



Charnock Richard Parish Council NEWSLETTER

www.charnock-richard.org.uk

Issue 8

June 2011

TIMETABLE OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

2011/2012

9 May 2011

Annual Parish Meeting followed by the
Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

6 June 2011

4 July 2011

1 August 2011

5 September 2011

3 October 2011

7 November 2011

5 December 2011

9 January 2012

6 February 2012

5 March 2012

2 April 2012

14 May 2012

Annual Parish Meeting followed by the
Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

Meetings are held in

The Parish Rooms,

Charter Lane,

Charnock Richard,

commencing at 7.30 pm unless
otherwise stated on the Parish
Council Notice Board.

*For further information
regarding Parish Council
business or to report
incidents, occurrences,
observations or objections on
Parish matters please contact:*

**Mrs C A Cross
Clerk to the Council
321 Preston Road
Standish**

WIGAN WN6 0QB

Tel: 01257 423128

or 0771 457 4478

Email:

**Carolyn.parishcouncil@
googlemail.com**

CHARNOCK RICHARD PARISH COUNCILLORS

Following the recent Elections & Annual Meeting of the Parish Council your Parish Councillors are:

Chairman

Councillor H Heaton

Lancaster House Farm, Preston Road,
Charnock Richard

Tel: 01257 791312

Vice-Chairman

Councillor J Taylor

Charnock Brow Cottage, Preston Road,
Charnock Richard

Tel: 01257 269938

Councillor J Hill

Padua Farm, German Lane, Charnock Richard

Tel: 01257 277832

Councillor A J Shaw

12 Town Lane, Charnock Richard

Tel: 01257 792466

Councillor Mrs J Ogden

24 Lichen Close, Charnock Richard

Tel: 01257 791854

Councillor A Cornwell

10 Freemans Lane, Charnock Richard

Tel: 07850 884041

Councillor G Brennan

Pole Green Nurseries, Church Lane,
Charnock Richard

Tel: 01257 791233

Councillor S Smithers

93 Chorley Lane, Charnock Richard

Tel: 01257 795868

Councillor S Lowe

Welch Farm, Mill Lane, Charnock Richard

Tel: 01257 793538

Councillor R Wingham

Fishers Farm, Delph Lane, Charnock Richard

Tel: 01257 471212

Councillor Mrs C Pilling

66 Lichen Close, Charnock Richard

Tel: 01257 794325

The Parish Council vacancy will be filled by co-option in due course.

PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2011

The Parish Council consisted of 12 members throughout 2010/2011 however, following the recent elections there is now a vacancy on the Parish Council. The Parish Council Accounts were successfully audited by external auditors BDO Stoy Hayward with no matters arising. Mrs Margaret Stewart was again appointed as the Parish Council internal Auditor. The Parish Council requested a precept of £25,000 from Chorley Council for the financial year 2010/2011. The Parish Council have taken all the appropriate action necessary throughout the course of the year to satisfy audit requirements prior to the submission of the end of year financial report to the external auditors.

The Parish Council is notified of all planning applications within the Parish and is able to submit comments, observations and objections when necessary however, has no power of direction or decision making in these matters. 35 Planning Applications have been dealt with by the Council during the year, some of which were controversial and involved discussions with Parishioners to ascertain their views, prior to the Parish Council making their observations. (In comparison to 28 discussed last year).

The following are some of the areas in which Charnock Richard Parish Council have been involved during the past year:- The Council adopted the following documents - Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Code of Conduct, Risk Management Plan, Risk Management Register and Asset Register (a collection of documents indicating the Councils objectives, risks involved in delivering those objectives, the likelihood of those risks arising and the action taken by the Parish Council to mitigate those risks), Complaints Procedure, Publication Scheme, Code of Practice for dealing with tenders, Terms of Reference for Parish Council Committees and the Annual Audit Plan. Councillors and the Clerk have attended conferences, information exchange sessions and training courses throughout the year.

Charnock Richard and Welch Whittle were again

entered into the Best Kept Village Competition and as a result of intensive work in the parish prior to, and during, the judging period (including litter picks by Parish Councillors) the village of Charnock Richard won the trophy for the most improved medium village with Welch Whittle winning the trophy for the most improved small village. Heaton's Farm won the Best Kept Farm and Certificates of Merit were awarded to the Francis Darlington Almshouses and the Cricket Field. To build on last years success the Council have agreed to formulate an action plan to address issues in the Parish which could further assist in improving the results for this years competition.

Following another successful Scarecrow Festival the Parish Council nominated the Scarecrow Festival as a project, and the Scarecrow Festival Committee as a body, in the Chorley Civic Society Awards. The Parish Council were delighted when the Scarecrow Festival and the Committee were presented with an award by the Mayor during the course of the year.

