

MAWDESLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held 11th January 2006
at Mawdesley Village Hall at 7.30pm

	<p><u>Present</u> Chairman – Grahame Green, Vice-Chairman Ian Paterson Councillors Jill Cavan, Pauline Collins, James Halsall, Frank Culshaw, David Rawcliffe Clerk - Gurby Woods, PC Paul Harrison and 15 members of the public</p>
1.	<p><u>Apologies</u> None</p>
2.	<p><u>Late Planning Applications</u> None</p>
3.	<p>Minutes of the last meeting held on 14th December 2005 were proposed and accepted as a true record.</p>
	<p>Chairman Grahame Green welcomed the new village policeman, PC Paul Harrison. He started work in the village on 9th January. He will be moving into the police house, hopefully, on 31st January. Chairman Grahame Green proposed that Open Forum be item 4 on the agenda, straight after Matters Arising. It was accepted. There would be a further open forum before the planning item only if something large in item 2.</p>
4.	<p><u>Open Forum</u> Ray Scully, Brookfield – Mawdesley Village Hall are requesting a grant for the netting around the tennis courts. All in the village shares the benefits of these facilities. Chorley Borough Council no longer provided funding to village halls. The netting around the tennis courts is dangerous. It will cost around £25,000 to replace it to a high spec –it will solve problems of vandalism. The Village Hall has been in touch with the Sports Foundation and a meeting with Ann Bennett, Rural Enterprise Scheme has been arranged. Mawdesley Village Hall would like the Parish Council to help them with funding of £10,000. Rev David Reynolds, Rector Mawdesley St Peters C of E Church – The church would like to apply for a grant from the Parish Council for assistance with the running of the churchyard. The churchyard belongs to the villagers; anyone can be buried there, regardless of religious denominations or of none. There is no funding from the Church of England for maintaining the churchyard. It cost between £3,000 to £5,000 to maintain. The Church would like to request a grant of £5,000. Rod Collins, Millennium Green Trust – Firstly welcome to Pc Paul Harrison, especially as he interested in the youth of the village. Any help towards the Millennium Green would be gratefully received. Martin Dale, New St – Do we know the figure Chorley Borough Council will be taking away from the precept? Chairman Grahame Green – The figure has gone down a little bit but not as much as they thought it would. It is very complicated. Steve Marshall, Sunnyside, Bluestone Lane – Will the post box be put back on the corner? Cllr James Halsall – The post-box was dangerous on the corner. It has moved 300 yards up the road, near the seat but not concreted in and as such is dangerous and unsecured. The Post Office has been requested to fix it securely. Sid Ellis, 88 New Street – United Utilities have used CCTv in the swage pipe near his house. They have diagnosed 7 fractures in the pipe. The street light near his home needs energising. It has been off for nearly two months. Chairman Grahame Green – We have all contacted United Utilities, without progress. There are two separate operators who have to co-ordinate their work. This seems to be the delay. Cllr Pauline Collins – He could ring the 0800 number for highways, but it is not considered a priority. Clerk to write to Cllr Martin (Traffic & Highways, Environment Directorate, LCC and United Utilities. Bert Hughes, Smithy Lane – The 40 mph sign has not been re- erected . He has contacted the highways department 4 times without success. Cllr Pauline Collins – It is on a list, the sign for Wrightington on Bluestone Lane has been re-erected. PC Paul Harrison – What has been done to combat speeding in the village? Chairman Grahame Green – There have been lengthy discussions with Lancashire County Council, Chorley Borough Council, etc. They are waiting for legislation to be passed. Money and lack of deaths means speed is not a priority. Trying to get speed reduced to 20mph on Hurst Green because of the school, etc. Pc Paul Harrison – Have the police been involved? Vice Chairman Ian Paterson – The temporary speed camera was used, but it was advisory. It came at 9.30am and went at 4pm before and after the busy periods. It did slow people down. John Wills, Tarnbeck Drive – The lamp standard between the Black Bull and New Street is out and another further down.</p>
5.	<p><u>Matters arising there from</u> Low cost housing – Harvest Housing have returned the allocated funding for 2005/6 to Chorley Borough Council as they are unable to use it.</p>

