station and footpaths – **GRANTED.**

## 11. HIGHWAYS

11.1 LCC - Temporary closure of FP0910034 and 35, Blainscough, Coppull – Email from resident in regard to this closure, who had contacted LCC in regard to not enough notification being given out. However, LCC had followed the correct procedures and it would appear that someone had been taking the notices down and undoing the fences for access. The resident requested a meeting and Cllr Berry had visited the resident concerned and felt that a notice board would be beneficial, to encourage communication with residents. Also putting matters like these on the Parish Council’s website in future, not just on LCC’s and Chorley Council’s, and possibly Facebook.

Hedgerows have also been taken down and Cllr Coggins said that enforcement could be taken if these had been taken down at the wrong time. However, the hedgerow was taken down in February, before the nesting season. Cllr Berry to keep the council informed of any developments.

## 12. CORRESPONDENCE / ITEMS FOR DECISION

11.2 Chorley Council – Small Community Grant Fund open (emailed/distributed to Parish Councillors). There is up to £500 available for community grant funding and up to £400 for Environmental Improvement grants. The Parish Council can only apply for the environmental grant.

**RESOLVED** – to apply for the grant to be used for a community clean-up day.

11.3 LCC – Local Delivery/Biodiversity Scheme (emailed/distributed to Parish Councillors). **RESOLVED** – to apply again to this scheme, for strimming the three ginnels (PROW) in Coppull for the Local Delivery Scheme. Suggestions for the Biodiversity Scheme was for funding towards planting in a communal garden.

11.4 Ron Bailey – Parliament – Support request on the Safety of Lithium Ion Batteries and e-bikes and scooters (emailed/distributed to Parish Councillors). **RESOLVED** – to confirm the Parish Council’s support of this campaign.

11.5 Chorley Council – Neighbourhood Priority Projects (emailed/distributed to Parish Councillors). The project being explored is to enhance the area around Kimberley Street, the piece of land next to the Chinese takeaway. To include EV charging points, improvement to parking, planting trees and perhaps a notice board. A meeting with District Councillors is to take place with Lindsey Blackstock, Chorley Council, to try and move the project forward.

## 12 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / FUTURE DISCUSSION

12.1 The Village Kitchen has been contacted to ascertain if they have an outside wall with a socket to fit the defibrillator which has been funded by the Parish Council and the Printers Arms. The Clerk visited site and unfortunately there are no sockets near the outside wall. Coppull Motors was also visited and again there are no sockets there on an outside wall. **RESOLVED** – to contact the tile shop at the top of Spendmore Lane to ascertain if it could be fitted there.

12.2 Community Orchard – **RESOLVED** – to consider putting in an application for the Tansley Avenue Play Area. The Clerk to complete the application form.

## 13 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

13.1 Pay review for self-employed gardener. **RESOLVED** – to increase his hourly payment in line with inflation and for the work he does.

13.2 Tansley Play Area claim – this has been resolved between the Insurance company and the claimant’s Solicitors.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30 pm

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Councillor Michael Atherton

