

MAWDESLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of Meeting held
Wednesday 14th January 2004 at Mawdesley Village Hall at 7.30pm

Councillor, Allan Whitaker gave a comprehensive talk on the proposed boundary changes and the referendum which is to take place in the Summer.

1.	<p><u>Present</u></p> <p>Chairman James Halsall, Vice Chairman Jill Cavan, Councillors F Culshaw, P Collins, G Green, D Rawcliffe, the Clerk C Brodie and 10 members of the public.</p>
2.	<p><u>Apologies</u></p> <p>Councillor Diane Happlestone</p>
3.	<p><u>Minutes of last Meeting</u></p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting, previously circulated were proposed and accepted as a true record.</p>
4.	<p><u>Matters arising therefrom</u></p> <p>Pathway at Dark Lane/Hall Lane. Councillor Grahame Green reported that, if the proposed pathway was to be raised in order to deter wagons drivers from ‘cutting corners’ on it, the BT control box located there would have to be raised as well. Councillor Grahame Green is to look into the matter.</p>
5.	<p><u>Budget for 2004/2005</u></p> <p>The proposed budget for 2004/2005 and a precept increase of 3% was proposed and accepted.</p>
6.	<p><u>Playground Open Day</u></p> <p>Discussion to be deferred until next meeting. In general nothing but praise has been received regarding the new equipment. Thanks were given to Bert, the caretaker, for all the attention he gives to the play area.</p>
7.	<p><u>Road Safety</u></p> <p>A reply had not been received from Lancashire County Council re letter sent after last meeting re road safety in the village. It was agreed to write again requesting a speed camera in the village. It was agreed that the Parish Council <u>must</u> keep trying to reduce the speed of vehicles within the village. Chairman James Halsall reported that lampposts had been demolished because of road accidents in the village – all had been reported. Also, the road sign at Roundbank Farm had been knocked down by a passing vehicle – Chairman James Halsall to report this.</p>
8.	<p><u>Mawdesley Parish Council Logo</u></p> <p>Councillor Pauline Collins distributed copies of a drawing of a logo, which she had designed and Vice Chairman Jill Cavan proposed that this now be taken to Groundworks for them to embellish. Thanks were given to Councillor Pauline Collins</p>

Signed _____ Dated _____
J Halsall Chairman

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for her attention to this matter.

9.

Correspondence

Correspondence was read out and distributed. A letter from Chorley Borough Council's Finance Department outlining the Councils proposed expenditure next year was read out and it was noted that the Council proposed to abolish the discretionary rate relief given to charitable bodies. It was felt that this would affect the Mawdesley Village Hall and the clerk was requested to write and voice the concern of the Parish Council regarding this matter.

There was discussion as to Astley Hall being closed on certain days and the clerk was requested to write expressing the Parish Council's opinion that this facility should not be reduced.

10.

Open Forum

Ray Scully - Brookfield expressed his concern re Chorley Borough Council's proposal to abolish the discretionary rate for charitable organisations and pointed out that if Chorley Borough Council had to maintain the Mawdesley Village Hall it would cost the rate payer far more than the cost of the rate relief given at the moment. He felt it would give a very negative message to all the people who worked voluntarily to manage the Mawdesley Village Hall.

Ian Paterson – Tarnbeck Drive informed the meeting that the Parish Plan would be finalised in a few days time and would be sent for printing and available for distribution towards the end of February. He commented that there must be some way of 'upping the anti' in order to gain some positive response on the question of road safety. Discussion took place and it was agreed to write again to Lancashire County Council and take action following their response – contact MP, request presence of a speaker at a Parish Council Meeting etc. It was then decided it would be opportune to ask Mr. Rick Hayton from Lancashire County Council's Traffic and Safety department to attend the Annual Parish Meeting on March 10th to talk to the meeting about rural traffic problems and proposals.

It was agreed that the electronic signs warning motorists of their speed, e.g. on the A59 at Rufford, were cost prohibitive.

J Willis - Tarnbeck Drive reported that residents of Eccleston appear to have embarrassed the County Council into reducing the speed limit on Doctors Lane to 20 mph with their website, doctorslane.com where residents filmed the speed limit being constantly broken.

James Sexton - Hurst Green pointed out that it was not necessarily bad driving causing the damage to road signs but possible poor construction of same.

Bert, the caretaker, reported that Mrs Wignall at Roundbank farm had donated pansies, which Bert had planted. The Clerk was asked to send a letter of thanks to Mrs Wignall. Bert also reported that Chorley Borough Council appeared to have now got it right with emptying the litterbins on time. The Clerk was asked to write and thank Marilyn Dale at Chorley Borough Council for her efforts in this matter.

There was again comment on poor gritting procedures within the County.

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Planning applications

Ref. No.	Address	Proposal	Comments
9/03/01301/FUL	64 Gorsey Lane	Single storey side ext. and 2nd storey ext to rear to form new basement & ground floor.	No objection
9/03/01306/FUL	2 New Street	Erection of conservatory to rear and double garage and conversion of outbuildings to living space	No objection
9/03/01376/COU	Nook Farm Nook Lane	Conversion of barn to form a live work unit	No objection

12.

Planning decisions

Were read out by the Clerk

13.

A.O.B

Chairman James Halsall – if anybody knows of any person in need of help from the Dr Layfield charity please let Chairman James Halsall know as soon as possible. Chairman James Halsall reported that there had been a number of burglaries within the village take care!

14.

Accounts for Payment

Chq No.	Payee	Description	£
585	B Hughes	Caretaker	225.33
586	C Brodie	Clerk	126.42
587	Mawdesley Village Hall	Rent - youth	150.48
588	Royal British Legion	Wreath	16.00
589	Allianz Cornhill	Additional insurance - playground	182.82

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05pm.

Next Meeting on Wednesday 11th February 2004

Signed _____
J Halsall **Chairman**

Dated _____