

## MAWDESLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February at Mawdesley Village Hall at 7.30pm

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### 'Emergency Community Support Officer'

Nicola Lewis newly appointed 'Emergency Community Support Officer' introduced herself and gave a short talk on her role within the villages of Mawdesley, Croston, Eccleston, Heskin, Ulnes Walton and Bretherton. She is based at Croston.

Nicola explained that she worked alongside the three emergency services, Fire, Ambulance and Police.

For the Fire Service she goes into schools giving talks etc also into elderly peoples homes explaining about smoke alarms and fitting them.

For the Ambulance Service she is a first responder to emergencies and in rural area would possibly arrive before the ambulance. She carries a defibrillator, and will have a response time of 10 minutes to the scene of the emergency – she does not replace the ambulance – she is there to give aid until the ambulance arrives.

For the Police Service Nicola is empowered to act in certain minor situations such as removing alcohol from under 18s, tobacco from under 16s, stop and search powers and also able to use reasonable force to disperse groups .

Nicola is funded by Lancashire Constabulary for 2 years and if the experiment is successful it will be expanded.

Members of the public in the area will be given her mobile number when she has got over the teething problems of the first few weeks and the number and details will be published in the next Parish Newsletter.

Tha Chairman thanked Nicola and PC Martyn Smith for their attendance.

1.

#### Present

Chairman James Halsall, Vice Chairman Jill Cavan, Councillors F Culshaw, P Collins, G Green, D Rawcliffe, D Hepplestone, the Clerk C Brodie and 8 members of the public.

2.

#### Apologies

None

3.

#### Minutes of last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting, previously circulated were proposed and accepted as a true record.

4.

#### Matters arising therefrom

Logo design has been sent to 'Groundwork'.

The sign for the playground has now been ordered but the Logo will not appear on it.

5.

#### Newsletter

Any items for the next Newsletter should be passed to Councillor Pauline Collins asap. Although Newsletters had, by public demand, been delivered to all business premises in the village only one response has been received.

Chairman James Halsall thanked Councillor Pauline Collins for her efforts with the Newsletter, which is a valuable asset to the Parish Council and the village.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
J Halsall Chairman

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

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6. **Playground Open Day**  
A planting day has taken place with children from both schools attending. The clerk was asked to send a letter to both schools thanking them for their participation.  
The Open Day would take place during the week commencing 15/3/2004 – possibly on the Friday.  
Celebrity Opener could be Lord Mayor – Councillor Frank Culshaw to check this out.  
Vice Chairman Jill Cavan to approach school asking for participation again – perhaps a child from each school could accompany the Lord Mayor at the opening.  
Wicksteed will bring ‘goodie bags’.  
Discussion on the pruning/replacement of trees around the playground to be discussed on next agenda.
7. **Road Safety**  
The Parish Council has been informed that a major refurbishment of safety measures within the area is to take place. This will involve replacing of existing traffic signs with high profile signs, new cats eyes and the re-doing of the rumble strips at an estimated cost of between £8,000/£10,000. Hopefully the work will be completed by 31/3/2004.  
Chairman James Halsall stated that this will not replace the Parish Councils 20 mph project but it goes a long way to helping the safety problems within the village. Letters of appreciation to be sent to Mr. Harding, Environment Directorate, Lindsay Hoyle MP, Councillor Allan Whittaker. Also thanks to Councillor Frank Culshaw for his involvement.  
Councillor Pauline Collins stated that the above may be the reason why signs have not been replaced or repaired recently. Lamp at Dark Lane has not been replaced yet – Councillor Grahame Green to follow up.  
Residents of Rufford Road have suggested that a ‘right of way’ system should be put into operation on Rufford Road at the bridge near to Blackmoor. After general discussion it was felt that this could be potentially hazardous as currently both sets of traffic had to slow down this would not be the case if restricted access was given to one flow of traffic.  
Councillor Pauline Collins commented that the reason for not having 20mph limits in the village had been given as these limits cannot be applied on through roads – however there are examples of this happening – one being the Windermere/Ambleside road.
8. **Adoption of 2003 accounts**  
It was proposed and seconded that the accounts for year end 31/3/2003 were accepted as correct.
9. **Proposal to engage Internal Auditor**  
It was proposed, seconded and accepted that Mr. J Bigland be appointed Internal Auditor at a cost of approximately £100, depending on work load.
10. **Application for donation to Mawdesley Village Hall**  
It was agreed to donate to Mawdesley Village Hall a sum of £3000 for help in the unexpected expenditure on the resurfacing of the tennis courts.  
Cheque to be raised at the next meeting.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_  
J Halsall Chairman

