

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

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Dear Councillor

Members of the Council are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council to be held in the **TOWN HALL, CHURCH STREET, CLITHEROE** on **TUESDAY, 11 OCTOBER 2011** at **6.30PM**.

AGENDA

Part I – items of business to be discussed in public

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Declarations of interest.
3. Public participation session.
4. To confirm the minutes of the meetings of **Council** held on **30 August 2011**.
5. Mayoral Communications.
6. Leader's Report and Question time.
7. To receive and consider, where appropriate, the minutes of the following Committee meetings now circulated. (Items marked *** are referred to Council for decision).

COMMITTEE MEETINGS: 24 AUGUST – 29 SEPTEMBER			
COMMITTEES	DATE OF MEETING	PAGE	MINUTE NO'S
ACCOUNTS & AUDIT COMMITTEE	24 AUG	1 – 4	274 – 287
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	25 AUG	5 – 9	288 – 297
COUNCIL COMMITTEE	30 AUG	10 – 13	298 – 305
LICENSING COMMITTEE	6 SEPT	14 – 16	306 – 312
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	7 SEPT	17 – 19	313 – 321
COMMUNITY COMMITTEE	13 SEPT	20 – 22	322 – 331

COMMITTEE MEETINGS: 24 AUGUST – 29 SEPTEMBER			
COMMITTEES	DATE OF MEETING	PAGE	MINUTE NO'S
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE	15 SEPT	23 – 53	332 – 348
HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE	22 SEPT	54 – 58	349 – 365
POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE	27 SEPT	59 – 67	366 – 386
PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON COMMITTEE	29 SEPT	68 – 73	387 - 397

Part II - items of business **not** to be discussed in public

None.

NOTES:

1. Questions (attention is drawn to Standing Orders 9, 10 and 12).
 - (i) A Member may ask the Mayor or the Chairman of any Committee any question on any matter where the Council has powers or duties or which affects the Borough. A question must either be given to the Chief Executive by noon on the Friday before the meeting or relate to urgent business in which case agreement of the Mayor to the question being put shall be required and, where possible, a copy of the question will be given to the Chief Executive before 10.00am on the day of the meeting.
 - (ii) Any Member may ask a question or make a comment on any minute before the Council, provided that he or she does not speak for more than five minutes in total on the minutes of a particular Committee. The Chairman may decline to answer a question unless written notice of the question has been given to the Chief Executive by noon on the Friday before the meeting.
 - (iii) Any Member may ask questions of the Leader of the Council on matters relating to the general work of the Council which do not fall within the remit of any particular Committee. Notice in writing specifying the nature of the question in sufficient detail to enable a reply to be prepared must be given to the Chief Executive by not later than noon on the day before the Council meeting.

Part II - items of business **not** to be discussed in public

None.

Minutes of Accounts & Audit Committee

Meeting Date: Wednesday, 24 August 2011, starting at 6.30pm
Present: Councillor J B Hill (Chairman)

Councillors:

M Thomas
N C Walsh
A Yearing

In attendance: Chief Executive, Head of Financial Services and Principal Auditor.

Also in attendance: Clive Portman and Georgia Jones from Audit Commission.

274 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors P Ainsworth, G Mirfin and R Moores.

275 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

276 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at the meeting.

277 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

278 REFERENCES FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There were no references from Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

279 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REPORT

Georgia Jones of the Audit Commission submitted the annual Governance Report that they would be sending to the Borough Council on the completion of their audit for 2010/11. The report summarised the findings from the 2010/11 audit which was substantially complete and included messages arising from the audit of the financial statements and the results of the work that had been undertaken to assess the arrangements to secure value for money in the use of resources.

She requested that the Accounts and Audit Committee considered the matters raised specifically in relation to accumulated absences and housing benefits overpayments, take note of the adjustments to the financial statement, agree to adjust the errors in that statement, approve the letter of representation on behalf of the Council and note the assessment against the value for money criteria.

RESOLVED: That the report be accepted and thanks from the Audit Committee be conveyed to the Director of Resources and Head of Financial Services and their staff for the efficient way they have completed the Council's accounts for 2010/11.

280 LETTER OF REPRESENTATION

The Director of Resources submitted a report which included the Letter of Representation that the Audit Commission require to be signed before they would sign off the accounts.

This letter sets out assurances from the Council to the Audit Commission that relevant accounting standards had been complied with and gave further assurances that the Council had disclosed information, where to withhold it would have undermined the accuracy and reliability of the statement of accounts.

The letter again highlighted the two identified areas classed as misstatements that were regarded as non-material and therefore not adjusted in the accounts.

RESOLVED: That Committee approve the Director of Resources signing the Letter of Representation for 2010/11.

281 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2010/11

The Director of Resources submitted a report asking Committee to formally approve the statement of accounts for 2010/11 following audit. These had been previously approved subject to audit which had been completed. The final approved version had to be published by the end of September 2011.

The Head of Financial Services reported that he was pleased that in the main there had only been minor adjustments to the draft accounts recommended by the Auditors, which were mainly changes for the presentation of items of information contained in the notes to the accounts.

He also made reference to the two identified areas classed as misstatements that were regarded as non material and therefore not adjusted in the accounts.

RESOLVED: That Committee approve the audited statement of accounts for 2010/11 and these were then signed by the Chairman.

282 EXTERNAL AUDIT FEES

The Head of Financial Services referred to Minute 807 from Committee dated 30 March 2011 and now gave an update on the discussions which had been ongoing with the Audit Commission around the level of fees for 2011/12.

Concerns had been expressed across Lancashire regarding the minimal change in main audit fees following the abolition of the compulsory area assessment/use of resources regimes. Within the main audit fee for 2009/10 the element charged for CAA represented £27,680. This Council along with other authorities had expected the main audit fee to reduce significantly as a result of the cessation of the use of resources work which took a considerable amount of time to audit. Following consultation regarding the fees in February this year the Commission

had agreed subject to affordability to make rebates of up to 8% in 2011/12. Our external Auditors had pointed out that audit fees were the principal way in which the Audit Commission finances its activity and as such could be viewed more as a levy rather than payment for a service. Clive Portman expanded on these views to the meeting.

The Head of Financial Services reported to Members that confirmation had been received, that the 2011/12 main audit fees would be reducing by 8%, which represented a reduction of £7,027. He also highlighted that the correspondence from the Audit Commission indicated their commitment to achieving further significant fee reductions in 2012/13.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

283 REVIEW OF RISKS

Committee received a report reviewing the full range of risks and explained how the risk register operated to monitor all potential risks to the Council on its day-to-day business. Committee were reminded that each risk was assessed based on a traffic light system and that there was documented criteria for assessing whether the likelihood and impact of a risk should be assessed as high, medium or low. All Heads of Service had access to the risk management system and were responsible for maintaining their own risks on a regular basis. Currently there were no red risks on the register although it was accepted that this could change as circumstances altered, on a day-to-day basis.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

284 INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT 2010/11

The Principal Auditor submitted a report for Committee's information on the internal audit work to date for 2011/12. The Principal Auditor highlighted the work carried out in relation to Members' allowances, in particular in relation to timeliness and ensuring that claim forms were signed by the claimant.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

285 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That by virtue of next item of business being exempt information under Category 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be now excluded from the meeting.

286 VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE – INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

The Principal Auditor referred to Minute 170 of Committee dated 29 June 2010 and gave Members an update report on the issues highlighted in his earlier report, particularly in relation to stock control issues.

Members also expressed their opinions in relation to the report.

RESOLVED: That Committee

1. fully support the measures now being undertaken to improve the stock control situation at the Visitor Information Centre; and
2. ask the Corporate Management team to consider the issues of the Visitor Information Centre's location as part of the Council restructure.

287

RETIREMENT OF CLIVE PORTMAN – AUDIT COMMISSION

The Chairman referred to the imminent retirement of Clive Portman from the Audit Commission and thanked him, on behalf of the Council, for his supportive work as external Auditor over the past few years. He wished Clive a long and happy retirement.

Clive responded by thanking the Council's Officers for their hard work in achieving the timescales set by the Audit Commission in relation to the completion of their work.

The meeting closed at 7.19pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Jane Pearson (414430).

Minutes of Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Meeting Date: Thursday, 25 August 2011, starting at 6.30pm
Present: Councillor M Thomas (Chairman)

Councillors:

S Bibby	S Knox
S Carefoot	I Sayers
P Dowson	N C Walsh
J B Hill	J White

In attendance: Principal Policy and Performance Officer.

288 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors D Berryman, K Horikin and A Knox.

289 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

290 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

291 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at the meeting.

292 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

293 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Chairman commented that in previous meetings there had always been a report from Councillor Hilton in relation to health service matters which were now being referred to Health and Housing Committee.

294 SCRUTINY TRAINING

The Chairman reported on the scrutiny training which had been held at County Hall, Preston in July and had been hosted by Lancashire County Council Scrutiny Section.

Both Councillor Thomas and Councillor White had attended along with Councillor A Knox. Both Councillors Thomas and White felt that the training did not have much relevance to Ribble Valley as most of those attending were not fourth

option Councils and were from authorities which operated a cabinet system. The training was therefore concentrated on cabinet style authorities.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

295 PROGRESS REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

(a) Representatives on Outside Bodies

Councillor White referred to his Scoping document which outlined some of the problems with the way the Council made appointments to Outside Bodies. He commented that there seemed to be a lack of consistency on which bodies had Council representation, the types of bodies served, regularity of meetings, relevance to the work of the Council and feedback from the representative concerned to a parent committee.

The list included in the Year Book was by no means exhaustive as Councillor White stated that he was on two bodies which did not appear in the Year Book.

The report also highlighted the need for a survey of all Councillors on which bodies they served, length of time spent attending meetings, how many meetings were held each year, reporting back etc.

Members then discussed the matter in some detail.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) action be taken on the Scoping document and agree to send the survey out to all Councillors; and
- (2) the Working Group present a further report on the results of the Member Survey to be submitted to the next meeting of this Committee.

(b) Member Training

Councillor Hill circulated a document that included draft Terms of Reference and a Member learning and Development Strategy.

Councillor Bibby reported that a Scoping document needed to be prepared taking into account Members' availability, budgets and making better use of existing Members as possible mentors. She commented that she was prepared to speak to all Councillors about their training needs and experience.

Councillor Hill stressed the need to educate Members on new legislation to enable them to keep up to date.

It was recognised that a new Scoping document would have to reflect the realities of the Council's current situation.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Working Group prepare a Scoping document and this be submitted to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for their approval; and
- (2) a progress report be presented to the next meeting of this Committee.
- (c) Safeguarding

Councillor S Knox reported that she had spoken to the Head of Cultural and Leisure Services who was currently the Council's lead officer on safeguarding. She referred to the recent history of safeguarding which was now a district Council responsibility. She proposed to send a questionnaire to all staff who were affected by safeguarding and she was also currently working on a safeguarding policy.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and a further progress report be submitted to the next meeting.

- (d) Ribble Valley Borough Council Website

Councillor S Knox reported on behalf of this Working Group that whilst the problems encountered last year with the planning element of the website had now been rectified, there were still other problems, particularly with the Licensing Section.

Members felt that the main problems was one of interrogation. There was not a dedicated officer responsible for the website which meant that individual officers were responsible for their own area of work. This, in turn, leads to inconsistency of approach.

RESOLVED: That it be recommended to Corporate Management Team that they reconsider the appointment of a dedicated webmaster to take overall responsibility for the Ribble Valley Borough Council website as part of their ongoing discussions on the Council restructure.

- (e) Energy Efficiency

The Chairman reported, for information, that the Working Group's report had been forwarded to Community Committee who had now agreed to form a new working group comprising the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Community Committee and Councillors Berryman and Sayers to continue further investigations into this matter.

RESOLVED: That the matter be noted.

- (f) Functioning of this Committee

Councillor Hill raised the issue about the powers of this Committee to instruct public bodies to attend our meetings to be held to account over particular issues. The Chairman commented that there was no mention of such a power within the Committee's Terms of Reference.

Reference was made to a recent request for the Lancashire County Council Highways Officers to attend a future planning and development Committee.

The Chairman reported that the Working Group were well on the way to producing revised Terms of Reference and Functions for this Committee.

RESOLVED: That

1. the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be asked whether this Committee has a specific power to require attendance at Committee by officers from public bodies; and
2. a further report on Terms of Reference and Functions be presented to the next meeting of this Committee.

296

QUARTER 1 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The Principal Policy and Performance Officer presented her first report of 2011/12 which detailed the Council's performance against our local performance indicators. The report comprised quarterly figures for all our local indicators reported by exception.

Members then looked in detail at the following red performance indicators:

- EH1 – Food premises inspections.
- EH2 – Health and safety Initial Inspections.
- ES1 – Number of reported missed collection (refuse collection).
- RH1 – Private sector dwellings returned into occupation or demolished.
- RH5 – Length of stay in temporary accommodation (hostels).
- RH7 – Number of affordable homes delivered.

(i) EH1 and EH2

Members were concerned that these figures showed no immediate signs of improvement and questioned what action the Health and Housing Committee were considering. There was also concern about the length of the temporary staff cover which had been agreed to help these two areas of work.

RESOLVED: That this Committee pass on to Health and Housing Committee their concern at these figures and ask what action was being taken to improve the situation.

(ii) ES1

Committee did not accept the explanation given by officers in relation to missed collections.

RESOLVED: That this Committee urge Community Committee to ensure that the figures for missed collections is reduced from red to a green indicator as soon as possible.

(iii) RH1, RH5 and RH7

A lengthy discussion took place in relation to the number of empty private dwellings and the length of stay in hostel accommodation and affordable housing provision accommodation. Committee felt that if drastic action was not taken some of these figures would only get worse.

Councillor Hill gave his comments on a legal and reliable remedy to the empty dwellings question.

RESOLVED: That a performance clinic looking at these performance indicators be convened for Tuesday, 18 October 2011, starting at 5pm. Those to be invited to include Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Health and Housing Committee, all Members of this Committee and relevant Officers including the Head of Regeneration and Housing and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services.

297 FOURTH OPTION COUNCILS

The Chairman referred to three publications:

- Guidance for fourth option Councils issued by the Centre for Public Scrutiny.
- The Annual Report on Overview and Scrutiny from Richmondshire District Council.
- Scrutiny and Local Accountability – details of course held recently in Newcastle.

Whilst the Chairman accepted that the guidance document from CFPS was 7 years old, it still had some useful information.

He commented that he was impressed with the document from Richmondshire, particularly the way in which they, as a fourth option Council, dealt with their overview and scrutiny function.

Finally the Principal Policy and Performance Officer recommended that if Members wished to attend a further round of seminars on scrutiny and local accountability, she could book places which were free.

