

## **Chorley Liaison**

Wednesday, 17th February 2021, 6.30 pm

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### Agenda

#### **Apologies**

1 **Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 18 November 2020 of Chorley Liaison**

(Pages 3 - 6)

2 **Welcome by the Chair**

3 **Demonstration of the new council website**

Simon Charnock, Digital Transformation and Information Officer will give a demonstration of the new council website which went live on Monday, 1 February 2021.

A lot of work has taken place over the last 12-18 months to get to this stage. The new improved website:

- has an improved customer journey and experience
- improved structure and search functionality
- content has been rewritten to make it easier for our users to understand
- is mobile responsive meaning it is equally as accessible on a mobile phone and tablet as it is on a laptop or computer
- is compliant with new accessibility regulations to enable users with disabilities equal access to our website

In this session Members will receive a demonstration of the new website, go through the importance of encouraging members of the public to interact with the council online, as well as an opportunity to provide any feedback or ask questions about the new website.

4 **Item requested by Anderton Parish Council**

One of our councillors who has previously been helping out with the Chorley Health Walks has been told by the Ramblers Association that Chorley Council no longer supports these. Can the Council please tell us what the current position is regarding these organised walks and if they are likely to resume once the current Covid 19 restrictions are relaxed enough for group activities to take place.

5 **Item requested by Croston Parish Council**

(Pages 7 - 8)

Cllr Peter Fenemore has suggested a project to improve the River Yarrow and tributaries as part of an effort to improve the environment in this area.

The document enclosed details the suggestion.

6 **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.

7 **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.

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

Gary Hall  
Chief Executive

Electronic agendas sent to Members of the Chorley Liaison.

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**MINUTES OF CHORLEY LIAISON**

**MEETING DATE** **Wednesday, 18 November 2020**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillor Gordon France (Eastern Parishes) (Chair), Councillor Kim Snape (Chorley Rural East Division, Lancashire County Council) (Vice-Chair), Lancashire County Councillors: Hasina Khan (Chorley North Division, Lancashire County Council) and Steve Holgate (Chorley Central Division, Lancashire County Council / Coppull Parish Council), Chorley Borough Councillors (Chairs of Neighbourhood Area Meetings): Aaron Beaver (Chorley Town West), Yvonne Hargreaves (Clayton and Whittle) and Alistair Bradley (Chorley Town) Town and Parish Councillors: Kevin O'Donnell (Adlington Town Council), Nicola Smith (Anderton Parish Councillor), Laura Lennox (Astley Village Parish Councillor), Craig Ainsworth (Astley Village Parish Council clerk), Katrina Reed (Euxton Parish Councillor), Graham Ashworth (Heath Charnock Parish Councillor) and Terry Dickenson (Wheelton Parish Councillor / Chorley Sports Forum)

**OFFICERS:** Chris Moister (Director of Governance), Carolyn Williams (Local Plan Coordinator), Kerry Maguire (Senior Risk and Insurance Officer) and Ruth Rimmington (Democratic and Member Services Team Leader)

**APOLOGIES:** Town and Parish Councillors: Ian Horsfield (Anderton Parish Councillor)

**OTHER:** Mark Tebbutt

**20.10 Welcome by the Chair**

The Chair, Councillor Gordon France, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**20.11 Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 15 January 2020 of Chorley Liaison**

**Decision: That the minutes of meeting held on 15 January 2020 were confirmed as a correct record.**

**20.12 Air Quality Update**

The Chair welcomed Carolyn Williams, Central Lancashire Local Plan Co-Ordinator, who attended to give an update on air quality issues.



The Council had declared a climate emergency in November 2019, as part of this declaration, the council committed to being carbon neutral by 2030, 20 years ahead of the UK target of 2050.

The Environment Bill will introduce a National Air Quality Strategy and all Local Authorities will need to adhere to this when exercising any function which could affect the quality of air. When enacted the Bill will introduce mandatory targets in relation to pollutant levels, including Particulate matter 2.5 (PM2.5).

The council currently monitor air quality across a number of different sites in Chorley. A report on this known as the 'Air Quality Status Report (ASR)', is produced annually, this is a requirement of the existing legislative framework set out in the Environment Act 1995.

The principle pollutants of concern within Chorley are those mainly associated with traffic, these being Nitrogen Dioxide, and Particulate Matter. The Council monitors Nitrogen Dioxide emissions via a network of passive diffusion tubes against National Air Quality Objectives. Currently there are no Air Quality Management Areas declared within the borough as the Air Quality Objectives are being met.

Air Quality has been identified as a Corporate Priority for the Council and in order to deliver change in this area, a capital budget has been allocated for improving air quality. This will allow for increased monitoring across the borough and enable production and delivery of an Air Quality Strategy (AQS).

