

**CHAPEL AND HILL CHORLTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Chapel and Hill Chorlton  
Parish Council held on 9 October 2024**

**Present:**

Parish Councillors: Tom Davey (arrived 19:39hrs), Richard Montague, Richard Oppenheimer (Chairman)

Borough Councillor: Amy Bryan

PCSO: Luke Verrall

1 member of the public was present.

**113.10/24 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Mark Humphries.

**114.10/24 To consider applications for co-option or resignation**

There were no applications for co-option or resignation.

**115.10/24 To receive Councillors' declarations of pecuniary interest in items on the agenda**

There were no declarations of interest.

**116.10/24 To consider approving and signing the Minutes of the last Regular Meeting**

The chairman signed the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on 11 September 2024.

**117.10/24 Public participation (open forum)**

There were no public participation items.

**118.10/24 Reports from Borough and County Councillors**

*Borough councillor:* The Borough Council remains financially stable; Local Plan section 19 consultation has completed; the Queen Elizabeth II statue in Queen's Gardens will be officially unveiled on 11 October. The Baldwins Gate Farm development reserved matters application was approved by the Planning Committee on 8 October; Councillor Bryan requested that a community liaison group be set up and that appropriate street lighting be installed throughout the estate. A new planning officer has been assigned to the Woodside planning application and there are some outstanding issues before it can be resolved. Rose Cottage planning application: Highways has raised issues regarding the access.

*County councillor:* No report was received.

**119.10/24 Police report**

PCSO Luke Verrall attended the meeting. There was nothing notable to report in the parish.

**120.10/24 Correspondence received**

A parishioner had written to the Council to thank them for installing the benches at Chorlton Meadow.

**121.10/24 Financial matters**

*Financial report:*

Bank balances at 30 September 2024: reserve a/c: £16,140.06; current a/c: £293.63; total at bank: £16,433.69.

It was agreed to spend £60 to purchase a wreath for Maer War Memorial.

*Schedule of payments:*

BACS/CHQ NO.	TO WHOM PAID	DETAILS	Total inc VAT £
13/24/25	Homebase	Fixings for Meadow fence and bench	35.00

14/24/25	Nat Wildflower	Meadow Bulbs	72.99
15/24/25	Broxap	LayBy Bin	544.80
16/24/25	Parish online	Parish Online mapping	60.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>712.79</b>

The above items authorised to be paid following this meeting.

### **122.10/24 Planning**

No new planning applications had been received.

Update on active planning applications was provided in the Borough Councillor's report.

### **123.10/24 Community governance review**

The idea of requesting a community governance review of the parish was discussed and will be put on the agenda for future meetings. It was noted that there is a problem recruiting people to serve on the Parish Council and the situation is becoming unsustainable. A resolution is needed prior to the next scheduled parish council elections.

### **124.10/24 Croft Farm construction site**

The statutory notices have now been put up at the site entrance. There is no further information regarding complaints raised by the Parish Council and Councillor Bryan will be following this up. There is still a problem with excessive noise from the site. There has been considerable disruption in Hill Chorlton in recent weeks due to work on the electricity network. The issue of traffic through the roadworks was reported to the Highways liaison officer.

### **125.10/24 Meadow project**

Many local residents in both Chorlton and Whitmore parishes have expressed appreciation for the benches and other work on the site. Wildflower bulbs and plants have now been planted and wildflower seed has been sown. NuLBC planners contacted the Parish Council regarding an unspecified complaint from a resident and subsequently wrote saying that either the benches should be removed and the fencing restored to its original state or a new planning application should be submitted. This is totally contrary to the understanding that the Council had following a meeting with officers on 25 September 2023, and this will be pointed out to them [see minute 274.10/23]. It was noted that the Council has powers under Parish Councils Act 1957 to install seats and benches for use by the public. Councillor Paul Northcott has suggested that the Mayor of Newcastle be invited to visit the site. It was felt that it would be best to arrange a visit in the spring, when the flowers are starting to bloom.

### **126.10/24 Parish appearance**

*Kennels Lane layby:* The litter bin has been ordered and paid for. Broxap will inform the Council when it is ready for collection. The Council will decide later whether to do the installation themselves or engage Str8edge to do it.

*Chapel Chorlton green:* Eradication of docks appears to have been successful.

### **127.10/24 Highways matters**

Excavations by Network Plus and National Grid in Chorlton Moss Lane, Moss Lane and Sandy Lane for the current work on the electricity network have resulted in a lot of mud on the roads. Also, the ditch on Chorlton Moss Lane has been filled in with spoil from the excavations. To notify the Highways liaison officer of these issues and the need for the contractors to make good the resulting problems.

**128.10/24 Public engagement**

Varnished oak name plates have been installed at Chapel Chorlton green and Chorlton Meadow. A notice will be posted on the Whitmore and Baldwins Gate Facebook page regarding the need for people to come forward to serve as parish councillors.

**129.10/24 Councillors' planned absences**

No planned absences were reported.

**130.10/24 Councillor training**

No dates for councillor training were announced.

**131.10/24 Urgent business**

There was no urgent business.

**132.10/24 To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting as 13 November 2024**

The Meeting closed at 21.12hrs.

Signed .....

CHAIR

Minutes 9 October 2024