



# COPPULL PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

**MEETING: PARISH COUNCIL  
WEDNESDAY 13 OCTOBER 2021 - 7.00 P.M.  
MEETING ROOM, SPRINGFIELD PARK LEISURE  
CENTRE, SPRINGFIELD ROAD NORTH, COPPULL**

**PRESENT:** Parish Councillors Michael Atherton (Chair), Marjorie Parkinson (Vice-Chair) – Pauline Cobham, Neil Coggins, Janette Colecliffe, Matthew Crook, Sheila Makin, Lynne Moores, Susan Edwards, (Clerk) and Chorley/County Councillor Julia Berry

**1. ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Parish Councillors Nora Ball (ill), Paul Eastham (due to meeting room), Steve Holgate (mayoral duty), Elaine Jones (ill), Maggie Peel-Impey (ill), Paul Taylor (holiday), Ash Whittaker (ill),

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL / PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS** (Members of the Parish Council are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provision of the Local Government Act 2000) – **None.**

**2.2 DECLARATION OF GIFTS** – None.

**3. AMENDMENT/APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING DATED 8 SEPTEMBER 2021** (emailed/distributed to Parish Councillors)

PROPOSED: Councillor M. Crook  
SECONDED: Councillor M. Parkinson

**RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the above meeting be approved as a correct record.

**THE CHAIRMAN PROPOSED THAT STANDING ORDERS BE SUSPENDED TO ALLOW OTHER BODIES AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK - AGREED.**

**4. POLICE REPORT** – None.

**5. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** – Cllr Berry reported on the following:

- Proposed development off Darlington Street. Chorley Council has been asked to investigate why residents did not receive the notification letters, but stated that comments could still be received up until the decision day. Solid objections need to be forwarded.



- Planning Inquiry regarding proposed development at Blainscough. The inquiry started on Monday and is still ongoing. Chorley Council is behind with their workload due to lack of staff through illness, with covid and some staff have left. There are also four other applications in the village, including Darlington Street. Potential developers are submitting applications prematurely.
- Coppull Enterprise Centre – this has now changed ownership and the owners are keen to progress stopping the parking on roads around the mill and anti-social behaviour.

**6. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT** – Apologies sent from Cllr Holgate.

**7. ITEMS INTRODUCED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC** – Members of the public attended the meeting to discuss the planning application in regard to the land off Darlington Street. There was great concern that none of the residents had received notification of this planning application and that they could not access the website to place objections. There was also great concern in regard to the proposed development on green belt land, coal mine shafts, narrow roads, school, etc. The Parish Council has previously agreed to object to this application and support the residents with their concerns.

**THE CHAIRMAN PROPOSED THAT STANDING ORDERS BE REIMPOSED AND THE MEETING CONTINUE – AGREED.**

**8. NO MEETING OF THE MANAGEMENT & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD** (Next one scheduled for 24 November 2021)

**9. GENERAL MANAGEMENT/FINANCE**

9.1 Conclusion of Audit 2020-2021 (emailed to Parish Councillors) - £400 plus vat. The external auditors have reported as follows:

“On the basis of our review of Section 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met”.

The Notice of Conclusion of Audit has now been published on the website and in the notices boards.

9.2 Accounts (emailed to Parish Councillors) – 6 month review to end of September and permission to appoint Internal Auditor. Cllr Makin had checked the accounts up to the end of September and had no concerns. The Internal Auditor to be appointed again. A six month review of the budget had been emailed to all Parish Councillors and there were no questions.

The loan repayment of £708.11 to the Public Works Loan Board is due on 08.11.21. The total outstanding is £6,236.47.



9.3 Distribution of information for meetings and consideration of new email addresses.

It was **RESOLVED** that information for Parish Council's meetings should be sent out with the agenda one week prior to the meeting to enable everyone to have enough time to read through the information.

It was **RESOLVED** that all Parish Councillors must have the appropriate gmail account for the Parish Council and that it was not necessary to change to a gov.uk email address at the present time.

9.4 Gas contract for Village Hall (prices will be available at the meeting). It was **RESOLVED** not to enter into a contract with a new supplier at the present time, as this contract is not due until the end of September 2022.

