

## **Chorley Liaison**

Wednesday, 16th October 2024, 6.30 pm

Council Chamber, Town Hall, Chorley and Youtube

### Agenda

#### **Apologies**

1 **Welcome by the Chair**

2 **Minutes**

(Pages 3 - 6)

3 **CC Jayne Rear, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, has been invited to give an update on high school places within the Borough**

(Pages 7 - 8)

A number of questions have been submitted to CC Rear in advance.

4 **Item requested by Wheelton Parish Council: Sports and leisure provision**

Jennifer Mullin, Director of Communities and Leisure will give a presentation.

5 **Questions from Members of the Liaison and the public**

In order to allow members of the Liaison and members of the public to raise issues of local concern, a period of 20 minutes has been set aside.

A member of the public may speak for no more than 3 minutes. Members of the public are not required to give notice of the issue they intend to raise, although it is expected in the case of service issues that the appropriate mechanisms for resolving the issue have been explored.

Where a question is raised which cannot be answered at the meeting, a record will be kept by officers supporting the meeting and it will be responded to via the appropriate mechanism.

6 **Items for Future Meetings**

(Pages 9 - 10)

A schedule setting out deadlines for items to be requested on the agenda for the Chorley Liaison and dates for future meetings is enclosed.

7 **Any urgent business previously agreed with the Chair**

Chris Sinnott  
Chief Executive

Meeting contact Ruth Rimmington, Democratic Services Team Leader on 01257 515118 or email [ruth.rimmington@chorley.gov.uk](mailto:ruth.rimmington@chorley.gov.uk)

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<b>Minutes of</b>	<b>Chorley Liaison</b>
<b>Meeting date</b>	<b>Wednesday, 17 July 2024</b>
<b>Members present:</b>	Councillor Kim Snape (Chorley Rural East Division, Lancashire County Council) (Chair), Councillor Tommy Gray (Chorley Council) (Vice-Chair), Lancashire County Councillors: Alan Cullens and Aidy Riggott (both virtually), Chorley Borough Councillors (Chairs of Neighbourhood Area Meetings): Aaron Beaver Town and Parish Councillors: Ian Horsfield, Gillian Sharples, Barbara Farbon, Alan Cornwell, Katrina Reed, Alison Martin, Julie Caton, Terry Dickenson, Colin Evans, Alan Platt and Craig Ainsworth (virtually)
<b>Officers:</b>	Alan Coar (Head of Operational Assets), Martin Sample and Sarah Simons (Home Energy Support Advisor), Ruth Rimmington (Democratic and Member Services Team Leader)
<b>Apologies:</b>	Chorley Borough Councillors: Michelle Beach, Alistair Bradley and Danny Gee Town and Parish Councillors: Graham Ashworth, Alison Walker, Stuart Anthony Clewlow and Ken McCrea

**Other:****1 Welcome by the Chair**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes were approved as a correct record.

**3 Chorley Bus Station**

The Chair, Councillor Kim Snape, welcome Alan Coar, Head of Operational Assets, to the meeting.

Alan gave a short presentation which set out the improvements made to Chorley Bus Station, since the Council purchased it in November 2023. [The full presentation can be found here.](#)

In response to queries Alan confirmed the following

- Additional CCTV at the entrance to the bus station was being considered



- It was hoped that a police presence would be in place in the future and the Police were contactable via the town centre radio system
- There was provision for stoma bag and incontinence bag users in the bus station toilets (was this just at the toilets in the market Alan?)
- The toilets were open (you said you would confirm Alan)
- The provision of tourist information leaflets would be considered
- LCC facilitated conversations with the bus companies who used the bus station
- A litter bin had been removed for painting, but would be reinstalled shortly
- The CCTV cameras by the bike storage were in operation
- It was possible for the Dial a Ride bus to use a space at the bus station - County Councillor Julia Berry would share some information with Alan regarding this
- It was possible that the officer on duty at the market could be trained to assist with tourist information and leaflets, in addition to their current duties
- A consultation would be undertaken to show the benefits of the improvements made, as part of the UKSPF funding. The results of this would be shared with the group.

Members of the Group congratulated Alan and the team for the positive improvements made and for the useful presentation.

#### **4 Home Energy Support Scheme**

The Chair, Councillor Kim Snape, welcomed Martin Sample, Housing Team Leader (Private Sector) and Sarah Simons, (Home Energy Support Advisor) to the meeting.

Martin and Sarah gave a short presentation on the Home Energy Support scheme which aims to identify areas where occupiers may be able to reduce their energy bills and increase the efficiency and comfort of their home. [The full presentation can be found here.](#)

In response to queries officers confirmed the following

- Town and Parish Councils would share information about the scheme to assist the council reaching as many residents who could benefit as possible
- The information used to target properties was publicly available and had no names associated with it
- The impact of drying washing, damp and mould were acknowledged
- Registered Social Landlords had a responsibility to maintain their properties at a certain energy efficiency

It was clarified that an energy rating to A was the most energy efficient and G was least efficient.

