

**ADLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of a Meeting held on Monday 18th November 2019  
in Adlington Library, Railway Road, Adlington commencing at 7.15pm

**Members Present:****Mayor** P Walkden**Councillors** A Ball, C Hart, J Lowe, K O'Donnell, B Speers, T Summers.**In Attendance:** Christine Bailey (Clerk), L Crouch (retiring Clerk), Owain Roberts (Stakeholder Manager) and Martin Keating (Community Manager), Northern Railway West Region and 17 residents.**1 Open Forum**

The Northern Rail Officers gave a presentation which summarised the issues and progress made on the Bolton Blackpool corridor line since 2014. Additional capacity will be introduced through new carriages from 15 December 2019. However the two main restrictions on the overall capacity of this line will remain at its junctions at both Salford and Euxton until further investment to upgrade these two 'pinch points' can be secured. The various opportunities for joint working with and funding for local community groups to maintain and enhance station facilities was referred to. A series of questions and concerns were made about the inconvenience caused due to the frequent and often short notice cancellation to the local service and the failure of Northern Rail to communicate clearly with all of its passengers about the services which it is running and those where disruption has occurred, and that the service should be operated in accordance with the published timetable. Mr Roberts said he would report these concerns back to his colleagues. It was agreed that the Clerk would also forward on any other questions that had not been answered in the meeting.

A related matter that Grove Farm Drive residents raised was the inadequate capacity of the park and ride facility to serve Adlington Station. As a result cars are now frequently parked on the public highway to this new housing estate. This is now adversely impacting on residents who find it hard to manoeuvre in and out of their own driveways as visibility is restricted due to the vehicles parked on the roads to their homes, often in an inconsiderate manner and sometimes parked partly onto the pavements. This is also creating a hazard for pedestrians, parents with prams, and for children who have to step into the road to get round. Some residents have raised these concerns with Chorley Council as the owner of the car park and have also contacted Lancashire County Council to ask for appropriate notices and restrictions to be displayed, but without success to date. One driver recently failed to put the hand break on a car which then rolled forward but fortunately was stopped before an accident happened. Some of the lights in the car park are out and the vegetation needs cutting back. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact both Chorley and Lancashire County Councils to support residents, and that Cllr Wilson and Cllr Snape would also be asked for assistance.

The Mayor thanked Mr Roberts and Mr Keating and residents for attending the meeting. They and all but two residents left at 8.05pm.

**2 Apologies for Absence** were received from Cllr N Buckley, June Molyneux, A Robinson, and K Snape who were all unable to attend due to other commitments and accepted by the Council.

**3 Minutes of the Meeting** held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

**3.1 Matters Arising** It was reported that the transfer of the website had just taken place. The Update Newsletter is now available for collection from the printer for distribution by Adlington Scout Group. Cllrs Buckley and Speers were thanked for their hard work on these two items. A meeting will be arranged to consider feedback received from the Remembrance Sunday event.

**4 Declarations of Interest** Cllr Walken and Cllr Summers declared an interest in item 7.3, Cllr Walkden as he is arranging the Carol Service, and Cllr Lowe declared an interest in item 5.3 as she was claiming reimbursement for expenditure made on behalf of the Council and Linda Crouch in respect of her last salary payment as Clerk.

**5 Finance**

**5.1** It was resolved to approve in full the recommendations of the Finance Working Group held on 06/11/19 regarding the following:

- adjustments required to the current year's budget categories and a combined Information & Communications Technology (ICT) budget to include administrative, web and telephone costs
- employee mileage claims to be made using the same form as used by Town Councillors
- HMRC submissions and year end internal audit
- 2020 community awards process should be as in previous years
- 2020 hanging baskets providing that any proposed increase in cost is with a maximum of 5%
- financial safeguards to be amended to reflect Employee mileage & revision of the Asset Register
- CIL receipts to date totalling £2,577.35 to be retained towards the improvement of King George V recreation ground
- A contribution of £1,500 from ATC was approved towards the shortfall to provide permanent lighting by mains electric at the Adlington War Memorial as one of Chorley Council's Southeast Parishes' Neighbourhood Priorities as a local community project and subject to the response of other local councils
- The full budget suggested by the Group was agreed as included in the Appendix
- The precept requirement should be just above the 2019 figure of £19,000 and that the remainder of the

- budgeted total should be funded by other income and reserves

5.2 It was resolved to approve the statement of accounts and budget review for October 2019.

5.3 It was resolved to approve the payment of the following accounts:

L Crouch	Salary	
C Bailey	Salary	
EE	Phone charges	£9.49
Ventbrook	RS Road closure charges	£594.00
Jeanette Lowe	RS refreshments – sausage/cheese & onion rolls and pies	£18.19
Caroline Hesketh	RS refreshments – biscuits and paper cups	£15.00
CDS Events	Provision of sound system at the War memorial	£60.00
Rivington & Adlington Band	Remembrance Sunday (£350) and Carol Concert (£250)	£600.00
Print Quarter	Printing of the Winter Update	£315.00
Adlington Scouts	Delivery of the Winter Update	£250.00

## 6. Planning

6.1 **New or Amended Applications for consideration** None

6.2 This application was left for neighbours' comments: **19/00894/ADV Ince Williamson 177 Chorley Road**  
Application for advertisement consent for the display of 1no.illuminated shop fascia sign and 3no.non-illuminated hanging banner signs.

6.3 Cllr Lowe reported that Cllr Wilson has secured a commitment that Chorley Council will contribute £10,000 towards the Fairview car park extension for which permission was granted in 2017.

## 7. Items for Discussion

7.1 It was agreed that the concerns raised in the Open Forum regarding the Adlington rail service should be referred to Northern Rail, and that the service was currently very piecemeal, fragmented and more consideration should be given to all passengers but especially those who are vulnerable and who rely on the train service.

7.2 It was agreed that this year's Remembrance event had gone reasonably well under the circumstances. Despite the use of the sound system many people could not hear at the Cenotaph and the timing of when the band plays should be revised to facilitate this. It was agreed that thanks should be issued to the main Marshall and to the donor of the funds which paid for the traffic management secured via Adlington Heritage Society and to others who contributed on the day towards the overall success of the event. Cllr Lowe said that a review meeting was needed to ensure that detailed guidance will be available should it be required for future events.

7.3 The arrangements for the Carol Concert were discussed with the emphasis being on participants singing the carols. The Mayor agreed to select 12 carols and to invite Father Arnold; the refreshments were agreed; invitations need to go out; the band be contacted; and it was agreed that Cllr Summers could invite eight residents plus two carers from Grove House.

7.4 Attendance at the next Chorley Council "Planning in Practice" session to be held at Chorley Town Hall on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 5.30pm was agreed as: Cllr Summers, Cllr Ball, with Cllr Speers and Cllr Hart requesting additional places if available.

7.5 It was agreed that the drone photographs of Remembrance Sunday taken by Heath Charnock Parish Cllr Richard Cornes did give a different perspective on the event and that residents were expected be interested to see them. It was agreed these would be used by ATC, that Cllr Cornes be thanked for taking them and that he be allowed to use them. It was agreed that the use of the drone had not been intrusive.

7.6 The Mayor thanked Linda Crouch for her commitment to her role, her experience and the advice and practical support she had given to the Town Council and to assist individual Councillors over the last 10 years. The Mayor presented Linda with a gift of appreciation and wished Linda all the best for the future.

## 8. Items for Information -None

*The meeting closed at 8.45pm.*