RESOLVED: That the above information be noted.

The meeting closed at 8.49pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact John Heap (414461).

Minutes of Meeting of the Council

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 30 August 2011 starting at 6.30pm
Present: Councillor S Hore (Chairman)

Councillors:

P Ainsworth	E M H Ranson
J E Alcock	L Rimmer
R Bennett	M Robinson
S Bibby	J Rogerson
S Brunskill	C Ross
S Carefoot	I Sayers
P Dowson	G Scott
J B Hill	R E Sherras
T Hill	D T Smith
B Hilton	R Swarbrick
S A Hirst	D Taylor
J Holgate	M Thomas
K Horkin	R J Thompson
S Knox	N C Walsh
R Newmark	A Yearling

In attendance: Chief Executive, Director of Community Services, Head of HR, Head of Legal and Democratic Services.

298 PRAYERS

The Mayor's Chaplain, the Reverend Father J Scott, opened the meeting with prayers.

299 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors R Hargreaves, K Hind, A Knox, G Mirfin and J White.

300 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

301 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no items of public participation.

302 COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 12 July 2011 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

303

MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor reported on engagements attended since the last meeting. He had attended a wide range of school visits and the graduation ceremony at the University of Central Lancashire. The Mayor had been particularly impressed by the talent and enthusiasm of the young people he had met on these visits. The Mayor was also delighted at the success of the recent Ribble Valley Food Festival and wished to congratulate all who had been involved in the organisation of the event.

304

LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader began by reflecting on a range of outdoor events which had taken place over the summer and wished to thank the officers, volunteers and communities throughout the valley who had contributed to the success of those events. He believed such events served to bring people together and were a vital ingredient in the continuing success and development of communities across the borough.

The Leader also looked ahead to a bumper year for key events in 2012 with the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, the Olympics, the Open Golf Championships, Preston Guild and the 500th Anniversary of the execution of the Pendle Witches. In addition, he was pleased to report that there would be another Clitheroe Food Festival and a Torchlight Procession in Clitheroe, on top of the normal annual shows and events. The Leader stressed that it was important that all events were successful and that they showcased the Ribble Valley as a key destination so all the valley's businesses could benefit from the year ahead.

The Leader went on to express his delight that a Ribble Valley Borough Council project aimed at tackling rural isolation and improving access to services had won a top award. The Council's Healthy Valley Project, which had been launched in conjunction with the Ribble Valley Strategic Partnership, Lancashire County Council and the East Lancashire Primary Care Trust, had won the government's 'Together we can' award. The Healthy Valley Project aimed to build bridges between different agencies and community members, and utilise village facilities more effectively. A system of 'village enablers' had been established and partner agencies co-ordinated their work in order to pool resources. The project had resulted in the refurbishment of a number of village facilities, the appointment of a community nurse and the launch of the mobile resource 'Stan the Van'. The award was testament to the hard work and enthusiasm of everyone involved in the Healthy Valley project and the Council had been delighted to receive it.

The Leader was also mindful that the Council still had some important decisions to make in the next few months. The next stage of the Council's reorganisation would have to be implemented, the Council would be participating in discussions on the changing face of government funding for local authorities and changes to the Council Tax Benefit system. Another key item that must be finalised was the Core Strategy. The Leader confirmed that the Council would continue to lobby the government in respect of their policy of increased development but could not

ignore the realities of the present law and practice. He acknowledged that Councillors had the difficult task of explaining to local residents the procedures that were mandatory in order to have an effective Core Strategy. The overall objective was to have a 'final' Core Strategy in place by the end of March with a public examination to take place in Summer 2012.

Next, Councillor Alcock asked a question relating to a member of the public who wanted to know why, as a resident of Darwen, she received copies of the Ribble Valley Newsletter by post. Councillor Alcock was also interested to know how many unsolicited and unwanted copies of the Newsletter were sent out at taxpayers' expense. The Leader thanked Councillor Alcock for her question and confirmed that Ribble Valley News was produced twice a year and delivered to 25,000 homes in the borough. The bulk of deliveries were made by Royal Mail using their direct mail service, the cost of which was 5p per copy. The direct mail delivery service was done using postcodes and as the Royal Mail postcode boundaries did not match those of the local authority, it resulted in a small number of residents in Darwen and other peripheral areas receiving copies of Ribble Valley News. The Leader confirmed that the Council was in discussions with Royal Mail to try and resolve the issue.

Next, Councillor J B Hill invited the Leader to reflect on arrangements being made by Lancashire County Council to replace Lancashire Locals with an alternative forum for Members to meet directly with County Council officers and planning officers on an occasional basis, and where highway issues were of significant importance in respect of major planning applications. The Leader thanked Councillor Hill for his question and reported that at the present time, there were no arrangements to replace Lancashire Locals. He noted that Lancashire County Council had devised a three tier forum that was due to be launched in November, however, this would not be a public forum and would not have a formal Committee structure, but would instead provide an opportunity for Members to come together in an informal setting to discuss matters of mutual interest and concern to their district.

305 COMMITTEE MINUTES

(i) Planning and Development Committee – 14 July 2011

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

(ii) Community Committee – 19 July 2011

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

(iii) Health and Housing Committee – 21 July 2011

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

(iv) Policy and Finance Committee – 26 July 2011

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be approved with the exception of minute 232.

MINUTE 232

Members were asked to approve modifications to the Terms of References to Committees and the Officer Delegation Scheme.

RESOLVED: That the Terms of Reference to Committees and the Officer Delegation Scheme be approved.

(v) Planning and Development Committee – 11 August 2011

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be received.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Marshal Scott (414400).

Minutes of Licensing Committee

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 6 September 2011 starting at 6.30pm
Present: Councillor J Alcock (Chairman)

Councillors:

P Ainsworth	J Holgate
S Brunskill	S Knox
P Dowson	R Moores
R Hargreaves	C Ross
K Hind	G Scott

In attendance: Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the Solicitor.

306 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors C Bartrop, R Swarbrick and M Thomas.

307 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

308 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at the meeting.

309 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

310 REFERENCES FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There were no references from Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

311 LICENSING OF SEX ESTABLISHMENTS

The Council's Solicitor submitted a report which sought approval for a policy and procedure for the determination of applications for sex establishments, standard conditions to be attached to any licences issued and licensing fees.

The Council's Solicitor reminded Committee that the Council had adopted Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 which gave it the power to licence and regulate sex establishments which were at that time defined as sex shops and sex cinemas. She pointed out that the Council had never developed any standard conditions to attach to such a licence, even though, to date, none had been granted.

In September 2008, the Home Secretary had announced the Government's intention to give local people greater say over the number and location of lap dancing clubs in their area. Section 27 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009, this had reclassified lap dancing clubs into a new category of sex establishments called 'sexual entertainment venues' and gave local authorities the power to regulate such venues.

In November 2010, Committee had considered a report recommending the adoption of these powers and Committee had recommended the adoption to Full Council and this had been formally agreed by Full Council on 14 December 2010.

Committee considered a copy of the proposed draft policy for the determination of applications for sex establishments. The policy could include statements such as where Committee considered an inappropriate locality for a sex establishment, for example numerous locations included where such an establishment would be deemed inappropriate, such as schools, nurseries and crèches, parks and children's play areas, residential and sheltered accommodation, religious and community buildings, alcohol or entertainment premises etc.

Committee was recommended to approve this draft policy and authorise the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to undertake a 10 week consultation exercise.

A Councillor raised the question of a particular establishment in her ward and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the Council's solicitor gave their opinion on this matter.

RESOLVED: That Committee approve

1. the draft policy for the determination of applications for sex establishments and standard conditions and authorise the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to undertake a 10 week public consultation exercise;
2. the scheme of delegation as set out in the Appendix 4 of the report submitted by the Council's Solicitor;
3. the proposed fees set out in the Appendix 2 of the report submitted by the Council's Solicitor; and
4. the draft forms set out in the Appendix 5 of the report submitted by the Council's Solicitor.

312 **AUDIT OF THE VEHICLES LICENSED BY THE COUNCIL TO ESTABLISH LEVEL OF PROVISION FOR DISABLED USERS**

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services informed Committee about the level of provision for disabled users in the existing licensed hackney and private hire

fleet and asked Committee to consider revising the current practice relating to ELAP seats.

She reminded Members that on 14 June 2011 Committee had considered a report relating to licensing additional hackney carriage vehicles to provide a wheelchair and scooter accessible vehicle. Committee had decided not to review the current policy of retaining the restriction on the number of hackney vehicle licences until they had established exactly what provision existed for disabled people within the fleet of licensed vehicles.

Since Committee had considered this matter a request had been received to review whether or not the use of ELAP seats in hackney carriage vehicles was the most cost effective way to ensure access for users of wheelchairs. Since the Council took the decision to require ELAP seats in some vehicles, additional hackney carriage vehicles had been licensed which were fully wheelchair accessible. It had been suggested by licence holders that the use of a transfer board similar to that used by the NHS could be as efficient as an ELAP seat.

Members were reminded of the provisions of the Equality Act 2010 relating to taxi and private hire vehicles. Their attention was also drawn to Department for Transport guidance on this matter.

It was felt that the use of a transfer board as an alternative for the ELAP seat, whilst appropriate in an NHS context, would be difficult for a local authority to administer due to requirement for training in manual handling etc. Members discussed this matter and also raised concerns about the implications for health and safety, both of passengers and vehicle drivers.

RESOLVED: That Committee

1. note the current level of provision for disabled service users;
2. retain the current requirement for ELAP seats to be reviewed when the Council considers compiling a list for the purposes of the Equality Act 2010; and
3. reject the use of transfer boards.

The meeting closed at 6.40pm. There then followed a training session run by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services in relation to Licensing Sub-Committees.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Diane Rice (414418).

Minutes of Personnel Committee

Meeting Date: Wednesday, 7 September 2011, starting at 6.30pm
Present: Councillor D T Smith (Chairman)

Councillors:

S Brunskill	B Hilton
P Dowson	D Taylor
R J Elms	A Yearing
T Hill	

In attendance: Councillor S Bibby, Chief Executive, Head of HR and Personnel Officers x2.

313 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillor P Ainsworth.

314 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 June 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

315 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

316 REFERENCES FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY 21 JUNE 2011

Councillor Bibby had submitted a Scoping document for a study into staff training and development and team building. She outlined the objectives and purpose of the document which were based on the Investors in People standard and explained her previous experience in this area. Following discussion Members agreed that systems were in place to cover the main elements but acknowledged that there was always scope for improvement.

The Head of HR felt it would be beneficial to work with Councillor Bibby to review working practices and identify potential areas for improvement. Members confirmed that Committee had discussed the Investors in People accreditation on a number of occasions and would continue to use the framework as the basis of training and development activities but would not pursue formal assessment.

RESOLVED: That the Head of HR contact Councillor Bibby to review staff training and development with a report back to Personnel Committee in due course.

317 ANNUAL REVIEW OF RECRUITMENT ADVERTISING

The Personnel Officer guided Members through her written report informing Members of recruitment advertising undertaken for the period 1 April 2010 to

31 March 2011. She explained that the Authority had been part of the Lancashire Local Authority Procurement Group but that the authority had taken the decision not to continue when this contract had expired. Members agreed this has proved a wise decision during the current recruitment freeze.

The Personnel Officer explained the media available for advertising and the associated costs. She made Members aware that opportunities for free advertising, particularly in electronic format, were exploited wherever possible. Members were updated on the detailed information now required on job applicants following the introduction of the new Equality Act. It was noted that the same procedure was necessary irrespective of whether a vacancy was permanent, temporary or casual. Following review of the appendices to the report, the Chairman acknowledged the amount of time-consuming work involved in collating the data and thanked the Personnel team for their endeavours.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

318 EQUALITIES ACT 2010 – WORKFORCE DATA

The Head of HR explained that, following her previous reports about the requirements of the new Equality Act, the workforce data contained in the report would be published on the Council's website. She also highlighted some of the statistical data that would aid workforce planning. It was acknowledged that the authority was unable to influence some areas of the profile, particularly where it was governed by legislation but that the data did provide a clear understanding of the makeup of the current workforce.

RESOLVED: That Committee receive the report.

319 STAFF ESTABLISHMENT

The Head of HR explained the purpose of the establishment list and reminded Members of the confidentiality of the document. She explained the information included in the report and the operation of the pay scales. Members were provided with a copy of the current pay rates which had remained unchanged since 2009, due to a freeze on local government pay.

RESOLVED: That Committee receive the report.

320 MEMBER AND STAFF TRAINING

The Personnel Officer presented her written report detailing staff and Member training approved since the last meeting. It was noted that some free training had been accessed for employees aged 16-24 years, also that a tranche of in-house training had commenced to remind staff of emergency evacuation procedures. All Members were reminded to advise Personnel section of any training courses attended in order that the information can be included in future reports and so that we have full and accurate records of member training.

Attention was drawn to a number of examination successes and the Chairman asked that letters of congratulations be sent to those members of staff detailed in the report.

RESOLVED: That

1. Committee receive the report; and
2. that letters be sent to members of staff achieving examination success.

321 APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

Consideration was given to the written report of the Personnel Officer which informed Members of any appointments and resignations that had taken place since the last meeting.

It was noted that there had been no new appointments but attention was drawn to a number of employees who had recently retired. These included two compulsory retirements ahead of new legislation and two voluntary retirements.

Members conveyed their sadness at the news of the death of a member of the Building Control Section. The Personnel Officer confirmed that letters of condolence had been sent to his family and that a number of colleagues had been able to attend this funeral.

RESOLVED: That Committee

1. receive the report;
2. letters be sent to the four members of staff who had retired thanking them for their service; and
3. approve the request to reappoint as outlined in the report.

The meeting closed at 7.28pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Marshal Scott (414400).

Minutes of Community Services Committee

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 13 September 2011 starting at 6.30pm
Present: Councillor R J Thompson (Chairman)

Councillors:

J E Alcock	R Newmark
S Brunskill	L Rimmer
S Carefoot	G Scott
A Knox	J White
G Mirfin	

In attendance: Director of Community Services, Head of Engineering Services, Head of Financial Services and Principal Surveyor.

322 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors R Bennett, J Hill, M Robinson and R Swarbrick.

323 MINUTES

The Director of Community Services referred to minute 194 and informed Councillors that the public participant had questioned the accuracy of them. They discussed the minute and found it to be an accurate reflection of the meeting.

Several Councillors also made comments upon minute 199 regarding dog fouling on Council owned playing pitches and the making of a dog control order and asked when consultation with Councillors would take place. The Director of Community Services informed them that this had been temporarily delayed because of holidays but would be happening in the near future.

