

MINUTES OF CHORLEY LIAISON

MEETING DATE Wednesday, 15 March 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Gordon France (Eastern Parishes) (Chair), Councillor Kim Snape (Chorley Rural East Division, Lancashire County Council) (Vice-Chair), Chorley Borough Councillors (Chairs of Neighbourhood Area Meetings): Alistair Morwood (Chorley Town East), Anthony Gee (Chorley Town West), Alistair Bradley (Chorley Town) and Matthew Lynch (Euxton, Astley and Buckshaw)
Town and Parish Councillors: Clive Hart (Adlington Town Councillor), Ian Horsfield (Anderton Parish Councillor), Jane Curley (Anglezarke Parish Councillor), Charlie Bromilow (Clayton-Le-Woods Parish Councillor), Katrina Reed (Euxton Parish Councillor), Malcolm Allen (Heapey Parish Councillor), Mervyn Holden (Heskin Parish Councillor), Marel Urry (Hoghton Parish Councillor), Terry Dickenson (Wheelton Parish Councillor) and Steven Perry (Withnell Parish Councillor)

OFFICERS: Jamie Carson (Director (Early Intervention and Support)), Ruth Rimmington (Democratic and Member Services Officer) and Janine Blythe (Chief Executive of Inspire, Chorley Youth Zone)

APOLOGIES: Chorley Borough Councillors: Doreen Dickinson (Western Parishes) Town and Parish Councillors: Laura Lennox (Astley Village Parish Councillor), John Taylor (Charnock Richard Parish Councillor), Councillor Ray Ormston (Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council), Charles Ian Oakes (Heath Charnock Parish Councillor) and Tina Newall (Whittle-le-Woods Parish Councillor)

17.107 Welcome by the Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

17.108 Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 18 January 2017 of Chorley Liaison

AGREED – That the minutes of the last meeting held on 18 January 2017 be confirmed as a correct record.

17.109 Item from the work programme: Youth Zone

Janine Blythe, Chief Executive of Inspire, Chorley Youth Zone attended the meeting to give a presentation. The presentation can be viewed here: <https://democracy.chorley.gov.uk/documents/s73853/InspireChorleyYouthZonePowerpoint3.pdf>

In response to queries Janine clarified that the youth zone will be open when schools are closed, evenings, weekends and school holidays. Specific opening times were yet to be confirmed but were typically from 3.30pm to 9pm or 10pm depending on the date and the ages of attendees. Holiday club provision would be available. Young people from 8 – 19 could access the Youth Zone, with young people aged up to 25 with learning difficulties. Hot meals and drinks would be available.

Work was currently being undertaken to identify any barriers to young people attending the Youth Zone, including transport issues. Solutions needed to be sustainable and there were opportunities for Parish Councils to work together with partners on solutions. Michelle Graham was currently visiting each of the Town and Parish Councils to facilitate this.

It would be important to work with the high schools within Chorley and other partner organisations. Information was being gathered to ensure that the Youth Zone did not duplicate activities that were ongoing in the Parishes. The use of the Youth Zone would be monitored to ensure that the offer was right. It was hoped that the young people would all mix well together, as had been seen in other Youth Zones. There may be opportunities for the building to be used for older people during school hours.

The Chair thanked Janine for her attendance.

17.110 Item from Adlington Town Council: Social Isolation

Clive Hart, Adlington Town Council, queried how the problems of social isolation could be effectively addressed when there was a constant reduction in services such as local transport, meals on wheels, luncheon clubs, dial-a-ride and other community facilities. He expressed a wish to work together with partners to form a cohesive plan.

Alistair Bradley, Executive Leader of Chorley Council, advised that he had written to all Town and Parish Councils to ask for expressions of interest in working together on the issue of services, such as buses. Six positive responses had been received, but 14 Councils had not yet responded. Any solutions would have to be sustainable, and this could mean a charge for residents who qualified for a free bus pass, to retain the bus service.

It was noted that social isolation was a complex issue, not exclusive to rural areas. Jamie Carson, Deputy Chief Executive/Director (Early Intervention and Support), suggested that parish and town councils that wanted to make representations and advocate on behalf of their constituents may wish to consider pledging to initiate a discussion in their area, as part of the Jo Cox Loneliness Commission. Further details of how to do this are available at <https://www.jocoxloneliness.org/>

Jamie Carson highlighted that from April there would be an Integrated Community Well-being Service, with staff from Chorley Council and Lancashire Care Foundation Trust. There would be an opportunity for a pilot scheme to consider social isolation and involve people in sustainable solutions. Jamie Carson undertook to write to clerks with further information.

17.111 Item from Anglezarke Parish Council: Oversize traffic and damage in the Parish

Jane Curley, Anglezarke Parish Council, raised the subject of oversize traffic and damage in the Parish. The bridge on Coppice Lane had to be rebuilt after it had a wagon damaged it. If wagons such came down Coppice Lane there was nowhere to turn.

Lancashire County Council had agreed to install a sign advising that the road was not suitable for HGV's.

17.112 Item from Withnell Parish Council: Notification of works taking place in the parish

Steve Perry, Withnell Parish Council, requested two weeks' notice of any substantial works that are due to take place in the parish and notices in the vicinity of the works. Jamie agreed and undertook to investigate why notification had not been given in this instance.

17.113 Questions from Members of the Liaison and the public

Terry Dickenson, Wheelton, queried the changes to the wheeled bin service. Alistair Bradley, Executive Leader of Chorley Council, advised that if bins were damaged because they hadn't been brought in after collection and damaged there would be a charge to replace it. However, if the bin was stolen, or damaged by Chorley staff this would be dealt with on a discretionary basis. The aim was to encourage residents to look after their bins.

Ian Horsfield, Anderton, advised he had attended a recent event at LCC where ABL Health had been mentioned and queried if this company was known to attendees. Jamie Carson advised that the company had been commissioned by LCC to provide activities, such as walking clubs and health checks.

Matthew Lynch, Chorley Council, suggested that Town and Parish Councils be contacted for their input into a new Overview and Scrutiny Task and Finish Group into Superfast Broadband.

17.114 Items for Future Meetings

Future meetings were scheduled for 18 October 2017 and 19 July 2017. An email would be sent to clerks to request items in advance of the meeting.

Chair

Date