

CHAPEL AND HILL CHORLTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Chapel and Hill Chorlton
Parish Council held on 21 February 2024**

Present:

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

Borough Councillor: Amy Bryan

PSCO Gemma Crank

1 member of the public was present.

019.02/24 To receive and approve apologies for absence

There were no apologies.

020.02/24 To consider applications for co-option or resignation

There were no applications for co-option or resignation.

021.02/24 To receive Councillors' declarations of pecuniary interest in items on the agenda

There were no declarations of interest.

022.02/24 To consider approving and signing the Minutes of the last Regular Meeting

The chairman signed the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on 10 January 2024.

023.02/24 Public participation (open forum)

There were no public participation items.

024.02/24 Reports from Borough and County Councillors

Borough councillor: Report was circulated by email. NuLBC budget for 2024–2025 has been approved.

County councillor: No report had been received.

025.02/24 Police report

A stable off the A51 was broken into during the last month. A cannabis factory in the area has been closed down and is currently under investigation. There have been thefts from farm buildings in the neighbouring parishes of Maer & Aston and Loggerheads.

026.02/24 Correspondence received

A complaint on behalf of Chapel Chorlton residents was received re “school buses” driving over and damaging the corners of the green. On inspection it appears that some of the damage may also be due to agricultural vehicles. Staffordshire Transport has been contacted and will request the school bus drivers to be more vigilant. A solution would be to install plastic bollards (edge markers) at each corner of the green.

027.02/24 Financial matters

Budget for 2024–2025: The budget for the year 2024–2025 was agreed and will be signed off at the March meeting.

Financial report: Bank balances: Current a/c £150.80, reserve a/c £13986.70; total £14147.50.

BACS/CHQ NO.	TO WHOM PAID	DETAILS	Total inc VAT
012/23/24	Creative solutions	Notice Board	682.92
Total			682.92

The above items authorised to be paid following this meeting.

028.02/24 Planning

Planning application 24/00081/FUL Land At Coombsdale Hill Chorlton Newcastle Under Lyme Staffordshire, Proposed erection of 3no stables and tack room, change of use of land to equestrian use: Decided not to respond to this application.

Update on application 22/01105/FUL, Woodside: Noted that NuLBC Landscape Development has responded and does not support the application.

Peat excavation on Chorlton Moss: Excavators from a development site at Fair-Green Road Baldwins Gate dug up a large amount of peat adjacent to the Chorlton Moss wildlife site and within the Functioning Ecological Unit of the Lowland Raised Bog. Local residents reported the activity to Staffordshire Wildlife Trust which requested a site meeting with NuLBC planning officers. The site was “restored” the day after the site meeting, but significant ecological damage has been done. It was noted that the area is protected by Neighbourhood Plan policy NE1, which is adopted NuLBC planning policy.

029.02/24 Croft Farm construction site

Issues raised previously have not been addressed adequately by the NuLBC enforcement officer. It was noted that the signs at the entrance to the site have been removed.

030.02/24 Meadow project

David Cadman at Staffordshire Wildlife Trust (SWT) may be able to get some soil analysis of the site done. It was agreed to pay a subscription to SWT in recognition of consultancy services that may be received. Agreed to purchase nest boxes for the trees.

031.02/24 Parish appearance

Kennels Lane layby: Decided to order two litter bins.

Chapel Chorlton green: Issues noted above under minute 026.02/24 Correspondence. Decided to make a site visit on Thursday 22 February, 2.30 pm.

Other issues: Some suggestions were made for improving the plantings in the tubs in Hill Chorlton.

032.02/24 Highways matters

The batteries in the SID at Maerfield Gate were changed and recharged a couple of times during the dark months.

Sandy Lane: Noted that the road is still flooding with run-off from the field on the west side of Woodside. Water is unable to run off into the field on the east side of the road due to sil build-up in the gateway. To ask Highways to have another look at the situation.

033.02/24 Public engagement

Noticeboard for Chorlton Moss: Noticeboard has been delivered; lettering will be ordered.

Newsletter: It is hoped to produce a newsletter in April.

034.02/24 Councillor training

No dates for councillor training were announced.

035.02/24 Urgent business

There was no urgent business.

036.02/24 To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting as 13 March 2024

The Meeting closed at 21.32 hrs.

Signed

CHAIR

Minutes 21 February 2024