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 July 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

324 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor A Knox declared an interest in agenda item No 7 regarding the Badger Wells culvert capital programme as a County Councillor with a non-prejudicial interest.

325 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

326 REFERENCES FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Director of Community Services informed Committee that at their latest meeting, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had considered the performance indicators relating to refuse collection and the number of missed bins over the

relevant quarter. Their resolution had been to urge Community Committee to ensure that the figures for missed collections be reduced from red to a green indicator as soon as possible. The Director of Community Services informed Committee that this related to a target figure that was exceptionally low and that perhaps it would be more useful to adjust it to a more realistic figure that would still flag up any problems but not be quite so sensitive.

Committee debated the issue surrounding missed bins and the reasons why this happens and were particularly complimentary about the refuse collection service. Issues were again highlighted about acceptable recyclable materials and how to educate residents on putting the right thing in the recycling bins. Concerns were also highlighted about elderly people being able to use the wheeled bins. The Chairman informed Committee that there were mechanisms in place to deal with this issue if necessary.

RESOLVED: That Committee agreed to the target figure being adjusted to a more realistic number.

327 INITIATION OF THE REVIEW OF THE PROVISION AND OPERATION OF PUBLIC TOILETS ACROSS THE BOROUGH

The Director of Community Services submitted a report proposing arrangements for the review of the provision and operation of the Council's public toilets across the borough, the aim of which is to propose a financially sustainable and acceptable level of service in respect of the provision of public conveniences. He informed Committee that the Council currently operate 24 sets of long established public conveniences across the borough which reflects the combination of the predominately rural nature of the borough and its attraction to visitors as a tourism and leisure orientated area. The direct cost of this service in the 2010/11 year was approximately £166,000.

The proposal to set up a small working group of Members to consider several options outlined in the report was suggested, in order to develop an acceptable and sustainable outcome. However, it was pointed out that 'a one size fits all' solution to maintain a service and yet reduce costs was not possible and that sustainable tailored options for each locality would be needed in order to continue the provision of the service and still deliver savings.

The range of issues to be considered would include current service levels, building maintenance and replacement, urban community toilet schemes, rural community toilet schemes, local management and support of Council facilities, increased role of local key holders, opening and closing arrangements, new facilities to cater for new demands and residual and disposal costs. Examples of the various schemes were explained briefly to Committee for their information. Informal approaches had already been made to a number of retailers and business operators who, in principle, had given their support to the introduction of such initiatives.

Committee discussed the various proposals and were supportive of looking at new ideas but were also conscious of the need to keep public conveniences in many of the villages.

RESOLVED: That Committee

1. noted the report and the range of potential options available when considering the provision of Council operated public conveniences across the borough; and
2. agreed that a small working group comprising of three Conservatives and one Liberal Democrat be formed to consider officer proposals in the development of an acceptable and sustainable solution for the provision of the conveniences across the borough that are accessible to the public.

Councillor A Knox declared a non-prejudicial interest in the next item of business as a Lancashire County Councillor.

328 UPDATE ON BADGER WELLS WATER CULVERT, SABDEN

The Director of Community Services submitted a report for Committee's information advising them on the joint arrangements made with Lancashire County Council for the replacement of a section of the Badger Wells water culvert at Sabden. Ribble Valley Borough Council was now completing the necessary design works for the replacement of the collapsed and defective length of culvert and the Lancashire County Council are to subsequently undertake and complete the extensive works at their cost, hopefully to be completed in the current financial year. The County Council would undertake further works in the forthcoming work subject to budgets.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

329 CLITHEROE FOOD FESTIVAL

The Director of Community Services submitted a report informing Committee of the outcome of the Food Festival which was held on Saturday, 13 August 2011. The event had proved a resounding success with over 15,000 people attending the various venues around the town.

Committee were very complimentary about the event and felt that it should become an annual fixture.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

330 GENERAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Director of Community Services submitted a report informing Committee of the progress on leisure and sports development service.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

331 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor White reminded Committee that they had all received a questionnaire regarding their representation on outside bodies and requested that they complete it.

The meeting closed at 7.33pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact John Heap (414461).

Minutes of Planning and Development Committee

Meeting Date: Thursday, 15 September 2011 starting at 6.30pm
Present: Councillor R E Sherras (Chairman)

Councillors:

S Bibby	G Mirfin
S Carefoot	J Rogerson
J Holgate	D Taylor
T Hill	R Thompson
B Hilton	J White
S Knox	

In attendance: Head of Planning Services, Head of Regeneration and Housing, Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Senior Planning Officer.

Also in attendance: Councillors K Hind, S Hirst, S Hore, R Hargreaves, R Newmark, C Ross, M Robinson.

332 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors D Berryman and M Thomas.

333 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 August 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

334 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Holgate declared an interest in relation to the following planning applications:

3/2011/0064/P – 20 Back Cottages, Billington; and
3/2001/0460/P – Land at Whalley New Road, Billington.

Councillor Carefoot declared an interest in planning application 3/2011/0599/P – Land at Water Carefoot and Sons, Blackpool Road, Longridge.

Councillor Thompson declared an interest in planning applications 3/2011/0355/P and 3/2011/0356/P – Wiswell Hall Farm, Wiswell Lane, Wiswell.

Councillor White declared an interest in planning application 3/2011/0402/P – Derby Arms, Chipping Road, Longridge.

335 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

336 REFERENCES FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There were no references from Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

337 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Councillor Holgate declared an interest in the next item and left the meeting.

1. APPLICATION NO: 3/2011/0064/P (GRID REF: SD 372742 435776)
PROPOSED ERECTION OF A TWO STOREY EXTENSION ON THE SIDE
(SOUTH) ELEVATION AT 20 BANK COTTAGES, BILLINGTON

GRANTED subject to the following condition(s):

1. The development must be begun no later than the expiration of three years beginning with the date of this permission.

REASON: Required to be imposed in pursuance to Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

2. This permission shall relate to the proposal as shown on drawing number RV/11/05 except for the references on the drawing to external materials and to a proposed French window and balcony on the side elevation.

REASON: For the avoidance of doubt and to ensure compliance with the submitted plans as amended by the applicant's letter dated 16 August 2011.

3. Precise specifications or samples of walling and roofing materials and details of any surface materials to be used including their colour and texture shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before their use in the proposed works. These details shall include a natural slate roof and either natural stone to all three elevations or natural stone to the front and side elevations with render on the rear elevation. The front elevation shall be coarsed stone and the side elevation (and possibly rear elevation) random stone. In the event of render being used on the rear elevation, details of its finish and colour shall be submitted for approval.

REASON: In order that the Local Planning Authority may ensure that the materials to be used are appropriate to the locality in accordance with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan and the adopted Supplementary Planning Guidance – "Extensions and Alterations to Dwellings".

4. Notwithstanding the details shown on the submitted plan, the balcony and French window on the side elevation are deleted from the proposal. These should be replaced by a window (possibly with Juliette balcony) precise details of which shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the commencement of development.

REASON: To comply with the application as amended by the applicant's letter dated 16 August 2011 and in the interests of visual amenity in order to comply with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

Councillor Ross was given permission to speak on the above application.
Councillor Holgate returned to the meeting.

2. APPLICATION NO: 3/2011/0118/P (GRID REF: SD 368986 439139)
PROPOSED NEW BUILD DINING REFECTORY BUILDING (1425M²) AT
STONYHURST COLLEGE, HURST GREEN, CLITHEROE

The Head of Planning Services advised Committee that the Environment Agency no longer had any objections.

GRANTED subject to the following condition(s):

1. The development must be begun no later than the expiration of three years beginning with the date of this permission.

REASON: Required to be imposed in pursuance to Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

2. Precise specifications and samples of external materials, including their colour and texture, shall have been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority before their use in the proposed works.

REASON: In order to safeguard the setting of the listed building, the character of the registered historic park and garden and to ensure that the materials to be used are appropriate to the locality in accordance with Policies ENV19, ENV21 and G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

3. Prior to commencement of any site works, including delivery of building materials and excavations for foundations or services the Copper Beech tree identified in the Agricultural Survey Report dated 13 August 2011 shall be protected in accordance with the BS5837 [Trees in Relation to Construction] the details of which shall be agreed in writing, implemented in full and inspected by the local planning authority before any site works are begun.

The root protection zone shall be a minimum of 245 square metres [BS5837] shall remain in place until all building work has been completed and all excess materials have been removed from site including soil/spoil and rubble.

During the building works no excavations or changes in ground levels shall take place and no building materials/spoil/soil/rubble shall be stored or redistributed within the protection zone, in addition no impermeable surfacing shall be constructed within the protection zone.

No tree surgery or pruning shall be implemented with out prior written consent, which will only be granted when the local authority is satisfied that it is necessary, will be in accordance with BS3998 for tree work and carried out by an approved arboricultural contractor.

REASON: In order to ensure that any trees affected by development and included in a Tree Preservation Order/Conservation area/considered to be of visual, historic or botanical value are afforded maximum physical protection from the adverse affects of development.

In order to comply with planning policies G1, ENV13 of the District Wide Local Plan.

Councillor Thompson declared an interest in the next item and left the meeting.

3. APPLICATION NO: 3/2011/0355/P & 3/2011/0356/P
(GRID REF: SD 374485 437232)
3/2011/0355/P APPLICATION FOR FULL PERMISSION FOR PROPOSED RENOVATION AND CONVERSION OF A FORMER STONE BARN TOGETHER WITH THE CONVERSION OF AN ATTACHED SMALL STABLE BLOCK AND A DETACHED FORMER MIDDEN. THE PROPOSAL INCLUDES THE SMALL EXTENSION OF A "LINK" BUILDING TO CONNECT THE FORMER MIDDEN TO THE BARN AND AN EXTENSION OF A SINGLE STOREY FORMER SHIPPON BUILDING TO REINSTATE ITS ORIGINAL FOOTPRINT. THE CHANGE OF USE RELATES TO CONVERTING THE FORMER BARN AND BUILDINGS TO BECOME TWO RESIDENTIAL UNITS. WORK ALSO INCLUDES BOUNDARY TREATMENTS AND ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS WITHIN THE SITE.
3/2011/0356/P APPLICATION FOR CONSERVATION AREA CONSENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEMOLITION OF A FORMER LIVERY STABLE ATTACHED TO AN EXISTING BARN –
AT WISWELL HALL FARM, WISWELL LANE, WISWELL

GRANTED subject to the following condition(s):

1. The development must be begun no later than the expiration of three years beginning with the date of this permission.

REASON: Required to be imposed in pursuance to Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

2. The permission shall relate to the development as shown on drawing numbers WHI/492/1264/02 and 03.

REASON: For the avoidance of doubt and to ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the submitted plans.

3. This permission shall relate to the proposed conversion in accordance with the Structural Appraisal Report dated April 2011 that was submitted as part of

the application. Any deviation from the Structural Appraisal Report may need to be the subject of a further planning application.

REASON: To comply with Policies G1 and H16 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan, as the application is for the conversion of the building only.

4. Precise specifications or samples of walling and roofing materials and details of any surface materials to be used including their colour and texture shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before their use in the proposed works.

REASON: In order that the Local Planning Authority may ensure that the materials to be used are appropriate to the locality in accordance with Policies G1, H15, H16 and H17 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

5. All new and replacement door and window, head and cills shall be natural stone to match the existing.

REASON: To comply with Policies G1, H16 and H17 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan to ensure a satisfactory standard of appearance in the interests of visual amenity.

6. All doors and windows shall be in timber and retained as such in perpetuity.

REASON: To comply with Policies G1, H16 and H17 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan to ensure a satisfactory standard of appearance in the interests of visual amenity.

7. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) (No 2) (England) Order 2008 (or any Order revoking or re-enacting that Order) any future extensions, external alterations to the dwellings including any development within their curtilage as defined in the Schedule to the Order Classes A-H shall not be carried out without the formal permission of the Local Planning Authority.

REASON: In order that the Local Planning Authority shall retain effective control over the development to ensure compliance with Policies G1, H16 and H17 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

8. No works shall take place on the site until the applicant, or their agent or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of building recording and analysis. This must be carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which shall have first been submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

REASON: To ensure and safeguard the recording and inspection of matters of archaeological/historical importance associated with the building/site in order to comply with the requirements of Policy HE12.3 of PPS5: Planning for the Historic Environment.

9. In the event that any bats are disturbed or harmed during any part of the development, work shall cease until further advice has been sought from a licensed Ecologist.

REASON: In order to reduce or remove the harmful impact of development on a protected species in accordance with Policy ENV7 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

RECOMMENDATION 2 (3/2011/0356/P): That conservation area consent be GRANTED.

Councillor Thompson returned to the meeting.

4. APPLICATION NO: 3/2011/0379/P (GRID REF: SD 370100 443673)
APPLICATION FOR THE VARIATION OF CONDITION NO. 3 (OCCUPANCY PERIOD) OF PLANNING CONSENT 3/2004/0592P, TO ALLOW NO.1 AND NO.2 SADDLE BARN TO BE USED AS PERMANENT RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION AT SADDLE BARN, CLOUGH BOTTOM FARM, RABBIT LANE, BASHALL EAVES, LANCASHIRE.

GRANTED and that Condition 3 be varied to read:

“The unit of accommodation known as No. 3 Saddle Barn shall not be let to or occupied by any one person or group of persons for a continuous period of longer than 3 months in any one year and in any event shall not be used as a permanent accommodation. A register of all lettings shall be kept and made available to the Local Planning Authority for inspection on an annual basis. The Unit’s known as No. 1 and No. 2 Saddle Barn shall be used as permanent residential accommodation.

REASON: In order to comply with Policies G1, G5, ENV1, RT1 and RT3 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan. The building is located in an area where the Local Planning Authority would not normally be minded to grant the use of building for a permanent residential accommodation.”

Mr Backhouse spoken in favour of the above application.

Councillor White declared an interest in the next item of business and left the meeting.

5. APPLICATION NO: 3/2011/0402/P (GRID REF: SD 360564 439242)
REMOVAL OF CONDITION NO. 2 OF PLANNING PERMISSION 3/1999/0756/P TO ALLOW USE OF THE MANAGERS GUEST HOUSE (KNOWN AS THE DERBY GRANGE) FOR PERMANENT RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION. DERBY ARMS, CHIPPING ROAD, LONGRIDGE

GRANTED and that Condition 2 is removed.
Mr Warne spoke in favour of the above application.

Councillor White returned to the meeting.

6. APPLICATION NO: 3/2011/0406/P(GRID REF: SD 368356 431564)
OUTLINE APPLICATION FOR THE ERECTION OF TWO DETACHED
DWELLINGS ON LAND AT WAVERLEY ROAD, RAMSGREAVE

GRANTED subject to the following condition(s):

1. Application for approval of reserved matters must be made not later than the expiration of three years beginning with the date of this permission and the development must be begun not later than whichever is the later of the following dates.