The Council organised a successful Best Kept Garden Competition. There were 38 nominations in this years competition, with an additional number of gardens receiving letters of commendation for their efforts. Mr David Brown, from the Chorley & District Agricultural Society, judged the competition and a presentation for the winning entries was held at the Football Club in November. This was an amusing and enjoyable evening with the Mayor of Chorley presenting the prizes. Mr Brown attended the presentation together with Parish Councillors, the Parish Lengthsman, nominees in the competition and officials from the Best Kept Village Competition Committee.

Phase II of playground refurbishments at Mossie Close Play Area was completed after years of planning and funding bids. Chorley Council Neighbourhood Action Team supported the project with a contribution of £3333. The Parish Council submitted an application to Chorley Council for a contribution from the Play & Recreation Fund. Improvement of these facilities was a key issue in the Parish, and the Council were delighted when their application for financial support **continued overleaf**

The following Officers Names and Contact Details could prove useful:

Borough Councillor Heaton - Lancaster House Farm, Preston Rd, Charnock Richard Tel: 01257 794959

Borough Councillor Leadbetter - Rose Cottage, Mill Lane, Charnock Richard, Tel: 07597919456

County Councillor Malpas - 17 Westminster Road, Chorley, Tel: 01257 234316

Member of Parliament - Lindsay Hoyle - House of Commons, London, SW11 0AA

Local Office for Lindsay Hoyle MP: 01257 271555

Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition

Charnock Richard and Welch Whittle have been entered in the 2011 Lancashire Best Kept Village competition. Judging will take place in June, July and August. To improve on last years results Councillors will be undertaking village litter picks. The Parish Council would like to encourage residents and visitors to keep the village clean and tidy by using the litter and dog waste bins provided in the Parish.

CHARNOCK RICHARD PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

www.charnock-richard.org.uk
Councillors Smithers and Wingham would be grateful for old photographs of the village or information which might be interesting to include on the Parish Council website. If anyone can help with content or has time they can spare to help run the site, then please contact the Councillors or email: webmaster@charnock-richard.org.uk

ORCHARD GARDENS

The Parish Council are considering creating a flower garden at Orchard Gardens, Church Lane, however alternative ideas or suggestions for this site should be submitted via the website or directly to the Clerk to the Parish Council. Consultation will then take place on the most popular suggestions received.

Directory of Useful Telephone Numbers:

Chairman of the Parish Council:
Councillor Mr H Heaton
01257 791312

Vice-Chairman Parish Council:
Councillor Mr J Taylor
01257 269938

Community Centre Trust
Building Bookings:
01257 791407

Christ Church Charnock Richard C of E Church
Malcolm Stewart
01257 792536

Christ Church Charnock Richard C of E School:
01257 791490

Chorley Borough Council:
01257 515151

Street Lighting Faults:
0800 132631

Fly Tipping:
01257 515253

PC Loz Elphick
Community Beat Manager
07958 339256

ECSO Flett
07903 757910

Police Coms. Hutton:
0845 1 25 35 45

NHS Direct: 0845 46 47

In An Emergency Police, Fire, Ambulance: Dial 999

Annual Report Continued: was approved by Chorley Council who contributed £9,171 towards the project. The balance from the £21,550 project was met from Parish Council funds accumulated specifically for this purpose. Signage indicating revised times of use and stating that ball games are not allowed on the play area have been erected and repairs undertaken to existing play equipment to bring them up-to the same standards as the new equipment installed. The Parish Council plan to commence discussions on a suitable project for Orchard Gardens Play Area. Suggestions will require the approval of the Diocese as owner of the land. A consultation process, via the Chronicle, to determine what parishioners, of all ages, would like to see at this site is anticipated in 2011/12 following which a scheme will be drawn up, tenders requested and a bid compiled for submission to Chorley Council Play & Recreation Fund.

The Lengthsman's work schedule was implemented during the course of the year and his work in the Parish has included maintenance of Welch Whittle Gardens, replanting hanging baskets seasonally throughout the year and completion of the Delph Gardens Project which continues to be planted and maintained by Pole Green Nurseries. A water supply will be installed near Delph Gardens to assist with maintenance and watering. The purchase of 7 salt/grit bins sited at suitable locations in the Parish, together with appropriate signage and a salt spreader, resulted in amendments to the Lengthsman's schedule to include a protocol for gritting the roads at those locations where it was deemed necessary to improve highway safety. Councillors Taylor, Wingham and Smithers worked on a rota basis throughout the winter months, checking weather forecasts in advance and instructing the Lengthsman to grit at appropriate times. This initiative proved successful during the extreme weather conditions and the Parish Council express their appreciation to Stan Stock for his initial support with salt provision.

