

**MAWDESLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> February 2006**  
**at Mawdesley Village Hall at 7.30pm**

	<p><b><u>Present</u></b>  <b>Chairman – Grahame Green, Vice-Chairman Ian Paterson Councillors Cavan, Pauline Collins, James Halsall, Frank Culshaw (8.10), David Rawcliffe Clerk - Gurby Woods, PC Paul Harrison and 15 members of the public</b></p>
1.	<p><b><u>Apologies</u></b>  Cllrs Jill Cavan, Frank Culshaw will be attending later.</p>
2.	<p><b><u>Late Planning Applications</u></b>  None</p>
3.	<p>Minutes of the last meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2006 were proposed and accepted as a true record.</p>
4.	<p><b><u>Open Forum</u></b>  Ray Scully, 4 Brookfield - Has the Parish Council had a chance to view the paperwork passed to them regarding the application for funding for the netting around the tennis? An application has been made to the Sport Aid Foundation. If any other information is required; he will endeavour to provide it.  Pat Naylor, Bradshaw Lane – A burgundy Audi has been seen around the area. Has there been a number of beak-ins?  Chairman Grahame Green – Not specific to Mawdesley. Generally been seen in the vicinity.  Rod Collins, Bluestone Lane – Wish Parish Council well in their deliberations, hopes commonsense will prevail.  Maureen Barker, 71 Hurst Green – More notices needed regarding dog fouling in the area. Dog fouling is becoming a big problem all over the village. The Hurst Green to Willows footpath is particularly bad, as is the Millennium Green.  Chris Willis, Tarnbeck Drive – Dog fouling prevalent on Smithy Lane and Tarnbeck Drive.  Clerk to contact the dog warden and ask for extra patrols.  Cllr David Rawcliffe – The dog wardens were asked previously to monitor the situation.  James Sexton, Hurst Green – The wardens drive around in a white van, three minutes and then disappear.  Cllr James Halsall – They are working with the police, we will have a word with them.  Ray Scully, 4 Brookfield – They spend half an hour in the village, have their lunch and disappear.  James Sexton – Workmen have dug up the footpath on Hurst Green and half the road, there is no footpath. They have not put up barriers or lights. There is no walkway. The work started this morning opposite 34-36 Hurst Green.  Rod Collins, Bluestone Lane – The drainage problem on the footpath is being dealt with. There is a leak in one of the pipes that has been dug up. United Utilities have been contacted.</p>
5.	<p><b><u>Matters arising there from</u></b>  The Post Box on Bluestone Lane has been concreted in.  Lights outside Sid's house finally lit.  Sign on Bluestone Lane has been taken away.  The Blackmoor Garage situation has improved.  Crows Nest Appeal has been put back to 20<sup>th</sup> February because they are investigating the possibility of Crested Newts.  Adoption of The Willows to Hurst Green footpath delayed. We need to locate the deeds.  The village diary is not on the website. Will speak to Bill Sloan.</p>
6.	<p><b><u>Parish Plan – reports from sub-meetings</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Road safety and Traffic</u></b>  Nothing to report. There was an accident earlier in the day when a car skidded off the road; the driver was hurt because of the mud left on the road by the farmers' tractors. This is turning into a problem.  The clerk to ask the local policeman to contact the farmers and make them aware of their responsibility.</p> <p><b><u>Building and planning</u></b>  The Building and Planning sub committee hope to produce a village design statement. They would like to seek permission from the Parish Council to source quotes for expert guidance, in order to begin the process. Would also like funding to cover the costs of the three meetings that have already taken place at St Peter's Parish Church and future costs at £2 per meeting.  Chairman Grahame Green - Willing to help but not unlimited funding. A maximum of £150.</p>

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_  
**G Green**                      **Chairman**