(a) The expiration of three years from the date of this permission; or

(b) The expiration of two years from the final approval of the reserved matters or, in the case of approval on different dates, the final approval of the last such matter to be approved.

2. The permission shall relate to the development as shown on Plan Reference No's TRI-0668_01, TRI-0668-02 and TRI-0668-03.

REASON: For the avoidance of doubt and to ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the submitted plans.

3. This permission shall be implemented in accordance with the proposal as amended by letter and plan received on the 14 June 2011.

REASON: For the avoidance of doubt since the proposal was the subject of agreed amendments.

4. Detailed plans indicating the design and external appearance of the buildings, landscape and boundary treatment, parking and manoeuvring arrangements of vehicles, including a contoured site plan showing existing features, the proposed slab floor level and road level (called the reserved matters) shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority before development commences.

REASON: To comply with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan and in order that the Local Planning Authority should be satisfied as to the details and because the application was made for outline permission.

5. With reference to any future reserved matters application, and notwithstanding the details submitted with the application, the preferable maximum height of the proposed dwellings on site shall be at 6.9m (one and a half storey construction) only.

REASON: In the interests of visual amenity and the potential impact upon the amenity of the occupiers of the adjacent neighbouring properties, in

accordance with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan and the SPG – “Extensions and Alterations to Dwellings”.

6. The car parking areas shall be surfaced or paved in accordance with a scheme to be approved in writing by the local planning authority, before the occupation of the properties.

REASON: To comply with Policies G1 and T7 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan and to allow for the effective use of the parking areas.

NOTE(S):

1. Development on this site should be drained on separate foul and surface water systems. All foul drainage must be connected to the foul sewer and only uncontaminated surface water should be connected to the surface water system.

However, where there are established combined systems the possibility of deviation from this general policy may be discussed with the Council's Chief Technical Officer.

2. Ribble Valley BC imposes a charge to the developer to cover the administration, and delivery costs in providing wheeled bins to each household within a new build property or provision. Details of current charges are available from the RVBC Contact Centre on 01200 425111.

7. APPLICATION NO: 3/20011/0420/P (GRID REF: SD 371420 433790)
PROPOSED INCREASE IN HEIGHT OF EXISTING ROOF AS APPROVED ON THE PLANNING APPLICATION 3/2007/1139/P TO ALLOW EXTENDED ACCOMMODATION IN THE ROOF SPACE AT THE OAKS, OLD NAB ROAD, WHALLEY OLD ROAD, LANGHO

GRANTED subject to the following condition(s):

1. The development must be begun no later than the expiration of three years beginning with the date of this permission.

REASON: Required to be imposed in pursuance to Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

2. This permission shall relate to the proposal as shown on drawing numbers 7004, 7005 and 7006.

REASON: For the avoidance of doubt and to ensure compliance with the submitted plans.

3. The unit of accommodation shall not be let to or occupied by any one person or group of persons for a continuous period of longer than 3 months in any

one year and in any event shall not be used as a permanent accommodation. A register of such lettings shall be kept and made available to the Local Planning Authority to inspect on an annual basis.

REASON: In order to comply with Policies G1, G5, ENV3, RT1 and RT3 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan. The building is located in an area where the Local Planning Authority would not normally be minded to grant the use of the building for permanent residential accommodation.

4. No first floor windows shall be formed at any time in the eastern elevation of the building unless a further planning permission has first been granted in respect thereof.

REASON: In the interest of the privacy of nearby residents and to comply with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

8. APPLICATION NO: 3/2011/0457/P(GRID REF: SD 360767, 434427)
PROPOSED CHANGE OF USE OF HOLIDAY LET TO PERMANENT RESIDENTIAL USE AT GYPSY COTTAGE, ALSTON LANE, ALSTON, LONGRIDGE

GRANTED subject to the following conditions:

1. This permission must be begun no later than the expiration of three years beginning with the date of this permission.

REASON: Required to be imposed in pursuance to Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (or any Order revoking or re-enacting that Order) any future extensions and/or alterations to the dwelling including any development within the curtilage as defined in Schedule 2 Part 1 Classes A to H shall not be carried out without the formal written consent of the Local Planning Authority.

REASON: In the interests of the amenity of the area in accordance with Policies G1, ENV3 and H17 and of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (or any Order revoking or re-enacting that Order) any future additional structures, hard standing or fences as defined in Schedule 2 Part I Classes E, F and G, and Part II Class A, shall not be carried out without the formal consent of the Local Planning Authority.

REASON: In order that the Local Planning Authority shall retain effective control over the development in accordance with Policy G1 of the Ribble

Valley Districtwide Local Plan and in the interests of safeguarding visual amenity and adjacent residential amenity.

4. All doors and windows shall be in timber and retained as such in perpetuity.

REASON: To comply with Policies G1, H16 and H17 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan to ensure a satisfactory standard of appearance in the interests of visual amenity.

5. All new and replacement door and window head and sills shall be natural stone to match existing.

REASON: To comply with Policies G1, H16 and H17 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan to ensure a satisfactory standard of appearance in the interests of visual amenity.

6. All new and replacement gutters shall be cast iron or aluminium supported on 'drive in' galvanised gutter brackets.

REASON: To comply with Policies G1, H16 and H17 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan to ensure a satisfactory standard of appearance in the interests of visual amenity.

7. The permission shall relate to the development and curtilage as shown on Plan Drawing No 03/06/01.

REASON: For the avoidance of doubt and to ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the submitted plans.

9. APPLICATION NO: 3/2011/0458/P (GRID REF: SD 377156 443935)
OUTLINE APPLICATION FOR THE ERECTION OF ONE DETACHED DWELLING FOLLOWING DEMOLITION OF OUTBUILDING ON LAND ADJACENT TO WHITECROFT, PENDLE AVENUE, CHATBURN

GRANTED subject to the following condition(s):

1. Application for approval of reserved matters must be made not later than the expiration of three years beginning with the date of this permission and the development must be begun not later than whichever is the later of the following dates:

(a) The expiration of three years from the date of this permission; or

(b) The expiration of two years from the final approval of the reserved matters or, in the case of approval on different dates, the final approval of the last such matter to be approved.

2. The permission shall relate to the development as shown on Plan Reference No's MW/WPA/01, MW/WPA/02 and Location Plan.

REASON: For the avoidance of doubt and to ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the submitted plans.

3. Prior to commencement of any site works including delivery of building materials and excavations for foundations or services, any trees to be retained on the site shall be protected in accordance with the BS5837 [Trees in Relation to Construction]. The root protection zone shall be 12 x the DBH and shall remain in place until all building work has been completed and all excess materials have been removed from site including soil/spoil and rubble.

During the building works no excavations or changes in ground levels shall take place and no building materials/spoil/soil/rubble shall be stored or redistributed within the protection zone, in addition no impermeable surfacing shall be constructed within the protection zone.

No tree surgery or pruning shall be implemented with out prior written consent, which will only be granted when the local authority is satisfied that it is necessary, will be in accordance with BS3998 for tree work and carried out by an approved arboricultural contractor.

REASON: In order to ensure that any trees affected by development are afforded maximum physical protection from the adverse affects of development. In order to comply with Planning Policies G1 and ENV3 of the District Wide Local Plan.

4. Detailed plans indicating the design and external appearance of the buildings, landscape and boundary treatment, including a contoured site plan showing existing features, the proposed slab floor level and road level (called the reserved matters) shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority before development commences.

REASON: To comply with Policies G1 and ENV3 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan and in order that the Local Planning Authority should be satisfied as to the details and because the application was made for outline permission.

NOTE(S):

1. Development on this site should be drained on separate foul and surface water systems. All foul drainage must be connected to the foul sewer and only uncontaminated surface water should be connected to the surface water system.

However, where there are established combined systems the possibility of deviation from this general policy may be discussed with the Council's Chief Technical Officer.

2. The granting of planning permission does not entitle a developer to obstruct a right of way and any proposed stopping up or diversion of a right of way should be the subject of an Order under the appropriate Act. Footpath 12 in the parish of Chatburn runs through the site.
3. Ribble Valley BC imposes a charge to the developer to cover the administration, and delivery costs in providing wheeled bins to each household within a new build property or provision. Details of current charges are available from the RVBC Contact Centre on 01200 425111.
4. The applicant should be aware that the Lancashire County Council Highway Authority consider that this development would lead to capacity levels on the existing access.

Mr Gee spoke in favour of the above application.

10. APPLICATION NO: 3/2011/0547/P (GRID REF: SD 375006 442452)
 PROPOSED DEMOLITION OF EXISTING DWELLING AND REPLACEMENT WITH A NEW BUNGALOW WITH 2 BEDROOMS IN THE ROOF SPACE (REVISION OF PREVIOUSLY REFUSED APPLICATION 3/2011/0185/P) AT 24 CHATBURN PARK DRIVE, CLITHEROE

GRANTED subject to the following condition(s):

1. The development must be begun no later than the expiration of three years beginning with the date of this permission.

REASON: Required to be imposed in pursuance to Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

2. This permission shall relate to the proposal as shown on drawing number 4098-03B.

REASON: For the avoidance of doubt and to ensure compliance with the submitted plan.

3. Notwithstanding the submitted materials samples of walling and roofing materials and details of any surface materials to be used including their colour and texture shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before their use in the proposed works.

REASON: In order that the Local Planning Authority may ensure that the materials to be used are appropriate to the locality in accordance with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

4. The two proposed trees shall be planted in the positions shown on drawing number 4098-03B in the first planting season following the completion of the development or the first occupation of the dwelling whichever is the sooner.

If, within a period of 5 years, either or both of the trees are removed, or die, or become seriously damaged or diseased, they shall be replaced by a species of similar size to those originally planted.

REASON: In the interests of visual amenity and to comply with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

5. The integral garage hereby permitted shall be kept permanently available for the parking of a private car. Unless a further planning permission has first been granted, it shall not be converted for use as additional living accommodation nor shall it be used exclusively for storage purposes.

REASON: In the interests of highway safety and to comply with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

Mr Knowles spoke in favour of the above application.
Mrs Lightfoot spoke against the above application.

11. APPLICATION NO: 3/2011/0549 (GRID REF: SD 374845 441245)
SINGLE STOREY EXTENSION TO REAR OF THE EXISTING DWELLING AT
121 HIGHFIELD ROAD, CLITHEROE

The Head of Planning Services advised Committee of a late item regarding a highway objection.

GRANTED subject to the following condition(s):

1. This permission shall relate to Drawing No. 1105/03 entitled 'Existing Plans and Elevations' Drawing No. 1105/04 entitled 'Proposed Floor Plans and Elevations and Sections'.

REASON: For the avoidance of doubt and to ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the submitted plans.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2008 (or any Order revoking or re-enacting that Order) any future extensions and/or alterations to the dwelling including any development within the curtilage as defined in Schedule 2 Part 1 Classes A to H shall not be carried out without the formal written consent of the Local Planning Authority.

REASON: In the interests of the amenity of the area in accordance with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

12. APPLICATION NO: 3/2011/0579/P(GRID REF: SD 363410 436843)
APPLICATION FOR THE RENEWAL OF PLANNING CONSENT 3/2008/0660/P
TO DEMOLISH THE EXISTING BUILDING AND REPLACE IT WITH AN
ENERGY EFFICIENT DWELLING. PROVIDENCE HOUSE, PRESTON ROAD,
RIBCHESTER

GRANTED subject to the following condition(s):

1. The development must be begun not later than the expiration of three years beginning with the date of this permission.

REASON: Required to be imposed pursuant to Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

2. The permission shall relate to the development as shown on Plan Reference No's 1442-90, 1442-101, 1442-01, 1442-02 and 1442-110.

REASON: For the avoidance of doubt and to ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the submitted plans.

3. No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agent or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority.

REASON: To ensure and safeguard the recording of any archaeological deposits, in accordance with PPS5.

4. Precise specifications or samples of walling and roofing materials as well as the solar collectors and photo voltaic panels and details of any surface materials to be used including their colour and texture shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before their use in the proposed works.

REASON: In order that the Local Planning Authority may ensure the materials to be used are visually acceptable in accordance with Policy G1 of the Local Plan.

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (or any Order amending, revoking or re-enacting that Order) any future extensions and/or alterations to the dwelling including any development within the curtilage as defined in Schedule 2 Part 1 Classes A to H shall not be carried out without the formal written consent of the Local Planning Authority.

REASON: In the interests of the amenity of the area in accordance with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

6. The actions included in the mitigation and compensation details A [A1 Summary & Compensation], B [C1 Capture & Exclusion] and C [C1 Bat Roosts] attached to the protected species survey dated the 5th of August 2008 shall be implemented in accordance with pages 1 to 7 inclusively.

In the event that any bats are found or disturbed during any part of the development work shall cease until further advice has been sought from a licensed ecologist.

REASON: To protect the bat population from damaging activities and reduce or remove the impact of development, and to ensure that there are no adverse effects on the favourable status of a bat population before and during the development.

7. Before the access is used for vehicular purposes, any gateposts erected at the access shall be positioned 5m behind the nearside edge of the carriageway and visibility splay fences or walls shall be erected from the gateposts to the existing highway boundary, such splays to be not less than 45° to the centre line of the access. The gates shall open away from the highway. Should the access remain ungated 45° splays shall be provided between the highway boundary and points on either side of the drive measured 5m back from the nearside edge of the carriageway.

REASON: To comply with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan and to permit vehicles to pull clear of the carriageway when entering the site and to assist visibility.

NOTE(S)

1. Ribble Valley BC imposes a charge to the developer to cover the administration, and delivery costs in providing wheeled bins to each household within a new build property or provision. Details of current charges are available from the RVBC Contact Centre on 01200 425111.

Councillor Carefoot declared an interest in the next item of business and left the meeting.

13. APPLICATION NO: 3/2011/0599/P(GRID REF: SD 359946 437274)
PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A 2 STOREY BUILDING CONTAINING 4 NO. 3-BED APARTMENTS TOGETHER WITH ASSOCIATED CAR PARKING, AMENITY SPACE AND EXTERNAL WORKS ON LAND AT WALTER CAREFOOT & SONS, BLACKPOOL ROAD, LONGRIDGE

GRANTED subject to the following condition(s):

1. The development must be begun not later than the expiration of three years beginning with the date of this permission.

REASON: Required to be imposed pursuant to Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

2. The permission shall relate to the development as shown on Plan Reference No's 11008/P100, 11008/P101, 11008/P102, 11008/P103A and 11008/P104.

REASON: For the avoidance of doubt and to ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the submitted plans.

