

ADLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held on Monday 16th January 2017
in Adlington Library, Railway Road, Adlington commencing at 7.15pm

Members Present:

Mayor A Evans

Councillors J Banks, C Hart, J Lowe, A Robinson, P Walkden and A Wilson

In Attendance: L Crouch (Clerk), County Cllr Kim Snape and one resident

1 **Open Forum** Mrs Jackson introduced herself to the meeting as a resident of Lower Adlington and expressed her concern regarding the potential effect on residents of the planned withdrawal by Stagecoach of the number 7 bus service which currently runs through Lower Adlington. She asked the Council to register a protest with Stagecoach and to ask why they intend to discontinue what appears to be a well-used service. Cllr Snape is collecting signatures for a petition objecting to the removal of the service, and she and MP Lindsay Hoyle will be meeting with Stagecoach to discuss the service in the near future. Residents have observed that some drivers are waving through bus pass holders at busy times in order to keep to the timetable and concern was expressed that this is having a detrimental effect on the reported usage figures.

2 **Apologies for Absence** were received from Cllr F Molyneux, Cllr J Molyneux, Cllr Lee who was away and Cllr Summers who was unwell and these were accepted by the Council.

3 **Minutes of the Meeting** held on Monday 12th December 2016 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

3.1 **Matters Arising** None

4 **Declarations of Interest** None

It was resolved to discuss item 7.8 at this point for the benefit of the resident in attendance

7.8 It was resolved to contact Stagecoach and to copy in Lancashire County Council, County Cllr John Fillis, local Chorley Councillors, and MP Lindsay Hoyle to object to the withdrawal of the number 7 bus service for the following reasons:

- it would lead to greater social isolation for vulnerable residents of Lower Adlington
- no warning was given that the route had become unprofitable or that it was under threat
- no viable alternative bus route has been proposed

The meeting was suspended for five minutes for clarification of the bus pass issue

It was resolved to include a question regarding the validity of the usage figures when drivers have been observed not registering bus pass journeys, but to explain that this information was unsubstantiated.

It was also resolved to include the information about the withdrawal of the service on the Town Council website and Twitter feed and include a link to County Cllr Snape's contact information for the petition.

The resident left the meeting

Finance

5.1 It was resolved to approve the statement of accounts and budget review for December 2016

5.2 It was resolved to approve the following payments:

L Crouch	Salary	
Orange	Phone charges 24/12/16 to 23/01/17	£9.50
Lancashire County Council	Use of Adlington Library for Town Council meetings for 12 months (13 meetings) from January to December 2017	£237.00

5.3 It was resolved to transfer £800 from the RBS savings account to the current account.

5.4 It was resolved that more information regarding the application for funding from the Police Community Beat Team would be required before the request could be considered. Cllr Banks will ask a representative of the team to attend the next meeting.

6 Planning

6.1 New or amended applications

16/01197/FULHH 27 The Common Removal of existing conservatory and garages to the rear of the property and construction of single storey rear extension and double storey side extension which will include a first floor with balcony over the existing garage. It was resolved to leave this application for neighbours to comment.

6.2 **Applications to be left for neighbours' comments** None

6.3 The Town Council has been advised that if it wishes to make an objection to an HGV license application this can only be done via Chorley Council Environmental Health and only if it is likely to give rise to a "statutory environmental nuisance". Cllr Evans will confirm the process for doing this at the next Chorley Liaison meeting and Cllrs Lowe and Walkden will liaise with other parishes on the subject at the next LALC area meeting

6.4 HGV License Applications

OC1122046SN Fairport Containers Ltd – 1 Market Place. Increase to 25 vehicles, 30 trailers. It was resolved that until a method for submission of comments by the Council was clarified this would need to be left for

neighbours to comment, although concern was expressed regarding a possible increase in noise nuisance. It was resolved that current noise issues reported by residents and caused by the dragging of skips across the site should be reported to Chorley Council by the Clerk.

7 Items for Discussion

- 7.1 It was resolved to invite the applicants for the vacant Councillor post for interview on 08/02/17
- 7.2 Cllr Robinson reported that Pincroft have requested Environment Agency guidance regarding the likelihood of flooding in future at the site, following the problems experienced in December 2015. United Utilities have done some work to improve the flow of the river at that point. It was resolved to contact UU for an update.
- 7.3 It was resolved to enter the draw for the Mayor to attend the Buckingham Palace Garden Party.
- 7.4 The comments made by a resident regarding the lack of Christmas decorations in the village were noted. A Christmas tree was provided in the past on the land in front of Adlington Library but the lights were a target for vandalism. It was agreed that more modern LED lights may be a safer option. An offer to donate a Christmas tree was made last year by the tree suppliers to the late Brian Parkinson but the previously used external power supply could not be located and there was insufficient time available to safely reinstate this. Concern was also expressed by the suppliers regarding the health & safety requirements for the erection of the tree. It was resolved to approach the Friends of Adlington Library group for its suggestions for this year.
- 7.5 It was resolved that Cllrs Evans and Hart will attend the Annual Parish Conference on 25/02/17 and that the reduction in services provided in villages on the periphery of the county should be raised as a discussion item
- 7.6 It was resolved to continue to provide hotpot at the Carol Concert this year despite some negative publicity on social media following last year's event. It was agreed that this was a good time of year to bring the community together and to provide a supper that all residents are welcome to share. It was suggested that a children's choir is asked to perform at this year's event in addition to the brass band
- 7.7 It was resolved to hold the next Website & Communications group meeting on 08/02/17 at 7.50pm at Fairview Community Centre. The group will discuss the redesign/replacement of the Town Council website
- 7.8 *This item was discussed at the start of the meeting*
- 7.9 It was resolved that Cllr Evans or Cllr Banks and Cllr Hart will attend the Planning in Practice session to be held by Chorley Council on 13/03/17. The Clerk expressed an interest in attending if additional places are available.
- 7.10 Permission has not yet been granted for further sand extraction at Sandon's Farm as no decision has yet been made by the Government on whether to Call In the decision. It was noted that a Judicial Review can cost around £60,000.
- 7.11 The Mayor will be attending the next Chorley Liaison meeting and hopes to receive updates on the question of gully sweeping and a report from the "Making Space for Water" group meeting. The Clerk was asked to report a blocked gully outside 33 Railway Road to LCC Highways and the poor condition of pavements along Westhoughton Road to Chorley Council using her delegated powers.

8 Items for Information

- 8.1 The Mayor reminded Councillors about the invitation received to the ordination of Fr Eddie Carr which will take place on 25/01/17.
- 8.2 The next PACT meeting will take place on 08/03/17
- The meeting closed at 8.50pm*