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	<p><b>Environment</b>  The recommendations of the Parish Plan were;</p> <p>a) Carry out a tree survey - this has been done.  b) Review with the Parish Council the feasibility of a community self help and environmental protection programme.</p> <p>Already happening; Talks from the Chorley Borough Council Tree Officer, New footpath map (decided to sell at a nominal charge of 50p locally to prevent wastage), 2 community walks ( 1<sup>st</sup> April and 28<sup>th</sup> Oct), and the tree warden scheme.  Request to seek outside funding to purchase snowdrops. Funding granted.</p>
	<p><b>Village Services</b>  To be reported at the next meeting</p>
	<p><b>Policing</b>  The new policeman will be moving into the police house in the next fortnight. Hoping to get the PACT committee up and running again soon. This is a system whereas the police, community and councils work together.</p>
	<p><b>Business</b>  Nothing to report.</p>
7.	<p><b><u>Parish Council Notice boards</u></b>  To be reported next meeting</p>
8.	<p><b><u>Bank Account</u></b>  Still having problem with the Royal Bank of Scotland. Waiting for refund of charges, which the bank has admitted, was their fault. They have offered us a refund of £185.00, which is not acceptable. A letter drafted by Vice Chairman Ian Paterson will be sent to them asking for a full refund of £465.00</p>
9.	<p><b><u>Gardening Club</u></b>  Report next meeting</p>
10.	<p><b><u>Parish Elections</u></b>  The Parish Council elections will be in May. All the posts will be up for re-election. Two of the current councillors, Frank Culshaw and David Rawcliffe will not be standing for re-election. This will be joint Parish and Borough election. Last day for nominations for the Parish Councillor role will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> April.  The Parish Council would like to publicise the elections widely to encourage more people to stand. The elections will be publicised in the newsletter</p>
11.	<p><b><u>Newsletter</u></b>  Articles for the newsletter need to be with the clerk by the end of the month to enable the newsletter to go out by the first week of March.</p>
12.	<p><b><u>Calor Village Life Competition</u></b>  This competition is open to villages with a population under 5000. It is about the community and what is achieves. It is not a best-kept village competition. On this note it may be an idea to compile a welcome pack for new residents with useful phone numbers, and a general guide to the village – nothing formal.  The former village policeman moved to North Lancaster. He was given a welcome pack. This may give us ideas for ours.  The first prize is £500. The closing date is 31<sup>st</sup> July. We need to start working on our application now. Last years winners were Crawford.</p>
13.	<p><b><u>Precept 2006/7</u></b>  The precept was £18,000 last year, but spending was £21,000 because of the Willows to Hurst Green footpath work and the culvert.  Cllr James Halsall – I am in support of the Millennium Green and Mawdesley Village Hall. Many people have voiced their concern with the rise in the Borough and policing costs, etc. Wary of the costs to people with low incomes. Maybe we should give the Millennium Green less.  Vice Chairman Ian Paterson - To what degree do we support the services used by many in the village. Supporting the Millennium Green and Mawdesley Village Hall will mean a substantial increase. The Parish Council would like all parishioners to support the village services. Substantial increase in percentage but in reality in 13p per week.  We have these facilities, which are used by lots of villagers, we should support these services.  Cllr Pauline Collins – These facilities benefit the village and the wider area. It brings business to the village shops and pubs.</p>