To Assist with speeding issues in the Parish the Council bought into an agreement for shared use of a speed indicator device (SPID). SPID plates were purchased and erected in 5 locations in the Parish and the presence of the SPID for 2 months during 2010/11 has proved successful. The Parish Council are now considering purchasing an additional 4 months use in the Parish. This would lead to the SPID being present in numerous locations throughout the Parish

for 6 out of every 12 month period. The Lengthsman also plays an important part in charging and moving the SPID around the Parish as required.

Discussions have continued in relation to the Waste Transfer Station at Town Lane. Residents provide a CD of images illustrating the continued destruction of the highway and grass verges in Town Lane. The landowner has now withdrawn his consent to use his land as passing places however, as no adverse impact was caused, no action was taken by Lancashire County Council. Following consultation the 30 mph speed limit has now been extended beyond the houses on Town Lane. Flooding and drainage problems on the A49 Preston Road at the junction with Town Lane remain a major issue with repeated occurrences over winter.

Dob Brow and Butterworth Brow were closed during October and November 2010 whilst electrical cables were replaced. Motorcycle nuisance at German Lane and Darlington Sidings has diminished since the erection of Police warning signs to deter the nuisance.

The Council have expressed an interest to Lancashire County Council in taking over responsibility for the following issues – sign cleaning, siding back footways, cutting grips into verges and grass cutting. The Parish Council await progress on this issue from the County Council.

Closure of the access to the motorway services from Mill Lane was the subject of discussion. Initial discussions approximately 10 years ago were a result of a request for support from the Police to ease crime detection and traffic congestion. This situation has changed over the years and access to the motorway is now used by the majority of residents of Charnock Richard and neighbouring Parishes and Villages. The Parish Council confirmed with the Highways Agency that views are diverse and any resolution should be between the Highways Agency as landlord and Welcome Break as the tenant.

Street lighting faults, overgrown hedges, blocked and sunken gullies, pot-holes, public footpath and other highway maintenance issues are reported during the course of the year as they arise.

The Parish Council would like to express its appreciation to members of the public who regularly attend Parish Council Meetings with reports and observations on various Parish Matters. **Reported by the Clerk to the Council - 9 May 2011**

Charnock Richard Community Centre: - As many of you are aware, the trustees of the Charnock Richard Community Centre Trust were awarded a grant from the Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF) last September in order to undertake an Options Appraisal Report. Consultation meetings were held during December and a questionnaire was delivered to every house in the village, as well as to the parents of children at school. A few weeks ago, representatives of the trustees met the Projects and Development Officer from the AHF to discuss their next move. Within the next two weeks the final report will be sent to the AHF and then, it is hoped, the trustees will have a preliminary meeting with representatives from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The trustees will be reporting on their findings of the Options Appraisal in due course.

By visiting ww.chorley.gov.uk/planning it is possible to view/comment on planning applications by inserting the application number or searching for the property by address.

CHARNOCK RICHARD PARISH COUNCIL SUMMARY INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDING 31/3/11

Income:	
Precept	25000.00
Interest	131.12
Donation (Neighbourhood Action Team—Mossie Close)	3333.00
Funding Bid—Chorley Council—Mossie Close	9171.00
VAT Reclaimed	387.23
TOTAL INCOME	£38,022.35
Expenditure:	
Administration:	
Clerk's Salary	4951.40
General Administration	1200.85
Parks & Open Spaces:	
Mossie Close Phase II	18794.00
Lengthsman's Payment	9856.23
General – amenity grass cutting/ROSPA/general	379.47
SPID and Salt Bins	2394.83
Play Equipt Repairs & Planting	509.15
Rents – Mossie Close/Orchard Gardens and Car Park	225.00
Highways (verge/hedge cutting/dog waste bins)	967.16
Hire of Premises	270.00
Insurance & Subscriptions	1040.08
s137 Expenditure (including donations/BK Garden Comp)	1050.00
Best Kept Garden Competition Expenses	499.60
VAT Paid	4034.84
TOTAL EXPENDITURE:	£46,172.61
Cumulative Balance:	
Balance brought forward	23840.46
Add: Total Income	38022.35
	61862.81
Less: Total Expenditure	46172.61
Balance Carried Forward at 31/3/2011	£15,690.20

POLICE NEWS

The Community Beat Manager PC Loz Elphick and ECSO Cath Flett hold PACT Meetings on the first Wednesday of the month at Park Hall at 6:30pm,

Scarecrow Festival 9th, 10th & 11th September 2011

The Annual Charnock Richard Scarecrow Festival will take place over the weekend of 10th, 11th and 12th of September 2011. Why not make a scarecrow or become part of the procession of living scarecrows.

Charnock Richard Parish Council Best Kept Garden Competition 2011

The Parish Council will again be holding their Annual Best Kept Garden Competition. Trophies and Prizes will be awarded to the Winners of the Large Garden and Small Garden sections. Runners up will receive Garden Centre Gift Vouchers. Judging will take place in July, by an Independent Judge. **GOOD LUCK TO ALL NOMINEES.**