

Public Document Pack



Ribble Valley
Borough Council

www.ribblevalley.gov.uk

Dear Councillor

The next meeting of the **PARISH COUNCILS LIAISON** Committee will be held at **6.30 pm** on **THURSDAY, 30 JUNE 2022** in the **Council Chamber**.

I do hope you can be there.

Yours sincerely

M. H. Scott

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

AGENDA

1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FOR 2022/2023**
2. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR FOR 2022/2023**
3. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
4. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** (Pages 3 - 6)
5. **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY, OTHER REGISTRABLE AND NON REGISTRABLE INTERESTS**

Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary, other registrable or non-registrable interest in respect of matters contained in the agenda.

6. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
7. **HYNDBURN & RIBBLE VALLEY CVS (COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICES)**

Representation by Debbie Simpson, Hyndburn & Ribble Valley CVS.

8. **BRIEFING FROM RURAL TASKFORCE**
9. **HOMES FOR UKRAINIANS - REFERRAL FROM HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE** (Pages 7 - 8)

Report of the Director of Economic Development and Planning enclosed.

10. **MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD BY PARISH COUNCILS**

11. **HARP UPDATE**

Verbal update from the Head of Regeneration and Housing.
Matter brought forward by Chatburn Parish Council.

12. **RIBBLE VALLEY CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK**

Presentation about Ribble Valley Climate Action Network (RVCAN). Matter brought forward by Hothersall Parish Council.

13. **SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES (SPIDS)**

Matter brought forward by Mellor Parish Council.

14. **FITTING OF ROOF SOLAR PANELS IN THE BOWLAND AONB AREA**

Matter brought forward by Grindleton Parish Council.

15. **UPDATE ON LOCAL PLAN**

Verbal update from the Head of Regeneration and Housing.

16. **OTHER MATTERS**

17. **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Electronic agendas sent to members of Parish Councils Liaison – Councillor Jan Alcock JP, Councillor Anthony (Tony) Austin, Councillor Richard Bennett, Councillor David Berryman, Councillor David Birtwhistle, Councillor Alison Brown, Councillor Robert (Bob) Buller, Councillor Brian Holden, Councillor Simon Hore, Councillor Kevin Horkin MBE, Councillor Simon O'Rourke, Councillor Gary Scott (Vice-Chair) and Councillor Robin Walsh.

Contact: Democratic Services on 01200 414408 or committee.services@ribblevalley.gov.uk

Minutes of Parish Councils Liaison

Meeting Date: Thursday, 27 January 2022, starting at 6.30 pm
Present: Councillor Martin Highton (Whalley)

Councillors:

D Berryman	B Holden
S Bibby	S Hore
D Birtwhistle	K Horkin
A Brown	D Peat
B Buller	G Scott
J Hill	R Walsh

Parish Representatives:

K Barker	Balderstone
L Crook	Barrow
C Davies	Bowland with Leagram
R Porter	Chatburn
K Kirby	Gisburn
M Gee	Hothersall
H Gee	Longridge Town Council
J Hymas	Mellor
N Marsden	Mellor
R Thornber	Newton
K Berzins	Ramsgreave
C Pollard	Read
M Howells	Salesbury
R Chew	West Bradford
J Brown	Whalley
T Gaffney	Wilpshire
S Houghton	Wiswell
A Scholfield	Wiswell

In attendance: Chief Executive and Head of Regeneration and Housing

624

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Borough councillor:

J Alcock

And the following Parish councillors:

T Austin	Billington & Langho
R Carr	Bowland Forest (Higher)
B Green	Chipping
S Haworth	Clayton-le-Dale
K Thompson	Clayton-le-Dale
J Turner	Dinckley
S Rosthorn	Paythorne
R Hirst	Simonstone
J Rattigan	Waddington

625 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

With reference to minute 474 the Chief Executive reminded parishes to claim the grant the Council was providing to parishes to celebrate and/or commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

626 DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY, OTHER REGISTRABLE AND NON-REGISTRABLE INTERESTS

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary, other registrable or non-registrable interests.

627 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

628 MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD BY PARISH COUNCILS FOR THIS AGENDA

None.

629 HAWESWATER AQUEDUCT RESILIENCE PROGRAMME (HARP) - UPDATE

The Head of Regeneration and Regeneration provided a verbal update on the Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme (HARP), although there was little more to report than that given at the last meeting.

He informed members that updates would be posted on the Council's website.

Members requested a timeframe so that the public is aware when works will start to the pipeline.

630 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN - UPDATE

The Head of Regeneration and Housing gave members a presentation on the position with the Local Development plan review.

He outlined the key stages, emerging issues, and The White Paper. He referred to the existing plans and the need to produce a single new local plan that was -

- Updated
- Relevant to new challenges
- NPPF Compliant
- Rolling forward HEDPD elements
- Updated Development Management policy suite

Key issues and the timetable for them included -

- Regulation 18 - Evidence production, issues and options - Feb 2022
- Regulation 19 - Publication stage – preferred plan - July 2022
- Regulation 22 - Submission stage - Dec 2022
- Regulation 22 - Examination in Public - May 2023
- Inspector's report - Sept 2023
- Adoption - Dec 2023

Emerging issues included -

- Housing land and housing requirements
- Economic growth
- Infrastructure
- Transport
- Patterns of development
- Space for new retail
- Conservation
- Climate change
- Design imperatives
- Sustainable growth

He informed members that the Reg 18 consultation was the opportunity for their views to be put forward that would generate discussion. This would be followed by a series of consultations, some of which would be done digitally. He urged parishes to start thinking about what they would want /not want; what they would be comfortable with and if they would like to see some growth in their villages.

