

CHAPEL AND HILL CHORLTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Chapel and Hill Chorlton
Parish Council held on 14 June 2023**

Present:

Parish Councillors: Tom Davy, Mark Humphries, Richard Oppenheimer (Chairman)

Borough Councillor: Amy Bryan

1 member of the public was present.

226.06/23 To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Richard Montague.

227.06/23 To consider applications for co-option or resignation

A letter of resignation was received from Amy Davies. The Council will thank her for her support of the Council and its work during the past year.

228.06/23 To receive Councillors' declarations of pecuniary interest in items on the agenda

There were no declarations of interest.

229.06/23 To consider approving and signing the Minutes of the last Regular Meeting

The chairman signed the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on 10 May 2023.

230.06/23 Public participation (open forum)

A resident raised a complaint about the overgrown hedge at the junction of Sandy Lane and Woodside, which is blocking visibility of oncoming traffic.

231.06/23 Reports from Borough and County Councillors

Borough councillor: A report had been received by email and circulated prior to the meeting.
County councillor: No report had been received.

232.06/23 Police report

There was no police representative at the meeting.

233.06/23 Matters arising from the minutes of the 10 May 2023 meeting

- 217.05/23 Donation from a former resident of the parish

A donation of £1,000.00 has been received. The donor has agreed to its expenditure on re-fencing the former landfill site at Chorlton Moss.

234.06/23 Correspondence received

The draft of a response to an email from a resident received at the May meeting was approved to be sent.

235.06/23 Financial matters

Financial report: Received £100 for landfill rent; reimbursement of VAT £837.96; donation £1,000.

Bank balances: current a/c £943.41; reserve a/c; £17,342.12; making a total of £18,285.41
It was agreed to pay the Internal Auditor's fee of £66.00.

Schedule of payments:

BACS/CHQ NO.	TO WHOM PAID	DETAILS	Total inc VAT
002/23/24	Debra Powell	Internal Audit	66.00
Total			£66.00

The above item authorised to be paid following this meeting.

236.06/23 Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2023

Outcome and findings of Annual Internal Audit: The outcome and findings of the Annual Internal Audit for year ending 31 March 2023 were noted.

Comments by the Internal Auditor: Periodic reconciliations of bank statements need to be presented more frequently; end of year accounts need to be available on the website for a 5-year period.

Certification of Chapel and Hill Chorlton Parish Council as exempt from a limited assurance review under section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015: It was resolved to certify the Parish Council as exempt. The Chairman signed the Exemption Certificate.

Section 1 (Annual Governance Statement 2022/23) of the Annual Return: Section 1 was approved and signed.

Section 2 (Accounting Statement 2023/23) of the Annual Return: Section 2 was approved and signed.

It was resolved to publicise the exercise of public rights for 30 working days from Monday 10th July 2023 to Friday 18th August 2023.

237.06/23 Planning

No planning applications had been received.

● *Newcastle-under-Lyme Local Plan Consultation, 18 June to 14 August 2023:*

It was noted that the draft Local Plan had been published “with unseemly haste” following the conclusion of the public inquiry into the Baldwins Gate Farm planning application. This was “suspicious at best”, indicative of bad practice at the planning department and an example of why people do not have confidence in the planning system.

The target housing numbers are a major concern of the inter-parish planning forum.

Draft response to policies and issues will be reviewed at the next meeting.

238.06/23 Croft Farm construction site

Conditioned working times are not being followed, work and deliveries are regularly starting before 8.00 on Monday-Friday and before 9:00 on Saturday, deliveries are being made during peak traffic times. Improvements to the site access have not been implemented. The wheel wash has not been installed. Heavy vehicles have broken up the access; there will eventually be damage to the public footway. Measures have not been put in place to mitigate adverse effects on residents, e.g. accesses to neighbouring properties. There is no site notice with contact details for the site manager. Services have not been put in prior to commencement of building. Cllr Bryan reported that one or more complaints have been received by Planning Enforcement. She will obtain an update from Planning Enforcement on what is happening.

The Council will contact Environmental Health regarding an abatement order in respect of dust and noise; and will contact Paul Northcott on issues relating to the access and highway safety.

239.06/23 Former landfill site at Chorlton Moss Lane

Registration of community open space project: Cllr Bryan will make enquiries as to the planning status of the site and the process to be followed to register it as an open space project.

Other issues: Decided to get several quotes for re-fencing the area with a view to getting a new fence installed during the summer, and to get quotes from land contractors with a view preparing the site for reseeding with traditional meadow grasses and wildflowers.

240.06/23 Parish appearance

Kennels Lane layby: Nettles and other large weeds have been sprayed. Cllr Davy will visit the layby later in the week.

Chapel Chorlton green: Docks have been sprayed and are responding well to treatment. There has been little grass growth during the hot dry weather; no further mowing will be requested while eradication of docks continues.

241.06/23 Highways matters

Roadside parking at "Greenways", Hill Chorlton: The Council will contact PCSO Gemma Crank. Cllr Davey will speak with the householder.

Verge mowing: Tall growth on A51 verges is blocking visibility the Kennels Lane junction and on the bend east of the Coombesdale junction. Decided to request contractor Nick Bedson to mow the A51 verges to the west of Kennels Lane and east of the Coombesdale junction.

Hedge at Sandy Lane/Woodside junction: Re complaint received from a resident during the Public participation (minute 230.06/23). To contact Mike Webb at SCC Highways for an update on the issue before writing to the householder to remind them of their responsibility to keep the hedge cut.

242.06/23 Councillor training

No dates for councillor training were announced.

243.06/23 Urgent business

There was no urgent business.

244.06/23 To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting as 12 July 2023

The Meeting closed at 21.38hrs.

Signed

CHAIR

Minutes 14 June 2023