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	<p>Cllr Frank Culshaw – Stated that in his personal opinion “This is a victory for selfishness, greed and prejudice, preventing low cost housing in the village.”</p> <p>Clerk to write to Angela Durkin, Chorley Borough Council to state the Parish Council have no comment to make. Lancashire County Council will look at the Hurst Green footpath again.</p> <p>Lancashire County Council has referred the No Cycling sign in Hurst Green to the group engineer. Smithy Lane and Back Lane have been patched, badly.</p> <p>Nook Lane has been put on a works list.</p> <p>The manhole cover near the footpath to Brookfield has been fixed.</p> <p>An engineer will come and look at the corner of Dark Lane.</p> <p>The situation at Blackmoor Garage is better. Mr Pimlott had explained the cars were put on the footpath whilst the field was being gravelled. This work has been carried out.</p>
6.	<u>Parish Plan – reports from sub-meetings</u>
	<p>Road safety and Traffic Nothing to report.</p> <p>Building and planning There have been two meetings of the committee, but they have not been well attended.</p> <p>Environment There will be a talk by the Chorley Borough Council tree officer on Saturday 21st January on the Tree Preservation Scheme and the Tree Warden Scheme. A grant of £500 has been obtained to help with the tree report. Any excess money will be used to organise community walks.</p> <p>Village Services This item is on the agenda.</p> <p>Policing The committee will be liaising with PC Paul Harrison.</p> <p>Business Nothing to report.</p>
7.	<p><u>Parish Council Notice boards</u> The quotes for the new notice boards are around £350.00. Awaiting a quote from a previous supplier before giving the go ahead for the purchase of the two notice boards. Hopefully ready for the next meeting.</p>
8.	<p><u>Bank Account</u> Still having problem with the Royal Bank of Scotland. Waiting for refund of charges, which the bank has admitted, was their fault. The branch cannot authorise a refund over £50.00. This has to be referred to the Head Office. The manager has been ill and there was no one able to do this in his absence. Still considering changing banks.</p>
9.	<p><u>Gardening Club</u> Would like speaker at inaugural meeting . Speakers want between £20- £30. travelling expenses. If the Parish Council agrees to underwrite the inaugural meeting, the club should be running itself.</p>
10.	<p><u>Accounts 2005/2006</u> These have now been signed off.</p>
11.	<p><u>Precept 2006/7</u> Vice Chairman Ian Paterson explained how the precept figure for 2004/5 and 2005/6 came about. Cllr Frank Culshaw stated the system is fairer now. Chairman Grahame Green stated money might have to be found by the residents of the sheltered accommodation on Hurst Green for the grass cutting around their accommodation. Chorley Borough Council does not have to cut it and can charge the residents. The money given by the developers of Tarnbeck Drive for its general upkeep is coming to an end. The money will have to come from somewhere else. There is no inherited responsibility for the grass cutting of the Millennium Green, just one or two payments. The Parish Council had agreed to carry it on and it was included in last year’s precept. We will have to think about the precept figure as the insurers of the flooded residents may make a claim against the Parish Council and those people whose property the culvert runs under. It was proposed to support the Millennium Green as before. Cllr Jill Cavan – We will need to see accounts before any formal agreement is made. Chairman Grahame Green - £2200 for the grass cutting would be granted to the Millennium Green after sight of the accounts.</p>

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Cllr Jill Cavan – Village amenities should be supported but high amounts should be considered carefully with supported accounts.
 Cllr Pauline Collins – Would prefer the payment of smaller regular amounts, rather than large grants.
 Vice Chairman Ian Paterson – He is aware the Village Hall and associated facilities are widely used, but we have not been provided with quotes, plans, or a report outlining the danger of the current situation. We cannot increase the precept by £15 per household in order to grant the village hall £10,000. There may be other ways of raising the money. The Parish Council has a responsibility to the villagers to see numbers and quotes.
 Cllr David Rawcliffe – The last time the Parish Council supported the Village Hall was approximately two years ago in the form of a loan.
 Cllr Frank Culshaw – The loan could be spread over several years. The Parish Council should be committed to Mawdesley Village Hall. Maybe any assistance should be deferred until the next meeting subject to sight of the accounts, reports, etc.
 Vice Chairman Ian Paterson – We should say no to the request for the Churchyard. There are three churches of different denominations, some people are non-religious.
 Cllr Frank Culshaw – Do other Parish Councils support the church?
 Cllr David Rawcliffe – The Parish Council could lay itself open to criticism.
 Rev David Reynolds – The statement that the three churches are equal is a fallacy. The C of E Churchyard is legally the burial ground of the residents even though it belongs to the Church of England. It is also of aesthetic value to the village.
 Chairman Graham Green – It is a village amenity, legally open to everyone.
 Cllr James Halsall – Over the years the Parish Council have supported a wide range of groups. In the past small nominal grants were made.
 Chairman Graham Green – Agree to a nominal amount of £150.
 Vice Chairman Ian Paterson – Doesn't accept £3000 on the precept on next financial year. If we pay a nominal amount to one church the same amount has to be made to the other two village churches.
 Cllr James Halsall – It depends on needs
 Chairman Grahame Green – Proposed £150 is granted.
 Cllr David Rawcliffe – Not to be included in precept.
 Chairman Grahame Green – Will see funding at the end of the year.
 There has been a request from John Singleton that a payment of £30.00 to Bill Sloan for putting the Mawdesley Jubilee trial on the web site.
 A one off dispersal of £30.00 proposed and accepted.