Parishes indicated that they would appreciate up-to-date census information giving details of demographic changes as well as some pointers of core headings to be considered. The Head of Regeneration and Housing agreed to circulate this to parishes along with signposting to the various documents on the website.

Members asked what sort of climate change influences, and space standards could be incorporated in the plan to achieve preferred development. They also asked about cooperation between local authorities where development takes place close to boundaries and therefore has an impact on Ribble Valley infrastructure.

The Head of Regeneration and Housing explained the 'duty to cooperate' being part of the plan making process. He also explained how some things were difficult to include in the plan if there was no legislation to enforce policies and if they made viability an issue for developers.

631 OTHER MATTERS

632 INFORMATION COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

The Chair asked how many parishes were registered with ICO. He reminded them that they should be as it was a legal requirement.

The ICO is the UK's independent authority set up to uphold information rights in the public interest, promoting openness by public bodies and data privacy for individuals. The ICO is responsible for promoting good practice in handling personal data and giving advice and guidance on data protection.

633 INFORMATION FOR PARISHES

Wiswell Parish Council had asked that parishes be kept informed of new/updated legislation. The Chief Executive informed members that this would be an enormous task and suggested that all parishes should be members of NALC where this information would be readily available. However, he reiterated the offer made at the last meeting that the Council would be happy to host forums where ideas could be shared, and solutions found on topics of concern or interest to the parishes.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Chairman informed the committee that the next meeting would be on 31 March 2022 at 6.30pm.

The meeting closed at 7.55 pm

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact the committee clerk, Olwen Heap olwen.heap@ribblevalley.gov.uk.

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

meeting date: THURSDAY, 9 JUNE 2022
title: HOMES FOR UKRAINE UPDATE
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
principal author: COLIN HIRST – HEAD OF REGENERATION AND HOUSING

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To receive information on the Homes for Ukraine initiative.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities

- Community Objectives – To address housing needs across the borough.
- Corporate Priorities – To ensure the Council is a well-run authority.
- Other Considerations – none.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Members will be familiar with the ongoing humanitarian crisis following the Russian invasion of the Ukraine. To provide assistance, the government announced the Homes for Ukraine scheme providing an opportunity to UK residents to help support Ukraine refugees fleeing conflict to move to the UK under a sponsorship arrangement.

2.2 There are two main schemes to support refugees – the Homes for Ukraine Scheme (HFU); and the Ukraine Family Scheme. The Ukraine Family Scheme allows applicants to join family members or to extend an existing stay in the UK and is a different scheme to the HFU that the Council is assisting in delivering.

2.3 The HFU scheme was launched in March 2022 and is open to Ukraine nationals who were resident in the Ukraine prior to 1 January 2022, as well as their immediate family members (that is spouse/partner and children under 18) to be sponsored to come to the UK. The scheme allows UK residents to offer a home to people fleeing the Ukraine by becoming a sponsor. Sponsors can register to support someone known to them as a direct sponsor. Alternatively, they can register their willingness to support a family and will be matched with people seeking to leave the Ukraine.

2.4 The HFU scheme is uncapped in terms of the numbers but is dependent upon the capacity of sponsors who come forward. Guests who are being sponsored, are able to live and work in the UK for up to 3 years and can access benefits, health care, employment and other support. Guests coming to the UK need to meet standard security checks prior to being issued with a visa. Sponsors and all adults in sponsors' households will also be subject to police national computer, criminal records and warning index checks by the Home Office as part of the visa process. In addition, DBS checks are also undertaken as part of the safeguarding measures under the scheme, which the County Council on as the lead authority in the process is administering.

2.5 The District Council's role at present to assist in the delivery of the HFU scheme by undertaking checks on sponsor accommodation to ensure it is suitable. These checks are carried out by the Housing team following notification of sponsors' addresses by

the County Council. In addition, the Borough Council is administering the “Thank-you” grants the government has introduced of £350 which provides the option for sponsors to claim a monthly support payment for as long as they have guests living in their accommodation. The Housing team are dealing with the administration of this scheme. At present the numbers of sponsors coming forward in Ribble Valley is amongst the highest in the county, with many properties being offered. At the time of writing there were 37 of sponsorship properties.

- 2.6 The government has also provided funding to local authorities to help support the additional workloads generated by the scheme; the Council will receive a payment per guest (not household) to support the additional housing related workloads, together with a per guest payment to support activities to assist with community-based support and cohesion. The Council’s Partnership Officer will be seeking to develop this area of work with local groups and communities, working with other agencies and local authorities as appropriate. Several community support groups have been established in the area to provide community-based support for families in the Ribble Valley area and are already providing a significant amount of support to those families who are now with sponsors.
- 2.7 A verbal update of the numbers of sponsors and guests arrived will be given at the meeting.
- 2.8 As the scheme progresses, it is anticipated that the focus of workloads will move from accommodation inspection to payment and community support depending upon the rate at which new sponsors continue to come forward. This will be monitored as housing resource is currently being diverted as a priority to implement the scheme. Consideration has already been given by Corporate Management Team to provide additional administrative support to sustain the scheme funded from the Government’s Grant Initiative. It should be noted that there may also be increased demands on the Council’s homelessness services as Ukrainians under the scheme will be able to claim housing support should they lose their accommodation or be at risk of homelessness. This may lead to increasing pressure to support refugees into housing as the Council will have a duty to assist under the government regulations.
- 2.9 Members will be kept informed of any issues arising out of the scheme, however present the Council is taking steps to support the government’s initiative and to support refugees and their sponsors who are currently in Ribble Valley.



COLIN HIRST
HEAD OF REGENERATION AND HOUSING

NICOLA HOPKINS
DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

For further information please ask for Colin Hirst, extension 4503.