The strategy also proposes the development of a detailed communications strategy to identify how we can effectively engage with residents and businesses, raising awareness and better educating people how to reduce air pollution and in what way small actions can have a big impact.

The strategy will also ask the Council to lead by example and look at implementing measures affecting the way we operate our business that can have a direct impact on air quality, such as moving council fleet vehicles to electric and promoting use of sustainable travel by employees as well as looking at how we can make our buildings more energy efficient.

The Strategy will also look at ways to promote more sustainable development and incorporate air quality requirements into policy development for the council through the new Local Plan, as well as working with partners to identify how to ensure infrastructure requirements promote sustainable travel.

Members discussed the impact of lockdown on air pollution. In response to a query regarding using data collected privately regarding air pollution it was noted that the Council need to ensure the veracity and accuracy of any data used and therefore the use of private individual's data may not meet the standards required.

A Climate Change Working Group is due to be set up by the council to support the green agenda, including air pollution.



A query was raised regarding a planning application at Botany Bay. It was noted that the application has not been submitted, but air quality will be considered when determining this application. It was suggested that any concerns are followed up with the Development Control team once an application is submitted.

Members raised the issue of wood burning stoves and noted that new legislation is due regarding these and issues surrounding their use.

In response to a query regarding how the council monitor NOx it was clarified that the council use an approved method for monitoring NOx across the borough in line with DEFRA technical guidance. Although it is an annual average the monthly results do indicate where there may be likely shorter term exceedances and this information is used to inform air quality assessments. Monitoring is located in areas that have highest levels of traffic, in order to identify to worse case scenarios.

The council do not currently monitor pm 2.5. One of the larger pieces of work within the AQS relates to the investment in monitoring that will provide data on a range of pollutants including PM2.5. The council has already committed to expanding the monitoring capacity.

The Chair thanked the Carolyn for her attendance.

#### **20.13 Item requested by Adlington Town Council: flooding issues**

Kevin O'Donnell, Adlington Town Council, reported that flooding has occurred in Lower Adlington around Crawford Avenue a number of times this year as a result of surface run off from nearby land. The issue is being investigated by a number of agencies.

Kerry Maguire, Senior Risk and Insurance Officer, advised that Lancashire County Council (LCC) are the responsible agency for property level flooding. Chorley Council respond where they can, but flooding issues are dealt with by multiple agencies, including the Environment Agency, United Utilities and LCC.

Issues regarding flooding were highlighted in Coppull and Whins Lane. Funding has been available for flood resilience measures in certain circumstances and further information can be accessed by customer services.

The Chair thanked the Kerry for her attendance.

#### **20.14 Overview and Scrutiny Task Group - Sustainable Public Transport**

Councillor Kim Snape explained that a task group is currently ongoing regarding sustainable public transport. She requested that Parishes contact Democratic Services with any relevant contributions.

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

No questions were raised.

**20.16 Items for Future Meetings**

No future agenda items were requested.

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

Chris Moister, Director of Governance, advised that the council are researching potential Covid-19 vaccination sites and requested that any suggested sites be forwarded to Democratic Services.

Chair

Date

**Item requested by Croston Parish Council**

Cllr Peter Fenemore has suggested a project to improve the River Yarrow and tributaries as part of an effort to improve the environment in this area.

The suggestion is along the following lines:

It is intended to start looking at ideas with the hope of implementation later in the summer, when the weather improves and hopefully the vaccine campaign will allow relaxation of some of the COVID restrictions.

The most tangible aim would be to remove as much litter as possible to improve the local environment and reduce the contamination reaching the coastal beaches and the sea.

It would also be good to identify places where sewage contamination of the rivers could be reduced. This could allow greater enjoyment of at least parts of the river for paddling, bathing, canoeing etc.

Control of INNS could also be included.

There could be scope to create leaky dams and hedges to improve water and wildlife quality with incremental flood mitigation.

There is scope to overcome some of the effects of COVID recent restrictions by promoting outdoor volunteer projects to rebuild teamwork and relieve social isolation.

CBC could take a lead in promoting this proposal and inviting volunteer participation. Where appropriate, assistance with training could be offered.

There will be a need to be realistic and recognise that perfection will not be attainable but that even with isolated moderate successes - every little helps.

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### Chorley Liaison agenda management timetable

<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>Deadline for items to be requested by Members</b>	<b>Agenda Publication Deadline</b>
<b>Wed, 21 July 2021</b>	Fri, 9 July	Tues, 13 July
<b>Wed, 20 Oct 2021</b>	Fri, 8 Oct	Tues, 12 Oct
<b>Wed, 19 Jan 2022</b>	Fri, 7 Jan	Tues, 11 Jan
<b>Wed, 16 March 2022</b>	Fri, 4 March	Tues, 8 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**

Time Credits

Our Health Our Care

Northern Rail

Climate Change (Task Group report)

Electric car charging points

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