



COPPULL PARISH COUNCIL M I N U T E S



**MEETING: COPPULL PARISH COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH 2026 AT 7.00 PM
COPPULL VILLAGE HALL, CHAPEL LANE**

Members of Coppull Parish Council are hereby **SUMMONED** to attend the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council
Members of the public are invited to attend and are extremely welcome

Prior to this meeting an address regarding the planning system was given by Mr Conor Dawson, Senior Compliance Officer (Planning Enforcement), Chorley & South Ribble Borough Council.

This meeting was audio recorded

IN ATTENDANCE – Councillors Michael Atherton (Chair), Marjorie Parkinson (Vice-Chair), Phil Armstrong, Julia Berry, Neil Coggins, Jan Colecliffe, Matthew Crook, Christopher Kay, Ken McCrea, Lynne Moores, Maggie Peel-Impey, Susan Edwards, Clerk and members of the public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Councillors Robin Dodd (personal matter) Sheila Makin (unwell), Thomas Robinson (holiday), Paul Taylor (working) and County Councillor Lee Hutchinson

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL / PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS (Members of the Parish Council are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or prejudicial interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda in accordance with the provision of the Local Government Act 2000) and withdraw from the meeting whilst the item is discussed.

2.1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FORM – it is each Councillor's responsibility to ensure that this form is up to date and to declare any interests at meetings.

2.2 DECLARATION OF GIFTS – None.

3. AMENDMENT/APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATED 11 FEBRUARY 2026 (emailed/distributed to Parish Councillors)

PROPOSED: Councillor L. Moores

SECONDED: Councillor J. Colecliffe

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting be approved as a correct record.

SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS - Standing Orders state - **Item 15 (e) – in bold : To allow members of the public to address the Council. The total time allowed for**

this item shall not exceed 20 minutes. Item 75 – Any or every part of the Standing Orders, **except those printed in bold type**, may be suspended by resolution in relation to any specific item of business.

4. POLICE REPORT – (<https://www.police.uk/coppull>) – No report received. It was previously agreed not to report on the statistics which are available on the above website. The Police looked into the report of youths trying to climb on the containers at the Leisure Centre, CCTV at the office was looked at but no one could be identified. Therefore, a message was put on In The Know about this. In regard to the bikes being ridden up and down at the Leisure Centre, CCTV was again looked at. Four bikes had been parked up, causing no problem, all looked legit. One small black bike with a male rider with no helmet did a couple of wheelies up and down. Again, the rider could not be identified, but Police will monitor the Centre when possible.

5. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – County Councillor Hutchinson sent apologies to the meeting.

6. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS – Councillor Julia Berry reported on the following:

- A detached Youth Team are working with Preston North End FC to bring training to Coppull, every Tuesday at 4.30 pm at Springfield Leisure Park, for children aged 6 to teenagers. This has been provided by a grant from Chorley Council, with LCC providing Youth Officers and using Parish Council facilities. This is for a certain amount of time, but hopefully further funding will be obtained to enable it to be continued.
- Chorley Council is also updating a play area at Hurst Brook, Coppull.
- Food and health sessions are taking place at the Food Club and Neighbourhood Hub.
- A History Trail for Coppull to be arranged hopefully by next year, it is in its infancy at the moment.
- Coppull Railway Station – this is still being discussed, but a feasibility study is needed. Network Rail will do some work alongside the study and then take it back to Chorley Council.
- Chorley Council has frozen the council tax, with no impact on services.
- Chorley Council will be putting in bids for the Town of Culture Awards. Any ideas for projects to be included to be sent to Chorley Council.

7. ITEMS INTRODUCED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- Planning matter regarding an approved application on Springfield Road, residents not adhering to the rules of the planning permission.
- Planning matter regarding the new build properties at the top of Lancaster Street, why they are not finished off.

Members of the public were given the email address of Conor Dawson, Senior Compliance Officer (Planning Enforcement) at Chorley Council, who had offered to talk to residents regarding their concerns over planning matters.

- The Secretary of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group attended the meeting to state that the plan is now ready to be submitted to Chorley Council and, if passed by resolution of the Parish Council tonight, is not

amendable. Chorley Council take control of the document and the process will take approx. six weeks. They will appoint an Assessor, it will go through examination and then to Referendum. 50% of the votes are needed to pass the plan.