3. All doors and windows shall be in timber and retained as such in perpetuity.

REASON: To comply with Policies G1, H16 and H17 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan to ensure a satisfactory standard of appearance in the interests of visual amenity.

4. Precise specifications and samples of walling and roofing materials and details of any window and door surrounds including materials to be used shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before their use in the proposed works.

REASON: In order that the Local Planning Authority may ensure that the materials to be used are appropriate to the locality in accordance with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (or any Order amending, revoking or re-enacting that Order) any future extensions and/or alterations to the dwelling including any development within the curtilage as defined in Schedule 2 Part 1 Classes A to H and Part 2, Class A, shall not be carried out without the formal written consent of the Local Planning Authority.

REASON: In the interests of the amenity of the area in accordance with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

6. Notwithstanding the details proposed on the submitted plans, the window on the north facing elevation of the new building, at first floor level, shall be obscure glazed to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority and remain in that manner in perpetuity.

REASON: In order to protect nearby residential amenity as required by with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

7. Before the units hereby permitted become occupied, the four new car parking areas indicated on the approved plan reference number 11008/P102 shall be completed and clearly marked out for the dedicated use of the new units, in perpetuity.

REASON: To comply with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan to ensure the effective use of parking areas.

8. No part of the development, hereby approved, shall be occupied or opened for trading until the approved scheme referred to in Condition 7 has been constructed and completed in accordance with the scheme details.

REASON: To comply with Policies G1 and T7 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan and in order that the traffic generated by the development does not exacerbate unsatisfactory highway conditions in advance of the completion of the development.

NOTE(S)

1. The applicant is reminded of the need, when drawing up details for any subsequent "approval of details", to take account of the needs of making the development accessible to and usable by disabled people. Your attention is particularly drawn to the requirements of Part M of the Building Regulations 1985 which establishes requirements for satisfactory access to parts of certain buildings and, in some circumstances, to provide suitable sanitary accommodation.
2. Ribble Valley BC imposes a charge to the developer to cover the administration, and delivery costs in providing wheeled bins to each household within a new build property or provision. Details of current charges are available from the RVBC Contact Centre on 01200 425111.

Councillor Carefoot returned to the meeting.

14. APPLICATION NO: 3/2010/0719/P (GRID REF: SD 372930 441082)
PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OF UP TO 270 DWELLINGS,
DOCTOR'S SURGERY, LANDSCAPE, OPEN SPACE, HIGHWAYS AND
ASSOCIATED WORKS AT LAND OFF HENTHORN ROAD, CLITHEROE

REFUSED for the following reasons:

1. The proposal is contrary to National Policy in the form of PPS1 and PPS3 in that the development due to its isolated location distant from a primary route network, lack of cycling or sufficient pedestrian access to the town centre and its infrastructure would lead to the proposal being contrary to the principles of sustainable development. The proposal would also have a detrimental impact on the traffic infrastructure of Clitheroe and key traffic junctions of Henthorn Road, Woone Lane, Eshton Terrace and the railway crossing which would lead to the proposal being contrary to the principles of sustainable development.
2. Given the site's relationship to the primary route network the development is considered contrary to the principles of sustainable development in that it fails to provide sufficient pedestrian and cycle linkages back to the town centre facilities or have adequate public transport facilities and as such would

increase reliance on the use of the private motor car be contrary to Policy T1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

Councillor Robinson was given permission to speak on the above application.
Councillor Hargreaves as given permission to speak on the above application.
Mr Twigg spoke in favour of the above application.
Mr Butterworth spoke against the above application.

Councillor Holgate declared an interest in the next item of business and left the meeting.

15. APPLICATION NO: 3/2011/0460/P (GRID REF: SD 372719 435670)
PROPOSED OUTLINE APPLICATION FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT (34 DWELLINGS) REVISED PROPOSAL FOLLOWING REFUSAL OF APPLICATION 3/2010/0751/P AT LAND AT WHALLEY NEW ROAD, BILLINGTON

That the application be DEFERRED AND DELEGATED to the Director of Community Services for approval following the satisfactory completion of a Section 106 Agreement (in the terms detailed above in this report) and subject to the following conditions:

1. Application for approval of reserved matters must be made not later than the expiration of 3 years beginning with the date of this permission and the development must be begun not later than whichever is the latter of the following dates:
 - (a) the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission; or
 - (b) the expiration of 2 years from final approval of the reserved matters, or in the case of approval of different dates, the final approval of the last such matter to be approved.

REASON: In order that the Local Planning Authority shall be satisfied as to the details and because the application was made for outline permission and comply with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

2. Detailed plans indicating the design and external appearance of the buildings, landscape and boundary treatment, parking and manoeuvring arrangements of vehicles, including a contoured site plan showing existing features, the proposed slab floor level and road level (called the reserved matters) shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority before development commences.

REASON: To comply with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan and in order that the Local Planning Authority should be satisfied as to the details and because the application was made for outline permission.

3. This outline planning permission shall be read in conjunction with the Section 106 Agreement dated ...

REASON: For the avoidance of doubt as the application is subject of an Agreement.

4. Prior to commencement of development a scheme identifying how a minimum of 10% of the energy requirements generated by the development will be achieved by renewable energy production methods, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall then be provided in accordance with the approved details prior to occupation of the development and thereafter retained.

REASON: In order to encourage renewable energy and to comply with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

5. No development approved by this permission shall be commenced until a scheme for the disposal of foul and surface waters has been approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Such a scheme shall be constructed and completed in accordance with the approved plans.

REASON: To ensure a satisfactory means of drainage in accordance with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

6. No development approve by this permission shall be commenced until a scheme for the provision and implementation of a surface water regulation system has been approved by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall be completed in accordance with the approved plans.

REASON: To reduce the increased risk of flooding and to comply with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

7. Prior to commencement of development a landscape management plan including long term design objectives, timing of the works, management responsibilities and maintenance schedules for all landscaped areas (other than within curtilages of buildings) including the play area shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The management plan shall also provide precise details of all play equipment and its maintenance and indicate a timescale when the play space shall be provided and made available for use. The landscape management plan shall be carried out in accordance with the details so approved.

REASON: In the interests of residential and visual amenity in accordance with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

8. The plans and particulars submitted in accordance with condition 2 above shall include an Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan (including a tree protection monitoring schedule) detailing special mitigation construction issues in accordance with BS5837. The development shall thereafter be carried out in strict accordance with the procedures, working

methods and protection measures so identified and approved unless agreed otherwise in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

REASON: In order to ensure that any trees affected by development and included in a Tree Preservation Order/considered to be of visual, historic or botanical value are afforded maximum physical protection from the adverse effects of development in accordance with Policies G1 and ENV13 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

9. The new estate road/access between the site and Whalley New Road shall be constructed in accordance with the Lancashire County Council Specification for Construction of Estate Roads to at least base course level before any development takes place within the site.

REASON: To comply with Policies G1, T1, T2 and T3 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan and to ensure that satisfactory access is provided to the site before the development hereby permitted becomes operative.

10. Prior to the commencement of construction works, facilities shall be provided within the site by which means the wheels of vehicles may be cleaned before leaving the site, the wheel cleaning facilities to be retained throughout the life of development works.

REASON: To comply with Policy G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan and to avoid the possibility of the public highway being affected by the deposit of mud and/or loose materials thus creating a potential hazard to road users.

11. This permission, insofar as it relates to matters of access to the site from Whalley New Road shall be implemented in accordance with the proposal as detailed in drawing No T1269/02 dated 6 December 2010 submitted with the application. The visibility splays shown on that drawing shall be provided prior to the first occupation of any dwelling on the site and shall, thereafter, be retained in perpetuity.

REASON: For the avoidance of doubt to clarify which plans are relevant.

12. The submission of reserved matters in respect of layout, scale, appearance and landscaping and implementation of development shall be carried out in substantial accordance with the Design and Access Statement submitted with the application.

REASON: For the avoidance of doubt to define the scope of this permission.

NOTE(S):

1. This consent requires the construction, improvement or alteration of an access to the public highway. Under the Highways Act 1980 Section 184 the County Council as Highway Authority must specify the works to be carried out. Only the Highway Authority or a contractor approved by the Highway

Authority can carry out these works and therefore before any access works can start you must contact the Environment Directorate for further information by telephoning Area Surveyor East 01254 823831 or writing to the Area Surveyor East, Lancashire County Council, Area Office, Riddings Lane, Whalley, Clitheroe BB7 9RW quoting the planning application number.

2. In consideration of condition 4 on renewables the Council would have some regard to energy efficient measures used on buildings.
3. The applicant is advised to pay regard to the advice relating to Sustainable Drainage systems contained in the letter dated 4 July 2011 from the Environment Agency.
4. Public footpath No 32 that abuts the site shall not be obstructed, closed or diverted during the proposed development.

Mr Gee spoke in favour of the above application.
Councillor Holgate returned to the meeting.

ITEMS DELEGATED TO DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES UNDER SCHEME OF DELEGATED POWERS AND

The following proposals have been determined by the Director of Community Services under delegated powers:

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APPLICATIONS APPROVED

<u>Plan No:</u>	<u>Proposal:</u>	<u>Location:</u>
3/2010/0525/P	Application to discharge of condition no's 5 (materials), condition no. 6 (ground investigation), condition no. 8 (door and window, head and sills), condition no. 11 (archaeology) and condition no. 13 (renewables) of planning consent 3/2009/0646/P	Victoria Street Longridge
3/2011/0086/P	Change of use from a dwellinghouse (Class C3) to a hair/beauty salon (Class A1)	35 King Street Whalley
3/2011/0188/P	Single storey side extension	10 Highmoor Park Clitheroe
3/2011/0253/P	Single storey to the restaurant and extension of car park	The Avenue Café Bar and Restaurant The Avenue, Brockhall Village, Langho
3/2011/0274/P	Proposed Orangery to replace existing conservatory. Re-submission of planning application 3/2010/0941	Bridge House 2 King Street Whalley

<u>Plan No:</u>	<u>Proposal:</u>	<u>Location:</u>
3/2011/0279/P	Proposed riding arena	Paddock 1 Northcote Road, Old Langho
3/2011/0314/P	Erection of new dwelling on land adjacent	Orchard House Slaidburn Road Grindleton
3/2011/0342/P	Part retrospective for proposed single storey rear extension	7 Hawthorne Place Clitheroe
3/2011/0358/P	Replacement of two-storey rear extension and conversion of attached garage/store to provide annex accommodation (Re-submission of 3/2011/0060).	Rose Cottage Blackburn Road Ribchester
3/2011/0404/P	Application for change of use from scrap yard/vehicle dismantlers to haulage operator	Unit 5b Salthill Industrial Estate Lincoln Way, Clitheroe
3/2011/0410/P	Application for the discharge of condition no. 4 and condition no. 5, and part-discharge of condition no. 2 of planning consent 3/2007/1059P	Abbey Cottage Sawley
3/2011/0411/P	Application for the discharge of condition no. 4 and condition no. 5, and part-discharge of condition no. 2 of planning consent 3/2007/1011P	Abbey Cottage Sawley
3/2011/0414/P	Proposed erection of a detached garage with a granny annex	Red Rock Sabden Road Simonstone
3/2011/0418/P	Proposed two-storey side extension together with loft conversion to existing roof void	Newshams Farm Stoneygate Lane Ribchester
3/2011/0419/P	Single storey extension	Vale House Vale House Close Whalley
3/2011/0433/P	Proposed second storey extension to the side and a proposed two-storey extension to the rear	47 Rogersfield Langho
3/2011/0435/P	Alterations to convert the existing five-bedroom dwelling back into one three-bedroom cottage and one two-bedroom cottage	Fruit Vale Cottage Grindleton Road West Bradford
3/2011/0444/P	Change of Use from Industrial Use to Haulage Operator	T&J Haulage Ltd, Unit 6, Lincoln Way Clitheroe
3/2011/0452/P	Change of use from first floor flat (Class C3) to shop (Class A1)	17-17A Accrington Road, Whalley

<u>Plan No:</u>	<u>Proposal:</u>	<u>Location:</u>
3/2011/0454/P	Fascia sign with the shop name and telephone number and illuminated as existing	23 King Street Clitheroe
3/2011/0455/P	Proposed demolition of the Garden Room and construction of a two-storey rear extension	46 Moorland Crescent Clitheroe
3/2011/0464/P	New agricultural building for the storage of manure	Nu Farm Chipping Road Chaigley
3/2011/0466/P	Change of use of existing dwelling to form 2no. self-contained flats	142 Woone Lane Clitheroe
3/2011/0474/P	Change of use of land extending amenity space for the purpose of rehabilitation of injured and infirm police officers. Works to include levelling of existing land, construction of footpaths, creation of garden areas, erection of gazebo and water fountain	Northwest Police Benevolent Fund St Michaels Lodge Northcote Road Langho
3/2011/0476/P	Two externally illuminated fascia signs	E. H. Booth & Co. Ltd Berry Lane, Longridge
3/2011/0479/P	Proposed extension/Orangery to rear of property	18 Sunnyside Avenue Wilpshire
3/2011/0483/P	Application to renew planning consent 3/2009/0559 for the temporary change of use for part of an existing agricultural building for the manufacture of concrete base blocks for a further two years	Pendle View Farm Tosside
3/2011/0484/P	Proposed demolition of existing dwelling and construction of a replacement dwelling including associated external works (amendments to approved scheme ref: 3/2009/0837)	Greenfields Neddy Lane Billington
3/2011/0485/P	Proposed demolition of the existing lean-to and construction of a two and single storey side extension	Hanson's Farm Eaves Hall Lane West Bradford
3/2011/0489/P	Installation of photovoltaic solar panels on the southern roof slope of an existing agricultural building	Grange Farm Parsonage Road Blackburn
3/2011/0493/P	Alterations and extension to existing dwelling to form kitchen/dining room, garage and chimney. Removal of existing outrigger and garage block	Yew Tree Farm 49 Mellor Brow Mellor