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11.	<p><b><u>Application for donation to Mawdesley St. Peters C of E School</u></b></p> <p>It was agreed to donate to St. Peters C of E School the sum of £300 for help in the expenditure of building a front entrance porch to the school. Cheque to be raised at the next meeting.</p>
12	<p><b><u>Application for donation to Mawdesley SS. Peter &amp; Paul RC School</u></b></p> <p>It was agreed to donate to SSs. Peters &amp; Pauls RC School the a sum of £300 for help in the expenditure of an item of outdoor play equipment. Cheque to be raised at the next meeting.</p>
13.	<p><b><u>Correspondence</u></b></p> <p>Letter received re pavement in Hurst Green being uneven – clerk requested to write and explain the exact spot and also to report uneven kerbs outside Post Office. The clerk reported that the final bill for the playground had been received and the Parish Council have to pay the VAT on this bill, approximately £7000. This is reclaimable but may take a while to get back from Customs and Excise, hence the necessity to delay payments to Mawdesley Village Hall and the two schools.</p>
14.	<p><b><u>Open Forum</u></b></p> <p><u>Ray Scully - Mawdesley Village Hall Committee Chairman</u> – thanked the Parish Council for their kind donation and said it would greatly encourage the team of volunteers on the Mawdesley Village Hall Committee. He said that nothing had been heard yet re the abolition of Chorley Borough Council’s Discretionary Rate Relief – he would like to thank Cllrs Alan Whittaker and Frank Culshaw for their help in this matter.</p> <p><u>Evelyn Sexton – Hurst Green</u> an resident on Hurst Green has requested that a complaint be made to the local bus company, Darwin Travel, re buses not turning up at all! Clerk to action.</p> <p><u>James Sexton – Hurst Green</u> Fire Hydrant on Hurst Green leaking ever since work by United Utilities (outside No. 41) Chairman James Halsall to follow up. Also reported that a coach picking school children up for swimming is using the area in front of the bowling green as a turning point and churning it up – Councillor Grahame Green will notify the school.</p> <p>Mr Sexton also reported that a style on the footpath from Sandy Lane to the Church is broken. Clerk to report.</p> <p><u>Mr. Peter Parkes – New Street</u> has received a letter from Mr.Hayton stating that he was in ongoing correspondence with the Parish Council re Traffic Safety matter.</p>

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
J Halsall Chairman

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

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15.	<b><u>Planning applications</u></b>			
	<b>Ref. No.</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Comments</b>
	9/4/0052/CTY	Robin Hood Pumping Station	To change of use and construct a control kiosk and new outfall structure	No objection
	9/4/0051/CTY	New Reed Bridge	To change of use and construct an above ground chamber, new access road and control kiosk	No objection
	* /04/00017/FUL	30 Gorsey Lane	Erection of single storey rear extension	No objection
16.	<b><u>Planning decisions</u></b>			
	Recent decisions were read out			
17.	<b><u>A.O.B</u></b>			
	<p><u>Vice Chairman Jill Cavan</u> reported the style at the bottom of the footpath near Round Bank Farm and the quarry was dangerous through dis- repair – Clerk to report. Also a street light which was promised for footpath between the Black Bull has not been erected – Clerk to check out.</p> <p>A letter had been received by Vice Chairman Jill Cavan re the trees in the playground from Mrs Jean Parker gave her answer re the playground trees but also added congratulations and well done on the tidiness of the village and particular thanks to Bert, the caretaker, <u>Councillor Pauline Collins</u> - a resident on Hurst Green has asked the Parish Council to look into the matter of erecting a bus shelter at the bus stop by the Post Office. This item to be put on the next agenda. Councillor Pauline Collins also commented on the fact that Philip Bleasdale has not been asked to quote for the grass cutting – Clerk to action. Councillor Pauline Collins also commented on the beautiful array of snowdrops at White Barn Door Farm on Blackmoor Road.</p> <p><u>Councillor Grahame Green</u> reported that a flyer was being circulated throughout the village re signing up for ‘Broadband’ support is requested even if you do not have a computer. Bert, the caretaker, had commented to Councillor Grahame Green about his entitlement to holiday pay – the Clerk has sorted the query out with Bert.</p> <p><u>Chairman James Halsall</u> the overhanging hedge in Hall Lane will be cut soon – farmer’s tractor has broken down so unable to cut the hedge. Chairman James Halsall mentioned the speed of school buses and informed the meeting he is addressing the matter to the police. He also showed a map of Scarisbrick drawn by the local artist Gerard Swarbrick whose mother lived locally. Pamphlets have been left around for information.</p>			

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_  
J Halsall Chairman

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18.

<b><u>Accounts for Payment</u></b>			
<b><u>Chq No.</u></b>	<b><u>Payee</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>£</u></b>
590	Bert Hughes	Caretaker	225.33
591	C Brodie Clerk	Salary & Expenses	126.42
592	C Brodie Clerk	Stationery	25.74
593	OPSTA	Subscription	10.00
594	Chorley Borough Council	Brushes for caretaker	4.79
595	Mawdesley Village Hall	Rent lounge meetings	40.50
596	Wigan Groundwork Trust	Part payment (vat to pay yet)	5446.00

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm**

**Next Meeting on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
J Halsall      Chairman

Dated \_\_\_\_\_