Members of the Group thanked Martin and Sarah for the useful presentation and positive work in reducing energy usage.

#### **5 Item requested by Bretherton Parish Council - discussion item**



Parish Councillor Barbara Farbon introduced the item and noted that the Parish Council had been in touch with Lancashire County Council and Lancashire Constabulary regarding the issues.

**Speed of vehicles going through the Village** - this is a problem in Bretherton and the Parish Council wonders if other villages have a similar problem and would be interested to learn what action they have taken?

It was suggested that Parish get in touch with County Councillor Alan Whittaker to enlist his support and to report all instances. Alan Platt (Parish Council Clerk) advised that cameras had been installed along the A581 using a pot of funding from ?

A discussion regarding SPiDs noted that metal SPiDs were more difficult to vandalise and that solar panel versions were available. The SPiDs which lit up on approach and said 'Slow down' seemed to be the most effective.

**Crime rate in Bretherton** - recently there have been a series of thefts, particularly vehicles and bikes and the Parish Council wonders if other villages have had a similar problem and if so, what action have they taken?

It was suggested that Parish report all instances to build up the pattern of crimes.

The Chair highlighted that Lancashire Constabulary had been invited to attend a future meeting to discuss antisocial behaviour. It was suggested they be invited to update on speeding and crime rates in addition.

## **6 Questions from Members of the Liaison and the public**

County Councillor Julia Berry raised a query regarding accidents caused by farm vehicles on the highway. This would be included in the update requested from Lancashire Constabulary.

## **7 Items for Future Meetings**

Lancashire Constabulary and the County Councillor Cabinet Member for Education and Skills had been invited to future meetings.

Additional items for the work program included community sports provision.

The council were hosting a training session for all Town and Parish Councils on the Code of Conduct on Monday, 29 July at 6pm in the Lancastrian.

Chair

Date

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**Questions submitted in advance for CC Jayne Rear, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills**

What are LCCs proposals to ensure there is and continues to be adequate provision in the south Chorley area to meet demand for secondary school places when the Academies are increasingly reserving secondary places for juniors who have attended their feeder primary schools; where Rivington and Blackrod High School in Bolton is the nearest geographically to the Adlington District; and where the suggestion of surplus capacity being met in Leyland is not realistic due to travel distance, inadequate transport provision, travel time and its cost.

Heath Charnock Parish Council

What are LCC plans to improve the currently inadequate funding for Special Educational Needs as not only are individual pupils are being failed but the lack of support is impacting negatively on other children in their class /each School?

Can LCC do more to support families whose child/ren have to pay for cross border travel to school transport which costs significantly more?

Adlington Town Council,

Some time ago we had a consultation from Albany about reserving school places for pupils from schools within the same Academy Trust but not necessarily from within this area.

Similarly we have parents from particular faith groups who would prefer their children to attend the faith based high schools within this area.

Could CC Rear please give some indication about the amount of control County has over these issues when determining school placement allocations within our local area.

Ian Horsfield, Anderton Parish Council

There is a crisis facing families and schools with Special Educational Needs children across Lancashire concerning the shortage of Educational Psychologists to assess and provide much needed evidence to approve and update Educational Health Care Plans. Reports of shortages of EP's began in 2021 long before LCC saw fit to take any action to prepare schools and families and they are still failing to communicate effectively with families.

LCC have recently provided schools with an approved lists of private EP's that they can use to assess children and report findings to LCC, I have a number of concerns about this:

LCC has now created a tiered system which prevents schools with little to no funding in place to access a private EP, how is this fair on those pupils stranded on waiting lists who need vital support?

The above strategy further impedes each school by requiring them to contact the Principal EP Francesca Woods to gain permission for them to use a private EP...one that has already been placed on the approved list? Why then do they need to seek further permission?

County Councillor Steve Holgate





## Chorley Liaison agenda management timetable

Date of meeting	Deadline for items to be requested by Members	Agenda Publication Deadline
<b>Wednesday, 22 January 2025</b>	Friday, 10 January	Tuesday, 14 January
<b>Wednesday, 19 March 2025</b>	Friday, 7 March	Tuesday, 11 March

Please email [democratic.services@chorley.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@chorley.gov.uk) if you would like to request an item on the agenda.

### Future agenda items

Police update – January

Anti-social behaviour - January

Revival/survival strategy for Chorley town centre post Covid

### Intheboro

We are always on the look out for articles to include in intheboro which may be useful for Parish Councils.

If you have anything you feel may be useful and would like to be included please email [intheboro@chorley.gov.uk](mailto:intheboro@chorley.gov.uk).

Intheboro is published on the 1<sup>st</sup> of every month.

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