<u>Plan No:</u>	<u>Proposal:</u>	<u>Location:</u>
3/2011/0494/P	Proposed solar pv installation to five areas	The Sidings Business Park Whalley
3/2011/0496/P	Replacement of conservatory with a porch and removal of utility room and re-building to rear. Re-submission of 3/2011/0287	Stephen Moor Lodge Tosside
3/2011/0507/P	Proposed single storey rear extension following demolition of lean-to passage	Isaacs Farmhouse Parsonage Lane Chipping
3/2011/0518/P	Proposed demolition of the existing uPVC Conservatory and construction of a replacement and extended Orangery	The Coach House Clitheroe Road Waddington
3/2011/0522/P	Application for the discharge of condition no. 2 (materials) of planning consent 3/2010/0470/P	Samlesbury Aerodrome Myerscough Road Balderstone
3/2011/0523/P	Application for a non-material amendment to planning permission 3/2010/0795/P to allow the installation of 2no 1570mm x 1980mm x 100mm solar thermal collectors to be located on the south elevation and the installation of 12m ² photovoltaic panels to the south elevation	Wellsprings House Woodlands Drive Whalley
3/2011/0525/P	Replacement of existing flat roofed garage with pitched roof garage incorporating utility room and cloakroom	29 Whalley Road Wilpshire
3/2011/0538/P	Proposed replacement dwelling at Oak Bank Farm to include a detached garage/annex and demolition of the existing dwelling and part of the existing detached annex (Re-submission of application 3/2010/0980/P)	Oak Bank Farm Stoneygate Lane Ribchester
3/2011/0551/P	Non-material amendment to planning consent office building at Station Hotel, Station Road to incorporate various design changes including the omission of a handrail to second floor balcony, continuation of a zinc wall to form parapet and reduction of extent of roof lights and repositioning of plant room on north elevation	land adjacent to the Station Hotel Station Road Clitheroe

<u>Plan No:</u>	<u>Proposal:</u>	<u>Location:</u>
3/2011/0570/P	Application for a non-material amendment to planning consent 3/2009/0443, to allow construction of a larger conservatory, level access to the rear patio and external door to the study	11 Pasture Grove Calderstones Park Whalley
3/2011/0636/P	Non-material amendment to planning consent 3/2011/0257 to increase the highest point of the roof	2 Valley Terrace Simonstone Lane Simonstone

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APPLICATIONS REFUSED

<u>Plan No:</u>	<u>Proposal:</u>	<u>Location:</u>	<u>Reasons for Refusal</u>
3/2010/0983/P	Application for the removal of condition no12 (occupancy) of planning permissions 3/1998/0587/P and 3/1998/0588/P to allow holiday lets to be used as permanent residential dwellings	Hawk and Owl Cottages Crimpton Farm Easington Road Cow Ark	Policy G1 - Development Control, Policy G5 - Settlement Strategy, Policy ENV1 - Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Policy H2 - Dwellings in the Open Countryside, Policy H15 - Building Conversions - Location, Policy H17 - Building Conversions - Design Matters, Policy H23 - Removal of Holiday Let Conditions and PPS3 - Housing - unsustainable location for the creation of two dwellings with detrimental effects upon the appearance and character of the locality.

<u>Plan No:</u>	<u>Proposal:</u>	<u>Location:</u>	<u>Reasons for Refusal</u>
3/2011/0011/P	Installation of PV Solar panels on the roof to the rear of the property	North Barn Back Lane Grindleton	G1, ENV1, ENV16 & H17 – Detrimental visual impact upon the appearance of the barn to the visual detriment of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Grindleton Conservation Area.
3/2011/0472/P	Extensions to create new living space and a double garage	no1 The Walled Garden Woodfold Park Mellor	The proposal would be unduly harmful to the character and significance of Woodfold Park historic park and garden and the setting of Woodfold Hall because of the disruption to important views from the south and the symmetry and simplicity of design of the existing dwellings within the historic walled garden. This would be contrary to Policies ENV21, ENV19 and G1 of the Ribble Valley Districtwide Local Plan.

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SECTION 106 APPLICATIONS

<u>Plan No:</u>	<u>Proposal/Location:</u>	<u>Progress:</u>
	NONE	

341 CERTIFICATE OF LAWFULNESS FOR A PROPOSED USE OR DEVELOPMENT

<u>Plan No:</u>	<u>Proposal:</u>	<u>Location:</u>
3/2011/0421/P	Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a proposed boundary wall, gated access and addition of wooden fence	Smithy Cottage Tosside
3/2011/0428/P	Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for 16no. Solar P.V panels on roof of dwelling	Syke House 1 Sawley Road Grindleton
3/2011/0500/P	Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for the use of land at Plantation Farm, Chipping Road, Chaigley, for the siting of a static caravan that has been used as permanent residential accommodation for over 10 years	Plantation Farm Chipping Road Chaigley

342 REFUSAL OF CERTIFICATE OF LAWFULNESS FOR A PROPOSED USE OR DEVELOPMENT

<u>Plan No:</u>	<u>Proposal:</u>	<u>Location:</u>
3/2011/0521/P	Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a proposed hipped pitched roof to replace the flat roof on the existing two storey side extension	8 Chatburn Avenue Clitheroe
3/2011/0571/P	Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for the installation of a 'Solartwin' solar roof panel on the South facing hipped gable-end roof area	3 Bright's Close Newton

343 TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT) ORDER 1995 PARTS 6 & 7 PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY BUILDINGS AND ROADS PRIOR APPROVAL **NOT** REQUIRED

<u>Plan No:</u>	<u>Proposal:</u>	<u>Location:</u>
3/2011/0600N	Steel framed agricultural building	Bolton Peel Farm Bolton-by-Bowland

344 APPLICATIONS WITHDRAWN

<u>Plan No:</u>	<u>Proposal:</u>	<u>Location:</u>
3/2011/0461/P	Dormer to rear roof slope clad with natural blue slate with a pitched roof	44 Padiham Road Sabden
3/2011/0532/P	Proposed re-pointing of bridge to maintain structural integrity and safety for use as a highway bridge	Ribchester Bridge Ribchester

345 APPEALS UPDATE

<u>Application No:</u>	<u>Date Received:</u>	<u>Applicant/Proposal/Site:</u>	<u>Type of Appeal:</u>	<u>Date of Inquiry/Hearing:</u>	<u>Progress:</u>
3/2010/0635 D	18.1.11	Mr Steve Burke Proposed provision of a pair of handrails to the vestry door in the east elevation of the church At Mary & All Saints Church Church Lane, Whalley	WR	-	APPEAL ALLOWED 1.8.11
3/2010/0820 O	28.3.11	Co-Operative Estates Outline application for a maximum of 80 residential units at land off Riddings Lane with access from Hayhurst Road with all other matters reserved Land to the north of Riddings Lane, Whalley	-	Inquiry held – 4 & 5 Aug 2011	AWAITING DECISION
3/2010/1010 D	3.5.11	Ribble Valley Homes Ltd Scheme to provide Juliet balconies to flats in sheltered housing scheme, involving removal of existing windows and creating large opening to house inward opening patio doors. 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32 & 33 Showley Court, Clayton-le-Dale	WR	-	APPEAL ALLOWED/ DISMISSED 3.8.11

<u>Application No:</u>	<u>Date Received:</u>	<u>Applicant/Proposal/Site:</u>	<u>Type of Appeal:</u>	<u>Date of Inquiry/Hearing:</u>	<u>Progress:</u>
3/2010/0923 D	7.6.11	Shire Hotels Ltd Replacement of existing window with glazed external doors to restaurant The Millstone Hotel Church Lane, Mellor	WR	—	APPEAL ALLOWED 26.8.11
3/2011/0120 D	22.6.11	Mr John Rowley Two-storey extension with balcony to form bedroom and dining room Blue Trees, Copster Green	Householder appeal	—	APPEAL ALLOWED 1.8.11
3/2011/0063 D	28.6.11	Mr Andrew Murray Proposed construction of new mezzanine space in roof void to provide seated area with window to front roof, dormer window with sliding/folding door to rear, complete with guard rail Copper Beech 6 The Drive Brockhall Village	Householder appeal	—	APPEAL DISMISSED 27.7.11
3/2011/0183 D	4.7.11	Mr Paul Haythornthwaite Double extension to side of property (Resubmission of application 3/2010/0619P) 26 Mearley Syke, Clitheroe	Householder appeal	—	APPEAL ALLOWED 11.8.11
3/2011/0068 D	11.7.11	Mr Anthony P Sant Proposed garage and loft conversion with dormer windows to front and rear, porch and an increase in roof height 5 Lakeland Drive Calderstones Park Whalley	Householder appeal	—	APPEAL DISMISSED 22.8.11

<u>Application No:</u>	<u>Date Received:</u>	<u>Applicant/Proposal/Site:</u>	<u>Type of Appeal:</u>	<u>Date of Inquiry/Hearing:</u>	<u>Progress:</u>
3/2011/0208 D	18.7.11	Mr Mark & Victoria Haston Proposed construction of porch extension Carr Meadow Barn Carr Lane, Balderstone	Householder appeal	–	APPEAL ALLOWED 24.8.11

346 PROPOSED ARTICLE 4 DIRECTION CONFIRMATION – 1-5 THE GROVE, CHIPPING

The Director of Community Services submitted a report seeking Committee's agreement to the confirmation of an Article 4 Direction restricting some residential permitted development rights at 1-5 The Grove, Chipping.

RESOLVED: That Committee confirm the Article 4 Direction relating to 1-5 The Grove, Chipping, in an unaltered form.

347 LISTING OF HOUGHER FALL BARN, DUTTON

The Director of Community Services submitted a report informing Committee of the Secretary of State's recent addition of Hougher Fall Barn, Dutton, to the list of Buildings of Special Architectural and Historic Interest. He informed Committee that Hougher Fall Barn is subject to a current planning application for redevelopment. Having inspected the historic barn and found it to have three reasonably complete cruck frames, an application for consideration of the building for addition to the Secretary of State's list of Buildings of Special Architectural and Historic Interest was subsequently made to English Heritage. They had since confirmed that on its recommendation the Minister for Tourism and Heritage had decided to add Hougher Fall Farm Cruck Barn to the list of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest at Grade II.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

348 APPEALS

- (a) 3/2010/1010/P – Provision of Juliette balcony to flats in sheltered housing scheme, Showley Court, Clayton-le-Dale. Appeal dismissed.
- (b) 3/2011/0183/P – Proposed two storey side extension at 26 Mearley Syke, Clitheroe. Appeal allowed with conditions.
- (c) 3/2010/0635/P – Provision of handrails at the vestry door in the east elevation of the Church at St Mary's and All Saints Church, Church Lane, Whalley. Appeal allowed with conditions.
- (d) 3/2011/0068/P – Garage and loft conversion with dormer windows to front and rear, porch and an increase in roof height a 5 Lakeland Drive, Calderstones Park, Whalley. Appeal dismissed.

- (e) 3/2011/0202/P – Removal of conservatory, part demolition of attached garage, erection of two storey front and side extensions, erection of single storey rear extension with green roof function, increase in pitch roof to accommodate for loft conversion, two dormers to southeast elevation, solar photovoltaic integrated tile panels to southeast elevation, internal alterations and additional parking area to front of house at 1 Alston Court, Lower Lane, Longridge. Appeal allowed.
- (f) 3/2011/0208/P – Construction of porch extension at Carr Meadow Barn, Carr Lane, Balderstone. Appeal allowed.
- (g) 3/2010/0923/P – Replacement of existing window with glazed external doors to restaurant at The Millstone Hotel, Church Lane, Mellor. Appeal allowed.

The meeting closed at 9.12pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact John Heap (414461).

Minutes of Health & Housing Committee

Meeting Date: Thursday, 22 September 2011 starting at 6.30pm
Present: Councillor S Hirst (Chairman)

Councillors:

C Bartrop	K Hind
S Bibby	J Holgate
S Brunskill	R Newmark
R Elms	L Rimmer
R Hargreaves	M Robinson
B Hilton	

In attendance: Chief Executive, Head of Environmental Health Services and Strategic Housing Officer.

349 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors M Ranson and C Ross.

350 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The Chairman informed Committee with reference to minute 222 that the Head of Planning Services would attend the November meeting to address them about affordable housing. Both Councillor Hind and Councillor Robinson made reference also to affordable housing issues.

351 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

352 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

353 RIBBLE VALLEY HOMES UPDATE

Christine Grimshaw, Chief Executive at Ribble Valley Homes, gave Committee a brief update on the progress of Ribble Valley Homes. She reminded Committee that the transfer of houses from the Borough Council to Ribble Valley Homes, had been based on maintaining high levels of service and because tenants were unhappy with the Borough Council. Ribble Valley Homes had done more than promised in their first three years of operation and Christine highlighted the service improvements and the performance improvements that had been made. She remarked that tenant satisfaction continued to be a challenge and that a survey had been done recently that would be followed up on. 14 affordable units would be provided by the end of March 2012 with a further 34 HCA funded

schemes having been confirmed. She highlighted the key local issues and policy drivers for 2011-2016. The Chairman thanked Christine Grimshaw for her informative progress report.

354 REFERENCES FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Chairman reported that performance indicators EH1 and EH2 had been highlighted by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as issues that needed consideration by the Health and Housing Committee. The Head of Environmental Health Services explained that although the statistics might look to be of concern, they must be balanced with what was achieved during last year. He referred to the various factors that had affected performance in the last year including two accidents, two prosecutions plus long term absence and a frozen vacancy.

The Chairman suggested that it might be an idea for Overview and Scrutiny Committee to examine some of the indicators.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

355 FOOD SERVICE PLAN 2011-2012

The Chief Executive submitted a report asking Committee to consider and approve the Ribble Valley Borough Council Food Service Plan for 2011-2012. The Head of Environmental Services drew Members' attention, in particular to the contents of part 7 in the report, which reviewed the performance of the service against last year's performance plan and also set out the proposed areas for improvement in the forthcoming year. He informed Committee that there had been no complaints received against the delivery of the service. He also made reference to the implementation of the national Food Hygiene Rating Scheme within the borough.

RESOLVED: That Committee

1. approve the Ribble Valley Borough Council Food Service Plan 2011-2012 for implementation in the current year;
2. note the satisfactory performance in relation to the identified areas for improvement in the previous year's food safety plan; and
3. reconfirm the continuing priority of food premises inspection for environmental health service provision.

356 GRANT POLICY REVIEW

The Chief Executive submitted a report which provided Committee with a comprehensive document that details all the grant initiatives available to households in the borough. The document set out the information in one policy and identified how the grants matched the key housing strategy objectives of the Council. The Housing Strategy Officer highlighted the seven types of grants available which included landlord tenant grants, renewable energy grants, mandatory disabled facilities grants, discretionary disabled facilities grants,

repossession prevention loans, home energy efficiency grants and home safety grants.

Councillors asked for clarification on various aspects of the grants.

RESOLVED: That Committee accept the proposed private sector housing grant policy for 2011 to 2014 and agreed that the policy be reviewed annually and is subject to budget approval.