REIMPOSE STANDING ORDERS

8. GENERAL MANAGEMENT/FINANCE

- 8.1 Accounts Balance to end of February 2026 - Payments made and to be made (emailed/distributed to Parish Councillors). The current bank balance is £414,130.80. After taking into account CIL Funding and Reserves, the working balance until the end of March 2026 is £17,566.08. Full accounts after the end of the Financial Year will be available for the Annual Meeting of Residents on 22 April 2006.
- 8.2 Annual Parish Meeting 22 April 2026 (meeting for residents). This is being advertised in the Spring Newsletter and will also be put on Facebook, in the notice boards and the website nearer the time.
- 8.3 Annual Insurance for Leisure Centre building, office and Village Hall. Three different companies have been contacted by email to provide quotes, but only the current provider has issued a quote. The cost is £6,391.47, last year was £6367.77. **RESOLVED:** Unanimously agreed that this quote be accepted.
- 8.4 SLCC Membership – the cost this year is £361.00. **RESOLVED:** Unanimously agreed that membership be renewed.
- 8.5 Neighbourhood Plan – Resolution required to adopt the plan and submit the plan - Submission Version V4.1 March 2026 – to Chorley Council for screening.

PROPOSED: Councillor K. McCrea

SECONDED: Councillor N. Coggins

RESOLVED: To adopt the plan and submit to Chorley Council. Thanks were given to Mrs. Jean Tickle and all the members of the Neighbourhood Plan Group, who have worked tirelessly to get the plan to this stage.

- 8.6 LALC – Local Government Reorganisation – online response required. The consultation is open to everyone and closes on Thursday 26 March 2026.
- 8.7 Notice board signs and map (MA). Quotes to be obtained for artwork and manufacturing of two signs – one showing the areas owned and/or maintained by the Parish Council, the other side showing a map where each facility is sited. The Chairman declared an interest as he is friends with the graphic artist and the design needs to be approved by the Parish Council first of all.

A notice board for the new development at Eaves Green, where some of the houses are actually in Coppull, was requested. The Friends of Coppull Library are putting together a welcome pack ready for them and it would be ideal for the Parish Council to put something in this pack.

- 8.8 Allotments AGM and follow up site meeting (to be forwarded to Parish Councillors). The following matters have been raised:

- More new fence posts required and some fencing needs refixing (approx. 50/60 posts) – Wayne McNamara (Builder) did the last posts and it was **RESOLVED** that he be asked to quote and if the price is comparable to the last cost, he should be asked to do the work as soon as possible.
- The IBC's at the back of the old clubhouse need removing. No one to use these due to a risk of Legionnaires Disease. **RESOLVED:** Cllr. Atherton to arrange for them to be removed.
- Should all tenants now pay for water (a one-off payment of £20), as the lock for the water keeps going missing. **RESOLVED:** All tenants to be asked to pay the £20.
- There is no waiting list at the moment, the association to advertise on Facebook – **OUTCOME:** *this has brought in quite a number of enquires and there is again a small waiting list.*
- All paperwork needs reducing and a discrepancy on the sizes of sheds/greenhouses and how many each plot can have needs looking into. **RESOLVED:** The Chair and Secretary of the Allotment Association to look at these with the Clerk.
- New numbers required for the plots – **RESOLVED:** Cllr. Atherton has offered to remove the numbers and re-site them at the entrances to the allotments. Further numbers to be sought for the additional plots.
- Consideration of reduced rent for pensioners/retirees. After discussions, the following was proposed:

PROPOSED: Councillor J. Berry

SECONDED: Councillor N. Coggins

RESOLVED: That a concession of £10 be given, commencing from next year. A query was asked about a concession for people on benefits, and if this occurs in the future they should put their request into the Parish Council. Also, what happens to an allotment if the allotment holder moves out of Coppull but doesn't want to give it up. It was agreed that this should be put to the Allotment Association to decide.

- Councillor Moores to be the Parish Council's representative from May 2026.
- A First Aid Kit, Bleed Kit and Eye Wash Kit are needed. **RESOLVED:** The Clerk to organise these.
- Consideration of getting a defibrillator. **RESOLVED:** The Clerk to look into funding.
- Donation of tree saplings for land at the bottom of the plots, where the old been keeping area is. **RESOLVED:** The Clerk to look into getting donations.
- Having dogs on the plots is working very well.

- Checking with the Allotment Association's insurance company on minimum age for plot holders – they want to encourage the younger generation.
- A skip is required to move rubbish from one allotment which has now been vacated, is there anything that can be done to ensure tenants leave their allotments in a clean and tidy condition when they give up their allotment. To put something in the Tenant's Agreement. **RESOLVED:** That the skip be ordered and the Parish Council pay for this.
- Two small allotments at the back of the site are going to be made into one larger one – there is no loss of fees, it will be the same size as the others.

8.9 Play area reports from Chorley Council – Consideration of the following:

- Removing the grassed "mould" to give more room for Picnic in the Park – a quote has been requested from the play area company installing the new play area for doing this work, just for taking the soil up, but not taking the soil away – it can be redistributed around the park and gardens.
- Consideration of removing the zip line as all the tightening of the wire may make the wooden structures unsafe. A quote to be obtained for putting in a metal zip wire to replace the wooden one, but not to remove totally as this is a well liked and used play facility.
- Knee rails need replacing – Quotes to be obtained.
- Paths need resurfacing – Quotes to be obtained just for outside the play areas, not the whole way round the park.