9.5 Leisure Centre lease & Fire Extinguisher service – fire assessment to be arranged.

- Lease – the cost of a new lease would be at least £1,000 for each party. This cost was obtained from an independent solicitor based at the Enterprise Centre. The Leisure Centre would have to appoint their own. The Centre is a charity and is run by the Trustees, not the Parish Council. It was **RESOLVED** that the lease remain as it is.
- Fire Extinguisher service – this has been undertaken and all equipment is up to date.
- Fire Assessment – the service of the emergency lighting is due next month, but an independent assessment is required. The new company in Coppull to be asked to quote. It was also mentioned that a fire drill should take place on a regular basis. The Clerk to liaise with the Centre Managers.

9.6 Leisure Centre update – to take off future agendas, unless there is an item that needs the Parish Council's consideration – agreed.

9.7 Current Village Hall update – Consideration to hold future Parish Council meetings in the hall. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that meetings be held there every three months, with the first one being December.

9.8 New Village Hall update (information sent by separate email). Cllr Coggins had discussed the amendment proposed by Chorley Council to bring the building forward by 3 metres and felt this was the best option to proceed. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed on this course of action.



9.9 Tree Survey. A comprehensive survey of all the trees on Parish Council owned land is required. This includes the Leisure Park, the Jubilee Garden, the Berry Garden and the Allotments. Blainscough Nature Reserve is managed by Chorley Council so is their responsibility, as is Hic-Bibi Nature Reserve. An arborist to be sought to do the survey and an independent tree surgeon to be appointed to do any work required. The Parish Council used to have a volunteer Tree Warden, with training undertaken through Chorley Council. The Clerk to check to see if this is still being done.

A resident has complained about overgrown trees/hedges that border the allotments. An aerial photograph had been obtained and it was generally agreed that there was no problem with the trees/hedge in relation to neighbouring properties. Therefore, no action to be taken at the present time.

9.10 Remembrance Day. Unfortunately, the band is not available for this year's service, so the plan is just to meet at the church at 10am and then back at the British Legion Club for refreshments. The Clerk to ascertain why there is no band this year and if another band could be sought.

It was **RESOLVED** to again contribute £100 towards the wreath for the Parish Council and the refreshments afterwards.

9.11 Neighbourhood Plan update (info emailed to Parish Councillors) – Code of Conduct (PT). A new Secretary is required as the previous one has resigned due to personal reasons. In the meantime, the Clerk is preparing the agenda for the next meeting on 20 October 2021. Working groups to be established to tackle the various matters to be included in the plan. More involvement by residents and Parish Councillors is still being sought.

9.12 Newsletter – Winter edition and delivery concerns. Concerns have been expressed that the winter edition took a long time in being delivered this time and also that it was delivered within another booklet and some residents did not see it. This delivery company is being used because of the price, less than half the previous company. Therefore, it was agreed to continue to use, but to ask that they don't put the newsletter inside anything else when delivering. Dates for delivery are set and will take approximately two weeks to complete.

9.13 Dog notice competition – prize to be agreed. Discussed and agreed at a previous meeting, £10 gift voucher.

9.14 Allotments update – to take off future agendas unless there is an item that needs the Parish Council's consideration – agreed.

9.15 Dog Fouling (to be put on every PC agenda until further notice);

9.16 Village Grot Spots (to be put on every PC agenda until further notice):- to take both off future agendas, Cllrs to contact the Clerk with any concerns – agreed.



**10. DECISIONS MADE UNDER THE CLERK'S DELEGATED AUTHORITY** (After consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair – delegated to make low key decisions on behalf of the Parish Council due to Covid-19 – maximum spend £500 – now raised to £1,000

- Repair to strimmer - £29.99 for two carberettas, to repair the strimmer and hedge cutter.
- Disposing of decorative plough – damaged.