357 DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT UPDATE

The Chief Executive submitted a report updating Committee on the investigation into the reduction of disabled facilities grant referrals. The Housing Strategy Officer reminded Committee that at the last meeting, they were informed of the reduced number of recommendations received from the occupational therapist and the impact that this was having on an underspend of the disabled facilities grant budget. This had now been investigated and a meeting had been held with the occupational therapy manager, senior occupational therapist from Clitheroe Hospital and a Social Services occupational therapist for Ribble Valley. They were aware of the reduction in workload and felt that this was due to a number of issues. These included the introduction of fair access to care services in April 2011 which had resulted in the criteria for eligibility for disabled facilities grants being changed in that once people are assessed and their needs categorised into bands – mild, moderate, substantial and critical, only the substantial and critical bands were now considered eligible, which had resulted in an overall reduction of the numbers of households being entitled for grant aid. Another change to the service had been the increased screening prior to the occupational therapies assessment. The customer service team at Social Services take all enquiries and these are then passed into an intake team, who again screen the enquiry to establish the banding of the person's need. This had resulted in less eligibility where applicants had been signposted as to where they could buy appropriate aids initially.

Other district councils had raised similar concerns and it was understood that Preston City Council and Lancaster City Council had requested that they be given the addresses of the houses banded in moderate need so that they could consider making provision for adaptation for these households through the disabled facilities grant route.

RESOLVED: That Committee instruct the Chief Executive to investigate the opportunity for Ribble Valley to be included in the pilot scheme with Preston and Lancaster to offer DFG support to applicants in moderate need and to report back to this Committee with the project proposal as appropriate.

358 INTRODUCTION OF NEW CHARGES FOR PEST CONTROL SERVICE

The Chief Executive submitted a report asking Committee to consider and approve the introduction of new charges for pest control services. The Head of Environmental Health services informed Committee that as part of the Council's need to find substantial savings over the next two years, a report had recently been presented to the Council's Corporate Management Team, which included proposals to extend charging for pest control services within the borough. He

had reviewed the various types of issues dealt with by the pest control service and considered that the introduction of charges for treating rats and mice could be introduced. He did however point out that in certain circumstances, a sensible pragmatic approach would continue to be adopted so that rodents did not become a more serious problem in the long term. He also informed Committee that by the introduction of a charging regime and its operation over the next few months, this would enable him to have a more informed judgement as to the ultimate replacement of the recently retired part time pest control officer.

RESOLVED: That Committee approve the new fees and charges to be introduced from 1 October 2011 as follows:

- Single standard charge of £20 be introduced for rat and mouse treatments.
- Call out charge of £10 where service requested for unspecified reason.
- The charge for insect treatments be increased from £32.50 to £40.
- That treatments for public health insects – cockroaches, bed bugs continue to be undertaken free of charge.
- 50% concession for residents eligible for state pension, housing or disability benefits.
- 'Out of Hours' charges to be doubled.

359 EXERCISE WATERGATE

The Chief Executive submitted a report for Committee's information giving them an overview and summary of Exercise Watergate, which had taken place on 5 July 2011.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

360 STRATEGIC HOUSING WORKING GROUP

The notes of the Strategic Housing Working Group were submitted for Committee's information. The Chairman reminded Committee of the status of this group in that it was not there to make decisions but only as a policy steer and that it usually met to respond to queries made by potential developers or as consultees of the planning department. It acted in a purely advisory capacity.

361 MINUTES OF THE HEALTH SUB-GROUP

The notes of the Health Sub Group held on 28 July 2011 and 6 September 2011 were circulated for Committee's information.

Councillor Bridget Hilton gave a brief update on the public health reforms.

362 GENERAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Chief Executive submitted a report for Committee's information which included a flood protection grant update, Clitheroe Market, transfer of private sewers update, employment of environmental health consultant – food safety, intention to relocate underused dog waste bins and Drinking Water 2009 Northern Region Report.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

363 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That by virtue of the fact that the following items of business be an Exempt Information Under Category 7 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be now excluded from the meeting.

364 GRANTS

The Chief Executive submitted details of seven disabled facilities grants that had been approved. The report also outlined a list of grants approved for the financial year 2011/2012.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

365 AFFORDABLE HOUSING UPDATE

The Chief Executive submitted a report for Committee's information on the affordable housing schemes in progress and proposed in the borough. These had been split into pre-application and applications submitted categories.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

Councillors attending the meeting were given a tour of the Ribble Valley Homes offices.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Marshal Scott (414400).

Minutes of Policy & Finance Committee

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 27 September 2011, starting at 6.30pm
Present: Councillor E M H Ranson (Chairman)

Councillors:

J Hill	R E Sherras
T Hill	D T Smith
K Hind	R J Thompson
S Hirst	N C Walsh
A Knox	A Yearling
J Rogerson	

In attendance: Chief Executive, Director of Resources and Solicitor.

366 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors R Bennett and K Horkin.

367 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 July 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

368 MATTERS ARISING

Minute 249, Review of Contact Centre Equipment – The Director of Resources gave Members an update in relation to the Working Group who had met and had chosen the McFayane/Firmstep options; the new contracts would come into operation at the end of November 2011 and would achieve considerable savings.

369 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

370 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no public participation.

371 REFERENCES FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There were no references from Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

372 PERFORMANCE REWARD GRANTS

Committee considered a report seeking approval of the Ribble Valley Strategic Partnership Board's recommendation on the allocation of funds derived from this borough's Lancashire Local Area Agreement (LAA) Performance Reward Grant (PRG) 2011/12 allocation and the discounted second home Council Tax for 2011/12.

Members were reminded of the Government's savings package which had included savings of LAA reward grant of £125m nationally. The announcement had stated that area would receive 50% of the reward achieved on any target. Members were reminded that areas with LAAs that ran from 2006 to 2009 including the Lancashire Partnership had already submitted their claims, 505 of which had been paid in the last financial year. The whole claim for the Lancashire Partnership was £19.1m, of which 50%, £9.5m was received in 2009/10. It was agreed by the Lancashire Partnership that 40% of the LAA award grant would be allocated to the Lancashire Partnership with the remaining 60% divided equally between the 12 district LSPs. Ribble Valley received the first tranche which amounted to £489,000. The final amount payable to Ribble Valley in 2011/12 would be £169,000. This money had now been released.

The Chief Executive referred to a letter which had been circulated from the Lancashire County Council who had recently met to decide how their performance reward grant funding should be allocated in future in view of the fact that the Lancashire Partnership and the Public Services Board had ceased to operate. It had been agreed that the grant of £5,179,000 should be brought back into LCC accounts and that these funds should be used to support the development of shared services which delivered savings for the whole of Lancashire. This letter also proposed that in light of the current economic climate, the PRG Protocol was to be widened and district councils were to be allowed to use the Performance Reward Grant to meet the challenge of delivering the budget reductions required of them.

Members then discussed this report and its recommendations in some detail, in particular in relation to the Performance Reward Grant element and the implications for the future of the Local Strategic Partnership.

RESOLVED: That

1. the co-ordinated Clitheroe Castle Grounds activities project be approved;
2. the other four schemes recommended for approval by the LSP Board be deferred until the next meeting this Committee for further consideration;
3. a detailed report be prepared for the next meeting regarding the up to date progress on previously approved schemes; and
4. a report on the implications of the Lancashire County Council's decision on PRG funding and what that meant for the Ribble Valley Strategic Partnership be submitted to a future meeting of this Committee.

373

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL'S CORPORATE STRATEGY 2011/15

Committee's approval was sought to the approval of a revised Corporate Strategy 2011/15. Members were informed that the Strategy contained:

- five corporate priorities to address issues that matter most to the borough;
- each priority had a number of objectives;
- objectives were supported by key actions; and
- key measures of success were also outlined.

Performance against our priorities would be regularly published in accordance with good practice on the Council's website.

The priorities and objectives had been developed based on the following:

- The Ribble Valley Sustainable Community Strategy.
- The Leader's objectives for the year.
- Consultation with our communities through our Citizens' Panel.

National developments such as the abolition of the Comprehensive Area Assessment and Local Area Agreements had also shaped the plan. With a more local emphasis it was proposed to retain the existing priorities (renamed from ambitions) of:

- to help make people's lives safer and healthier;
- to protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of our area;
- to match the supply of homes in our area to the identified housing needs.

And to add two new priorities:

- To ensure a well-managed Council, providing efficient services based on identified customer needs.
- To sustain a strong and prosperous Ribble Valley.

Members then welcomed the revised Strategy and suggested a number of amendments to its content.

RESOLVED: That Committee approve the Corporate Strategy 2011-2015 as now amended.

374 2013 BOUNDARY COMMISSION REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES

The Council's Solicitor submitted her report which informed Members about the Boundary Commission for England's initial proposals in their 2013 review of Parliamentary Constituencies in England. She sought Members' views on the Council's response to the consultation on these proposals.

The Boundary Commission had published their proposals on Tuesday, 13 September and were consulting for a 12 week period ending 5 December 2011. If implemented as proposed, the Commission's proposal would create some key changes to the parliamentary constituency that is currently the Ribble Valley constituency. These included the inclusion of the town of Barnoldswick and the Fishwick Ward of Preston with Farrington moving into the South Ribble constituency. A proposed Lancaster constituency would include wards in the west of the Ribble Valley such as Chipping, the town of Longridge and Ribchester.

The Boundary Commission for England was working within the constraints imposed by legislation, the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011, which required that the number of constituencies in England must reduce

from 533 to 502 and that the number of electors for every constituency must be between 72,810 and 80,473.

Public hearings would be held in the northwest region in October and the Boundary Commission was required to make a formal report to the Government by 1 October 2013.

The Chief Executive understood that political parties would be making their own responses to the review but felt that the Council should also respond. He felt it was important that the constituency should include the whole of the Ribble Valley. He also highlighted the difficulty in administering a general election on a constituency made up of parts of several different local authorities.

Members then expressed their concern at some of these proposals, particularly in relation to the removal of Chipping, the three Longridge Wards and Ribchester Ward from the Ribble Valley constituency to the new Lancaster County constituency.

RESOLVED: That

1. Committee note the proposals; and
2. delegate to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Shadow Leader to send a response stressing the importance of ensuring that any new constituency should be based on Ribble Valley Borough Council as a whole rather than split between different election areas.

375 LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESOURCE REVIEW - PROPOSALS FOR BUSINESS RATES RETENTION

The Director of Resources asked Members for their views on the consultation paper 'Local Government Resource Review – Proposals for Business Rate Retention' and to determine the Council's response.

The paper set out proposals for a rates retention scheme to replace the current Local Government finance system under which business rates were distributed as part of the Council's formula grant. The Government had stated that in order to deliver a fiscally sustainable system and avoid putting their deficit reduction programme at risk they would manage the business rates retention scheme within the expenditure control totals for 2013/14 and 2014/15.

The Government were proposing that to ensure a fair starting position for the new system, they would take an amount of the business rates away from those with too large an amount in comparison to their current spending and top up those authorities with too little, again in comparison to their current spending.

In future years the amount of business rates that Central Government gives or takes from each Local Authority would remain fixed. This would mean that any growth in business rates an authority achieved would be retained by them.

There would be no fixed limit on the amount of business rates an authority could benefit from under the new system. However, some Local Authorities with large amounts of business property in their area may stand to gain disproportionate

amounts. Where this happens Government proposed to take back a share of such authorities' growth. They proposed to use the proceeds of this to give financial help to those authorities who experience significant drops in business rates eg caused by the closure or relocation of a major business.

In the future the Government may judge that the level of a number of Council's business rates no longer met changing pressures on local services. In this situation the Government could choose to 'reset' the fixed amounts of business rates that were either taken from Councils with too high levels of business rates or give them to those with too low levels. This would probably involve a new assessment of Local authorities' need.

Finally the whole system could also work for groups of Councils working together eg those in local enterprise partnerships or districts and counties who want to form voluntary groups allowing them to collaborate to promote growth and share in the benefits.

Members expressed their concerns that the proposed new system would retain the unfairness of the existing system to rural authorities such as ourselves.

RESOLVED: That Committee delegate the Council's response to the consultation paper to the Director of Resources in consultation with the Budget Working Group.

376 AMENDMENT TO PARTS OF THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION

Committee received a comprehensive report on amendments to parts of the Council's constitution to reflect recent changes of personnel, committee membership and of practice and to ensure that the suite of documents formed a unified whole and remained up-to-date.

The Council's Head of Legal and Democratic Services in her role as Monitoring Officer, had requested the Council's Solicitor to carry out a review on the constitution as a whole. As part of the ongoing process of keeping all the parts of the constitution up to date, the Council's solicitor had identified minor discrepancies in the constitution and other issues which this report sought to remedy.

At its Committee on 29 March, Committee had considered and referred suggested changes to the articles of the Council's constitution to full Council with their recommendation for approval. Full Council approved those amendments on the 26 April 2011. The report then highlighted a number of suggested changes in relation to the following:

Introduction and Summary; and

The Articles

Delegation to Committee

Standing Orders

Access to Information Procedure Rules

And other issues including issues relating to the Emergency Committee and changes to other key Council documents recommended by the Council's auditor.

RESOLVED: That a small working group consisting of Councillors Hirst, Sherras, Hill (J) and Yearling be established to review the changes to the constitution and report back to the next Policy and Finance Committee.

377 ACCESS TO INFORMATION PROCEDURE RULES

The Council's solicitor explained to Committee that the Council's constitution did not currently include access to information procedure rules. The Council's Legal Section had received questions from officers on the various categories of exempt information. It therefore seemed an appropriate time to put in place some clearer procedures. Reference was also made to the way in which the Freedom of Information Act impacted on access to information.

RESOLVED: That this matter be referred to the working group considering changes to the Council's constitution.

378 LOCALISATION OF COUNCIL TAX BENEFITS

The Director of Resources asked Committee to consider the Government's proposals to localise Council Tax benefit.

She reminded Members that support for Council Tax would be localised from 2013/14 in line with the Government's 2010 spending review and funding from the Government to pay for Council Tax benefit would be reduced by 10%. This meant that the Council would have to reduce its expenditure on Council Tax benefits by the same amount.

On 17 February 2011 the Government published the Welfare Reform Bill which contained provisions for the abolition of Council Tax benefit, paving the way for a new localised scheme. A consultation had been issued on the proposals which lasts until 14 October 2011. The Universal Credit was being introduced in October 2013 and would be administered by the Department of Work and Pensions. It would replace a number of benefits including Housing Benefits and Income Support.

It was intended that Local Authorities would establish their own local schemes by April 2013.

Details were given of Ribble Valley Borough Council's current caseload of 2657 claims which equated to 10.7% of our total housing stock. 62% of our current caseload is of pensioner age, 11.5% are in work, leaving 26.5% of working age but not currently employed. The Borough Council pays out £2.3m each year in Council Tax benefit.

In order to achieve savings of 10% whilst protecting pensioners, other vulnerable groups and not providing a disincentive to work, substantial reductions in the entitlement of the remaining claimants would have to be made.

In future the funding distribution to billing authorities would be cash limited and would be paid by the Department of Communities and Local Government. The amount to be made available would be reduced by 10% and would be paid in the form of a grant.