8.10 New play area at Springfield Park (MA)

- Painting of some fencing – this could be done by the Lengthsman, it is mainly a short piece of fencing next to the gate.
- Naming of the new play area – **RESOLVED:** Not to name the individual play areas, the park itself is known as Springfield Play Area.

8.11 New play area at Byron Crescent

- Update from consultation – 9 residents had forwarded responses. The majority of these preferred design no. 1.
- Resolution to choose the design. After a full discussion in regard to all three designs, it was **RESOLVED** to choose design no. 1. This design was felt to have everything the PC were looking for, but not too much to make the site look "cramped" as they felt the other two were. It was also felt that it had the best accessibility for disabled children. Residents present at the meeting also preferred design No. 1.

8.12 Tansley Avenue Play Area

- New quotes – these will be requested from the play area

companies. This is mainly for the safety surface and two pieces of equipment – previously agreed for an accessible roundabout and possibly a replacement accessible seesaw.

- Painting of equipment – the Chairman offered to rub down the equipment with the Lengthsman who would also paint some of the equipment. Cllr. McCrea also offered to help paint.
- Park benches – to look into areas where a bench could be seated outside of the play area for other walkers and dog walkers to use. Also to consider a bin at the other side of the park, which dog walkers can use.

8.13 Village Hall update (KMC)

- Lease and warning notice update. The lease was signed by the Chair and Vice-Chair and the notice is to be served by the Solicitor to LCC.
- Hire of upstairs room on Mondays and Wednesdays for a Health Care Group £70 per day – **RESOLVED:** Unanimous decision to hire out the hall on these days to this group.
- Use of hall downstairs for election purposes in 2027. Due to a misunderstanding with the elections being cancelled and then reinstated, the use of the hall was not available for this year. Fortunately, Coppull Parish School were able to assist again, as they had an inset day. To look into the possibility of using downstairs for next year.

9. DECISIONS MADE UNDER THE CLERK'S DELEGATED AUTHORITY (in conjunction with the Chair and Vice-Chair)

- To close Byron Crescent Play Area due to wooden equipment being broken (rotted) and deemed unsafe.
- Swiftheat invoice – Call out to heaters and boiler not working following a power cut. All appliances were reset, fired up and tested with times and dates set for the boiler - £184.50.
- UVE Planning – Neighbourhood Plan, Regulation 14 consultation support - £1,156.00.

RESOLVED: That the above decisions be **RATIFIED** by the Parish Council.

10. **PLANNING** (NC) - All applications can be viewed at planning.chorley.gov.uk – type in the application number in the search box.

10.1 **Applications** (Written report received from the Parish Council's Planning Representative, Councillor Coggins):

- App.No. 26/00177/PIP – Land at Orchard Heys Farm, Park Road – Permission in principle for up to 6 no. dwellinghouses. Safeguarded land (for future development) lists 10 dwellings. There are no planning reasons to object to this application. **RESOLVED:** To **SUPPORT** this application.

- App.No. 26/00151/FULHH – 16 Rivington Place – Two storey side extension. There is no loss of amenity or overshadowing from this development and no loss of privacy or over-development of the site. **RESOLVED:** To **SUPPORT** this application.
- App.No. 26/00168/DIS – Robinson and Douglas, Spendmore Lane – Application to discharge condition 12 (CMP) attached to planning permission 25/00916/FUL (Change of use to a local convenience store, etc). **Noted.**

10.2 To consider any planning applications received after publication of this agenda for which a response is needed prior to the next meeting.

- **App.No. 26/00203/FULHH** – 85 Longworth Avenue – Single storey rear extension and front porch (following demolition of existing conservatory) – This has not yet been looked into. **OUTCOME** – *an extension has been given to the deadline for comments.*

10.3 Decisions:

- App.No. 25/00916/FUL – Robinson and Douglas, Spendmore Lane – Change of use to a local convenience store with other associated development – **GRANTED.**
- App.No. 25/01199/PIP – Land off Mill Lane – Permission in principle application for the erection of up to two dwellinghouses – **REFUSED.**
- App.No. 25/01220/FUL – Land next to nursery, Park Road – Erection of 1 no. detached self-build dwellinghouse – **GRANTED.**
- App.No. 25/01262/FULHH – 15 Roe Hey Drive – Extension to front dormer, single storey rear extension (following demolition of existing conservatory) and extension to rear of garage – **GRANTED.**

11. HIGHWAYS – A “NO TURNING” sign required for Springfield Road North, first cul-de-sac – due to large wagons turning in and out. LCC has been asked for this, but the PC to put up a temporary one in the meantime.

12. CORRESPONDENCE / ITEMS FOR DECISION – None.

13. Complaint re motorbikes on Ellerbeck – to report to the Police and defer to the next meeting.

11. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / FUTURE DISCUSSION

The electrical test of the Leisure Centre is to take place on 16 March 2026.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.45 pm.

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Councillor Michael Atherton
Chair of Coppull Parish Council