**RESOLVED** – the Council **RATIFIED** the above decisions.

**11. PLANNING (N. Coggins)**

**11.1 Applications:**

- App.No. 21/01076/FULMAJ – Land 53m West of Belvedere, 31 Darlington Street – Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 67 no. dwellings (including 30% affordable housing) with associated access, car parking and landscaping (emailed to Parish Councillors). The Parish Council to strongly **OBJECT** to this development and to ask for an extension to the deadline as residents did not receive the notification letter with enough time to place objections.
- App.No. 21/01132/clpud – Highfield House, Jolly Tar Lane – Application for a certificate of lawfulness for a proposed outbuilding (garage) – **SUPPORT**.
- App.No. 21/01120/FULHH – 203 Chapel Lane – Part two storey, part single storey side, front and rear extension including canopy to front elevation – **OBJECT** – not meeting the minimum parking standards in regard to policy SC4.
- App.No. 21/01071/FUL – Troy Fold Farm, Coppull Moor Lane - New manege/jumping area – **SUPPORT**.
- App.No.21/01033/FULHH – 127 Mill Lane – Erection of detached outbuilding to accommodate a garden room – **SUPPORT**.
- Public Inquiry – Land Adjacent Blainscough Hall, Blainscough Lane – 11 ctober 2021 (emailed to Parish Councillors). The inquiry is still ongoing.

**11.2 Decisions:**

- App.No. 21/00871/FULHH – 22 Westend Avenue – Erection of a first floor rear extension and a single storey rear extension – **PERMITTED**.
- App.No.21/01074/NOT – Blainscough Lane – Notification of intention to install 3 no. 11m high poles for the provision of fixed line broadband electronic communications apparatus – **APPROVED**.



- App.No.21/00630/FULHH – 14 Birkacre Brow – Rear dormer, front porch, extension to existing dropped kerb and hardscaping driveway and associated elevational alterations (following demolition of existing garage and low level boundary fence to front) (resubmission of planning application 20/01153/FULHH) – **PERMITTED.**
- App.No.21/00659/FUL – Chapel Lane Business Park – Erection of 15 no. container units for commercial self-storage use (retrospective) – **PERMITTED.**
- App.No. 21/00947/FULHH – 189 Preston Road – Front porch, single storey side extension, 4 no. rear roof dormer extensions and 2 no. front roof dormer extension – **PERMITTED.**
- App.No. 21/00859/FULHH – 32 Coppull Hall Lane – Erection of a single storey rear/side extension and demolition of outbuilding – **PERMITTED.**
- App.No.21/00726/FULHH – 7 Hill View Drive – Erection of a two storey side extension and single storey rear extension – **GRANTED.**

## 12. HIGHWAYS

- 12.1 Parking Enforcement Requests (to be put on every PC agenda until further notice) – to take off future agendas, Cllrs to contact the Clerk with any concerns – agreed.
- 12.2 Mill Lane – traffic concerns. Cllrs M. Parkinson and J. Colecliffe, together with the Clerk, visited Mill Lane at an agreed time with the resident concerned and also the resident’s son. It was apparent that vehicles were slowing down when they saw everyone stood on the kerb side. From the edge of the resident’s property, it was observed that quite a few vehicles were speeding, especially when coming around the bend up from the mill and that the resident had valid concerns. The Clerk to send these concerns to LCC. The resident was informed that this is a Highways matter and the Parish Council can only relay concerns. The resident is to arrange for a petition from residents on Mill Lane to present to LCC.

## 13. CORRESPONDENCE / ITEMS FOR DECISION

- 13.1 The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee 2022 (info emailed to Parish Councillors). It was **RESOLVED** to plant a tree with a plaque in the Jubilee Garden to commemorate this event.
- 13.2 Green Flag Award – (info emailed to Parish Councillors). It was **RESOLVED NOT** to pursue this.
- 13.3 Chorley Council – Neighbourhood Priorities (emailed to Parish Councillors).



There had not been enough time to consider a proposal for this, as it had come in with a short time scale due to the fact it had been previously delayed. However, there will be another opportunity early in the New Year. Proposals for that are:

- New equipment for the Leisure Park – more swings, update skate park, etc.
- Food banks.

There is an application form to complete, which needs all details plus costings for any proposed projects.

#### **14. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / FUTURE DISCUSSION**

- 14.1 Railway Subway. The Lancashire County Council Spendmore Lane to Station Road, Coppull (Definitive Map Modification) Order 2013. It was RESOLVED to respond to the letter received from the Planning Inspectorate and to include that the Parish Council will be applying to Lancashire County Council for a special extinguishment order. To copy in Network Rail, Police, Chorley Council and Sir Lindsay Hoyle, MP, as evidence from the Police will be needed to support the order.
- 14.2 Cllr Moores indicated that she no longer had the time to commit to her allotment, but would like it to be used as a community allotment if possible, at no cost. This would need to be discussed with the Allotment Association.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00 p.m.

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**Councillor Michael Atherton**  
**Parish Council Chairman**