**Signed**  
**G Green**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Chairman**

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<p>Cllr David Rawcliffe – There is no slack in the proposed budget. We have to support services in the village. The precept allows everyone to support the village services.  Vice Chairman Ian Paterson – Proposed we levy the higher precept at £23040. £30.59 per household or 13p per week. Accepted.  Chairman Grahame Green – We have a dispersible amount of £3000.  The graveyard is an open public area, although maintained and owned by the church. That it is connected to the church is immaterial.. It is a public open space.  Vice Chairman Ian Paterson – Thought this decision was taken. Cllr James Halsall correctly suggested if there was any money left, an equal amount would be given to the three churches..  Vice Chairman Ian Paterson – Should we be supporting areas supported by other means? Would like to see Church graveyard accounts and other income.  Cllr Frank Culshaw – Thought a decision had been made last month that no substantial donation decision will be made except in exceptional circumstances. There is no need to make any decisions yet.  Chairman Grahame Green – No decision to be made until the work needs doing.  Ray Scully – The work needs to be done by the end of the Summer. General support would be gratefully received.  Cllr James Halsall – Defer any decisions until June or July. Proposed and accepted.</p>				
<p><b><u>Special Open Forum</u></b>  Martin Dale, 54 New St – Felt personally insulted by Cllr Frank Culshaw’s comments at the last Parish Council meeting. He described the people who opposed the low cost housing scheme as greedy, selfish and prejudiced. He would like Cllr Frank Culshaw to withdraw his comments and apologise.  Cllr Frank Culshaw – I did not say greed. I will explain. Young people currently living in the village cannot afford to live in the village because people were prejudiced against the rental accommodation.  Martin Dale – Did not oppose housing but the safety aspect.  Cllr Frank Culshaw – The proposed development was not well thought out. Not happy with Harvest Housing and their handling of the situation. The village reacted in away that was very selfish and prejudiced.  Rod Collins, Bluestone Lane – Still interest in low cost housing if scheme run properly, made attractive to people.  Cllr Frank Culshaw – Cannot see anything happening in the foreseeable future to help young people establish in the village.  John Willis, Tarnbeck Drive – Why isn’t there a loop system in the County Chambers? It is the law.  Clerk to write to CBC.  Chairman Grahame Green – Proposed and agreed to fund £2 a meeting for the Building and Planning committee. Regarding the letter from Barbara Nichols, Martin O’Lochrane is the Borough Emergency Officer, plans for all types of emergency. Action to be taken depends on type of emergency. Plans are already in hand. Barbara Nichols would like a contact point. Clerk to write to the Police Authority and Chorley Borough Council.  Chairman Grahame Green – Will speak to the enforcement officer regarding the e-mail from Ralph Telford, Gorsey Lane.  Pc Paul Harrison – The job number for the Bluestone Lane sign is 149000.  Generally there has been no crime in the village or surrounding areas.  He will find out the role of the Community Wardens, but would like to explain the Community Wardens have been busy recently on a special exercise in Coppull.</p>				
<p><b>14. <u>Correspondence</u></b>  Various items of correspondence were read out and distributed.</p>				
<p><b>15. <u>Planning</u></b></p>				
<p><b>a. <u>Applications</u></b></p>				
	<b>Ref. No.</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Comments</b>
	06/00096/FUL	Lowmead, Meadow Lane	Conversion of garage into kitchen	No objection,

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_  
**G Green** Chairman

**Dated** \_\_\_\_\_

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	06/00023/FUL	Land at junction of Salt Pit Lane and Bluestone Lane	Re-development of industrial site and erection of conductive education centre for disabled children	No objection as long as for Rainbow House use, appropriate screening of buildings from the road, limit height of roof to single storey. Reduction of speed on Bluestone Lane and Saltpit Lane
<b>b.</b>	<b><u>Decisions</u></b> The Clerk then read out various planning decisions			
<b>c.</b>	<b><u>Planning Appeals</u></b> Crows Nest, Tarnbeck Drive 20 February 2006			
<b>16.</b>	<b><u>Any other business</u></b> <p>Cllr Frank Culshaw – Last year’s grass cutting of the Sheltered Housing was undertaken by Chorley Borough Council. This year there will be a charge to the sheltered housing as part of the house rent increase of 5% (£2.30 per week roughly. £1.80 will be service charge. Grass cutting charge will be virtually nothing.</p> <p>Cllr Pauline Collins – The Annual Parish Council Meeting is due March/ April. We need a speaker maybe 12<sup>th</sup> April. Clerk will need to check the availability of Mawdesley Parish Hall from 7.00pm. Clerk to ask Ann Bennet from the Rural Partnership Enterprise.</p> <p>There are currently six sub-committees and seven councillors. One for each group and one left to cover the needs of the young people.</p> <p>Vice Chairman Ian Paterson – Heels are being dragged regarding the culvert. Suggest we do a camera survey of the culvert; we have an element of responsibility. Legally we are responsible for our own area.</p> <p>Chairman Grahame Green – We should camera all sections. Will speak to David Holmes. Clerk to send a letter to MFAG.</p> <p>On the subject of the comments made by Cllr Frank Culshaw regarding the low cost housing. His comments are his own opinion and not that of the Parish Council.</p>			
<b>17.</b>	<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>
	000748	Bert Hughes	Caretaker, Jan Salary	£145.04
	000749	G.Woods	Clerk, Feb Salary	£250.84
	000750	Inland Revenue	PAYE	£128.40
	000751	G.Woods	Postage, stationary	£5.97
	000752	Lancashire Playing Fields Association	Annual subscription	£11.00
	000753	Mawdesley Village Hall	Rent of meeting room	£41.88
	000754	John Bigland	Internal Audit 2004/05	£85.00
	000755	G Woods	Stationary	£3.88
	000756			£15.00
	The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35pm			

**Signed**  
**G Green**

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**Chairman**

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