Steve Marshall, Bluestone Lane – The comments by Cllr Frank Culshaw describing the villages as selfish, greedy and prejudiced should be withdrawn.
Cllr Frank Culshaw. He will not withdraw his comments.
Martin Dale, New Street – The councillors comments are a disgrace, especially as there is no course of redress for the villagers.

12.	<u>Correspondence</u> Various items of correspondence were read out and distributed.			
13.	<u>Planning</u>			
a.	<u>Applications</u>			
	Ref. No.	Address	Proposal	Comments
	05/01159/COU	Thowd Stables, Hall Lane	Change of use of existing bungalow to office space and change of use of the exiting barn to dwelling.	No objection, only if the existing house is demolished.
	05/01212/FUL	Jay Bank, High Street	Remove existing dormer window and raise roof to extend first floor	No objection as long as it doesn't exceed the 70% guidelines

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b.	<u>Decisions</u> The Clerk then read out various planning decisions		
c.	<u>Planning Appeals</u> Site at Crows Nest Cottage, Tarnbeck Drive – 10am 17 th January 2006 at The Town Hall, Market Street, Chorley.		
14.	<u>Any other business</u> Cllr David Rawcliffe – A thank you letter should be sent to Anthea & Bill Pardoe, Smithy Lane for the donation of the Christmas Tree. Thanks also to the Post Office for the lighting. Cllr James Halsall – Lancashire Life are doing an article about Mawdesley in the March edition. They say Mawdesley is a popular place. The Dr Layfield Charity is there to help people in dire financial difficulty. If anyone knows anyone who could do with assistance they can talk to him in private. Cllr Pauline Collins – The Village Diary was formerly kept at the Post Office. It will not be replaced. Dates can now be entered on the village web-site calendar instead A donation of £15.00 to the Hurst Green Sheltered Housing raffle fund is to be made for use of their committee room. Vice Chairman Ian Paterson – The clerk to write to Lindsay Hoyle and the planning department at South Ribble and Chorley Borough Council objecting to the proposed private airstrip in Bretherton. Chairman Grahame Green – The pavements on Hurst Green and Ashtrees are mossy. Clerk to contact Chorley Borough Council. Blackpool Trams system is badly worn and in serious need of refurbishment otherwise much of the line will have to be discontinued. The Northwest is generally overlooked. It is the oldest tram system in the world. Clerk to write to Lindsay Hoyle MP and LAPTC. The under grounding of cables in Gorse Lane is complete. Now awaiting Ridley Lane. Waiting to hear from Lancashire County Council regarding the adoption of the Willows to Hurst Green footpath. There is a burgundy Audi A4 with stolen number plates (Y78 WBF) seen at the scene of crimes, break-ins, etc. If seen please report immediately		
15.	<u>Accounts for payment</u>		
	<u>Chq No.</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>
	000741	Royal British Legion Mawdesley Branch	Remembrance Day Wreath £16.50
	000742	Eccleston Brass Band	Remembrance Day £50.00
	000743	Bert Hughes	Caretaker Dec Salary £165.78
	000744	G.Woods	Clerk January Salary £204.86
	000745	G Woods	Postage £3.85
	000746	Mawdesley Village Hall	Youth Club Rent £259.00
	000747	Millennium Green Trust	General upkeep £3200.00
	The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35pm		

Signed
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