The Government also proposed changes to billing authorities' administration grant. The Council currently receive approximately £240,000 per annum for the administration of Housing and Council Tax benefit. However the amount of this grant was likely to fall as the Council would no longer be administering Council Tax benefit for the Government and the Universal Credit would gradually replace Housing benefit from the 1 October 2013.

RESOLVED: That Committee agree to delegate the Council's response to the Director of Resources in consultation with the Budget Working Group.

379 BUDGET FORECAST 2011/12 TO 2014/15

The Director of Resources submitted a report which asked Committee to consider the Council's latest budget forecast and decide what action needed to be considered to meet the financial challenges that lie ahead.

In January the Government confirmed the provisional formula grant figures for Local Authorities for 2013. The Council was therefore in a position where it generally knew the extent of Government funding it could expect to receive next year. Details were given of the formula grant with a comparison of recent years to show the extent of the Council's funding cuts. A number of changes were highlighted since the previous forecast had been prepared:

1. Public sector pay and price inflation – the Government had announced in the emergency budget there would be pay freezes for public sector workers for 2 years commencing 2011/12.
2. National Insurance – a 1% increase in employers' national insurance rates to 13.8% came into effect from the 6 April 2011. In addition, changes to NI thresholds were later announced;
3. Local Government Grant Funding – in addition to formula grant the Council only receive the following grants:
 - New homes bonus, which commenced in April 2011 and would match fund the additional Council Tax raised for new homes and property brought back into use.
 - Council Tax freeze grant where the Government gave this Council £78,660 for a 4 year period.
 - Local services support grant – homelessness – the Council currently received £50,000 under this grant which is a new general grant paid to Local Authorities in relation to specific policy areas pulling together different funding streams.
 - Interest rates – the Council has currently allowed £30,000 interest receipts. This included £15,000 annual interest from Roefield Leisure.

The Director of Resources stated that the latest forecast assumed that savings that had been brought into the 2011/12 budget would be achieved and would continue. She highlighted two important consultation papers which would affect the Council's future finances. The proposal to retain business rates would replace our current formula grant funding which is our main income stream from the Government. The proposal to localise Council Tax benefit essentially meant

that Local Authorities would have to design their own local scheme which reduced costs by 10% at the same time as protecting pensioners and vulnerable groups. The forecast allowed for use of balances of £100,000 each year over the next 3 years, taking the Council's General Fund balances to £962,000 by 31 March 2015. She commented that interest receipts and interests savings could no longer be relied upon as a significant contribution to the Council's expenditure. A very small increase in the Council Tax base over the future 4 year period had been allowed and in addition a small collection fund deficit had been forecast for the next 4 years. Savings from the second phase of the Council's restructuring and other savings found during the current year had not been incorporated into the forecast at this stage. The Director of Resources commented that there would be significant savings in the current year, primarily due to the non-filling of vacancies. Overall, the forecast showed that savings would be needed in the region of £600,000 over the next three years.

RESOLVED: That

1. the budget forecast be noted.

380 REVENUES AND BENEFITS GENERAL REPORT

The Director of Resources reported on a number of areas under the control of the Head of Revenues and Benefits:

- National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR).
- Council Tax.
- Sundry debtors.
- Housing Benefit – performance.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

381 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

Committee considered a report on the Council's duties under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and connected legislation. The report explained that the Freedom of Information Act provided for a general right of access to information held by public authorities or by those providing services to public authorities. The report dealt with the process of application, exemptions, staff resources, practical implications such as the lack of fees for the work carried out. The Council's solicitor commented that it was clear that the FOI requests not only engaged staff in the Legal Section but officers across the Council. Details were given of the number of FOI requests dealt with over the past 6 years.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

382 TIMETABLE FOR BUDGET SETTING

The Director of Resources set out for Members a timetable for budget setting. She commented that unlike last year the Council does have an indication of what the provisional financial settlement for 2013 is likely to be, however the actual provisional settlement announcement would not be made until around early December 2011 and would not be confirmed until early February 2012.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

383 INSURANCE RENEWALS 2011/12

The Director of Resources referred to Minute 797 of Police and Finance Committee dated 29 March 2011 when Members had agreed to an extension of the current contract for a further 1 or 2 years pending on the terms offered. At the end of this period it was resolved that a full tendering exercise should be carried out by Lancashire Procurement Hub. Following discussions with the Council's insurers the existing agreement had been extended for a further 2 years until 19 June 2013. Details of the renewal terms were given to Committee and these indicated that the total cost of premiums had fallen by £5,106 upon the previous year's figure.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

384 BUDGET WORKING GROUP

Committee received the minutes of the Budget Working Group dated 21 July 2011.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be noted.

385 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That by virtue of the next item of business being Exempt Information under Category 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be now excluded from the meeting.

386 NATIONAL NON-DOMESTIC RATES, COUNCIL TAX, HOUSING BENEFIT

The Director of Resources sought Committee's approval to write-off certain NNDR, Housing Benefit.

RESOLVED: That Committee

1. approve the writing-off of £5,153.04 Council Tax and £1,173.04 of NNDR debts where it had not been possible to collect the amounts due; and
2. approve writing-off a Housing benefit overpayment of £1,656.08 and a Council Tax benefit overpayment of £1,086.45.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Jane Pearson (414430).

Minutes of Parish Councils' Liaison Committee

Meeting Date: Thursday, 29 September 2011 starting at 7.15pm
Present: P Young (Chairman)

Councillors:

R Hargreaves	C Ross
T Hill	I Sayers
G Mirfin	G Scott
R Newmark	R Swarbrick
L Rimmer	D Taylor
M Robinson	

Parish Representatives:

D Bland	Aighton Bailey & Chaigley
J Porter	Bolton-by-Bowland, Gisburn Forest & Sawley
D Leedham	Bowland Forest (Higher)
H Douglas	Chatburn
P Hunt	Chipping
B Redhead	Clayton-le-Dale
A Yearling	Clitheroe
P Entwistle	Grindleton
N C Walsh	Mellor
R Whitwell	Pendleton
T Nelson	Ramsgreave
A Mashiter	Read
C Pollard	Read
A Ormand	Ribchester
M Calvert	Sabden
G Molloy	Simonstone
P Cook	Slaidburn
N Breakes	Slaidburn
C Ansbro	Thornley with Wheatley
K Staines	Waddington
K Jackson	Waddington
C Cherry	West Bradford
M Highton	Whalley
J M Bremner	Wilpshire
A C Gaffney	Wilpshire
J Brown	Wiswell & Barrow

In attendance: Chief Executive, Head of Regeneration and Housing, Head of Engineering Services.

Also in attendance: Katy Marshall, Ribble Valley Citizens Advice Bureau for item 4; Inspector Chris Saville, Ribble Valley Police for item 5 and Stephanie Clarkson, Lauren Hall and Hannah Whittaker for item 6.

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APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Borough Councillors P Dowson and M Ranson and from the following Parish Representatives:

R Assheton	Downham
P Moorey	Hothersall
F Priest	Longridge
C Parkinson	Longridge

388 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

389 MATTERS ARISING

- a) Minute 94(a) - Three Tier Forum – The Chairman reported, for information, that she had been invited to attend the first meeting of this body which would probably take place in November.
- b) Minute 94(b) – Torchlight Procession – The Chief Executive reported that the date for the 2012 Torchlight Procession had been changed again to coincide with the August bank holiday weekend.
- c) Minute 97(a) – Waddington Double Yellow Lines in Villages – The Head of Regeneration and Housing commented that this matter would be raised by the Head of Engineering Services at the next District Engineers meeting.
- d) Minute 97(b) – Data Protection Act – The Chief Executive reported that he had written to both Kenneth Clarke, the Justice Minister and Nigel Evans MP on this matter but, to date, had received no reply. He promised to chase up a response for the next meeting.

390 RIBBLE VALLEY CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

The Chairman welcomed Katy Marshall, the manager of the Ribble Valley Citizens Advice Bureau. She gave details of the broad range of work which the bureau undertook ranging from debt advice to relationship breakdown and employment to housing issues.

She stated that the CAB employed 8 part time staff and 17 volunteers. The CAB also had a 13 member Board of Trustees and had 4 Ribble Valley Councillors as Trustees.

Details were given on its funding with Ribble Valley Borough Council contributing £60,000 towards the running costs and a further £40,000 coming from a variety of sources including individual donations, charities and Parish Councils.

She stressed that although the CAB was based in Clitheroe, it did cover the whole of the Ribble Valley with 44% of customers coming from outside Clitheroe. There was also an outreach facility in Longridge.

CAB also provided accommodation for staff from the mental health team, HARV domestic violence councillors and Welfare Rights. Katy then answered questions on increasing workloads and future funding issues.

RESOLVED: That Katy be thanked for her informative talk.

391 POLICING IN THE RIBBLE VALLEY

The Chairman introduced Inspector Chris Saville, the geographic police inspector for the Ribble Valley. Chris explained the two main aspects of his work which were day to day policing and special operations. He and his staff reviewed every reported crime and put measures in place to solve them quickly. Crime trends were constantly being looked at and criminal patterns of behaviour were studied.

He stressed that Ribble Valley was very low crime with few resident burglars. However, Ribble Valley did suffer from criminals travelling into the valley from surrounding areas such as Merseyside, Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire specifically to commit crime on our patch.

Metal theft was becoming a big problem and this has culminated in Operation Border which was aimed at travelling criminals coming into the valley to steal lead from church roofs and metal gates, tools and bikes.

Operation Firecrest targeted rural crime and there was also an attempt to encourage farmers to set up a farm watch operation and to look at the use of smart water liquid. Poachers and power tool thefts had been detected as a result of Operation Firecrest.

Operation Defender specifically targeted the theft of Landrovers and Operation Secure was an awareness raising issue for residents urging them to make more secure their property and possessions.

Chris then answered a number of questions around the proliferation of drug taking in the Ribble Valley, the threat to Clitheroe as a booming night time economy, the uses for smart water, the question of double yellow lines in villages and the control of scrap yards receiving stolen metal. As a final point, Chris reminded people that they could best help the police to solve crime by reporting any suspicious activities immediately.

RESOLVED: That Chris Saville be thanked for his informative talk.

392 LITTLE GREEN BUS

Committee received a letter from Donna Atkinson, the manager of the Little Green Bus, giving details of changes which Lancashire County Council were implementing in the way community transport organisations in Lancashire now had to charge customers for journeys and also to set up a membership scheme.

The letter stressed the financial implications of these decisions which were very onerous and a number of meetings had been held with officers from Lancashire County Council to challenge their proposals.

External grants were being explored by Little Green Bus with the assistance of officers at the Ribble Valley Borough Council as a way of them continuing to provide a service to the community. Details of the financial losses incurred by Little Green Bus in July and August were highlighted for Committee. Councillor

Sayers spoke in support of Little Green Bus and urged parishes to do whatever they could to help the organisation to continue.

RESOLVED: That the matter be noted at this stage.

393 CHATBURN YOUTH FORUM

The Chairman introduced Lauren Hall and Hannah Whittaker from Chatburn Youth Forum who gave a presentation about the work which the Forum had been undertaking since it was set up four months ago. It was aimed at youth aged between 11-16 and they met once a week to discuss issues affecting the village and young people in order to help resolve some of them. So far, the youth forum had undertaken the following initiatives.

- Planted flowers in ornamental pots in the centre of the village
- Raised funds for the village school
- Talked amongst themselves about the dangers of drug taking and healthy relationships
- Held a stall at the 20/20 village cricket competition to raise funds for the forum

Future events were planned including a tea morning and organising a choir for the switch on of the village Christmas tree lights.

The forum had received help and guidance from The Grand, Young Peoples Service and Brook Agency. Their aim was to give a more positive face to youths, who are often blamed when things went wrong in the village.

Numerous representatives were very appreciative of the work which had already been done by the Youth Forum and it was commented that there was already interest being shown from other parts of the borough. Finally, they were able to report that they had been offered a home one night a week in the local village hall.

RESOLVED: That Lauren and Hannah be congratulated on their efforts to establish a youth forum in Chatburn and that Committee's best wishes be sent for their future success.

394 REVIEW OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Head of Engineering Services reported on a review of the provision and operation of public toilets in the borough and to identify a range of potential outcomes.

He stated that the Council currently operated 24 sets of public conveniences across the borough; four in Clitheroe, three in Longridge with the remainder spread across the Ribble Valley. The high number of toilets reflected both the rural nature of the area and the fact that Ribble Valley attracted many visitors to the area.

A working group of four councillors had been set up to consider officer proposals in finding an acceptable and sustainable solution. A number of options had been identified. These ranged from closure of all the facilities to revised arrangements

of selected facilities. Amongst the options investigated were urban community toilet schemes, rural community toilet schemes, local management and support of council facilities, opening and closing arrangements and new facilities to cater for new demands.

Members then discussed these proposals and asked a number of questions on signage, disabled users, using car park revenue to keep car park toilets open, the remote nature of some of the proposed public use facilities and opening hours of some public use facilities.

The Head of Engineering Services stressed that this was very much a progress report and that no decisions had been taken yet. A report would be submitted to Community Committee on 8 November 2011. He also stated that Parish Councillors would be sent a copy of the review document for their information.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

395 REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES

The Chief Executive reminded Members of the ongoing review by the Boundary Commission for England of parliamentary constituencies. He stressed that this review was only looking at parliamentary constituencies and not at local government re-organisation.

He did point out that under the proposals the town of Longridge and the wards of Chipping and Ribchester were proposed to be transferred to the new Lancaster constituency. He commented that the Council's Policy and Finance Committee had resolved to write to the Boundary Commission stating that any Ribble Valley constituency must be based on Ribble Valley as a whole, rather than seeing some of its area moved to another constituency.

RESOLVED: That

1. the matter be noted; and
2. Parish Councils be urged to make their views known to the Boundary Commission before the end of the deadline.

396 START TIME OF MEETING

The Community Development Officer reported that, following discussions with the Chairman, it had been agreed to canvas regular attendees of this Committee on the start time of the meeting. The choice given to those canvassed was either to move to a 6.30pm start or leave it at 7.15pm as at present.

The result of the poll was as follows:

18 representatives in favour of a 6.30pm start
11 representatives in favour of a 7.15pm start

The Community Development Officer explained which representatives had been canvassed and explained why borough councillors had not been asked for their preference.

A further vote was then taken resulting in 12 representatives being in favour of the 6.30pm start with 10 preferring the 7.15pm option.

RESOLVED: That this meeting start at 6.30pm for a trial period of three meetings and a review of this new arrangement be held at the March 2012 meeting.

397 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Chairman announced that the next meeting of this Committee was scheduled for Thursday, 24 November 2011.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact Colin Hirst (414503).