Minutes of the meeting of Mawdesley Parish Council
Held at 7.30pm on 12th April 2017
At St Peter’s Parish Room

Present, Chairman Tom Poole, Vice Chairman Colin Freeman, Cllr Mike Henty, Cllr Matthew Worthington, Cllr Gill Worthington, Cllr Grahame Green, Cllr Roger Mallows, Clerk – Angela Nicholls and 3 members of the public

1 Apologies for Absence  None

2 Retiring Chairman’s Summary of the Year

I’m glad to be able to report that it has been a largely stress free 12 months for the Parish Council, with there being no significant development underway or planning proposals in the pipeline.

From the chairman’s perspective, my role has been made an easy one by a very supportive and cooperative council. During the past year, Mike Henty has joined us, when Councillor Boardman stepped aside to take up his role as Ward Councillor. Mike has already proved a valuable member of the council in putting his experience to good use. A special mention must also go to the 2 paid members on the council, our clerk and our caretaker. They both go above and beyond both what is expected, and what they are paid for. So, thank you on behalf of myself and the other councillors.

Whilst the council continues to financially support the clubs and organisations within the village, via both the precept and the Bert Moss Fund, the last 12 months have also seen significant outlay on 2 main projects:

- The remedial works to the culvert under the children’s play area. Whilst the project has now been successfully completed within budget, we do recognise that the poor drainage down one side is hampering growth of the replacement trees. We have plans in place to install a land drain to alleviate this, now the weather is improving and the ground is firming up.

- The Village Hall access road. This has been a long overdue piece of work. With the road being used by, and benefitting, many parties (including V. Hall, School, M. Green, Tennis & Bowling clubs etc.) it had degraded to a very poor state. As the road is unadopted it has made sourcing funds for the project problematic. However, with the help of our ward councillor we have been able to jointly fund the works through a Chorley BC grant and using the Community Infrastructure Levy available to the Parish Council. Works are to be completed during school Easter holidays, with the road to be reopened no later than Tuesday 18.04.17.

We’ve had a variety of issues on the agenda in the past year. Some have been positively uplifting, such as the inaugural community champion award, recognising the contributions of our selfless residents, and also the prospect of future projects we may be able to invest the Bert Moss Funds into.

However, there have been a couple of recurring items that are less pleasant to deal with:

- Dog mess left in prominent areas of the village, where residents are walking. We have tried our best to positively tackle this issue through education, providing free dog poo bags and new bins within the village. Unfortunately, this has not made any significant impact and so we have resolved to install CCTV cameras to act both as a deterrent, and if required, to assist the dog warden in pursuing prosecution.

- The state of the roads within the village. Unfortunately, the maintenance of the roads does not fall within our remit, or budget. Just to reiterate the best positive step we residents can take it is to report any potholes, or issues, to Lancs County Council via their website: www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/fault-search.aspx

Finally, I would like to wish our new Chairman Colin Freeman good luck in taking on the role. I’m sure Colin’s considered opinion and commitment will serve him well. If there is anything I can do to help, just ask.

3 The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 1st March 2017 were accepted as a true record.

4 Declaration of Interests and Dispensations
None declared.

5 Public time

Ray Scully thanked the Parish Council for facilitating the completion of the Community Access road leading to the Village Hall and appreciated it had been a difficult task. Ray Scully said the Village Hall Committee would like to consider using double yellow lines to deter parking on the newly laid footpath near the Village Hall.
**PARISH OF MAWDESLEY**  
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| 1. | Discussion took place where various parties were affected by inconsiderate parking near the Village Hall. There was also concern about groups of walkers leaving numerous cars across the village and not using the village facilities when they returned from their walk.  
Cllr Martin Boardman thanked the Parish Council for doing a sterling job on the Community Access road and asked if the Clerk could write to RH Mawdesley thanking him for his work and efficiently completing the job ahead of schedule.  
Cllr Martin Boardman said he had raised the issue of Adactus Housing cutting the hours of the Support worker from 15.5hrs to 9hrs in the Mawdesley scheme, at the Full Council meeting of Chorley Borough Council. He reported that Adactus have cut support worker hours across all their schemes in Lancashire. It was noted that even though Adactus has lost a £67,000 grant from Lancashire County Council, Adactus actually made a £3.9 million pound surplus last year. Cllr Bev Murray who is responsible for the Elderly and Social care will write to Adactus asking them to reinstate the support worker's hours across all of the schemes. The Leader of Chorley Borough Council is going to follow it up.  
The benefits of entering the Village in the TV Village of the Year with Penelope Keith were discussed and it was agreed the Clerk will submit an application on behalf of Mawdesley.  

| 2. | The Clerk detailed the year end financial position. The Parish Council will carry forward £35,468 at the end of the financial year 2016-2017 however, £16,000 will immediately be spent on the Community Access road and over £2,500 on completing the land drainage, trees and cutting the Leylandii on the Hurst Green play area.  

| 3. | More was spent on staffing in 2016-2017 than 2015-2016. The additional work completed by the new Village Lengths man has however made a significant impact on Village life.  

| 4. | The Bert Moss Trust investment is showing a £19,148 capital growth since the initial investment. The current account for Bert Moss currently stands at £29,535. Ideas will be discussed at the May meeting how some of the money can be used to make a significant impact on the village. Please send any further suggestions, ideas to the Parish Clerk.  

| 5. | In principal, it was agreed the Parish Council should ask the Red Admirals, our own village band to play at the Remembrance Day Parade 2017. Eccleston Brass Band have been superb for many years and the Parish Council asked the Clerk to confirm with Red Admiral's commitment to playing at future Remembrance Day parades on an ongoing basis. Eccleston Band are in demand and will quickly be asked to play at another Remembrance Day parade if the Parish Council decide to ask Red Admiral instead. A final decision will be confirmed at the May Parish Council meeting.  

| 6. | The Lengths man has reviewed the main public footpaths around Mawdesley. There is a significant number that could benefit from improvements to make them more accessible. The Lengths man and Clerk will work together on an improvement plan. The Clerk will ask Lancashire County Council for advice and possible funding. A plan will be brought to a future Parish Council meeting with a view to using some of the Bert Moss investment income to fund the improvements.  

| 7. | Loose horses in a field have made it difficult for walkers to using a public footpath. The Clerk has spoken to the owner after a parishioner expressed concern about crossing a field with loose horses in it. The owner has said she will erect an electric fence to separate the horses from the public.  

| 8. | After lengthy discussion about parking at the Village Hall, it was resolved the Village Hall would move the no parking sign from the entrance to the Community Access road to the entrance to the main Village Hall carpark.  
The Parish Council do not object to Mawdesley Village Hall considering putting yellow lines on one side of the Community Access Road to deter parking on the footpath.  

| 9. | Mawdesley Post Office have kindly offered to provide the refreshments for Clean Up Day  

| 10. | The amount of money spent on the Hurst Green play area over the last five years was discussed. Even though the figures are significant it is felt that now worse issue of the culvert has been rectified spend in future years it should be significantly less once the final surface land drainage is complete. The Parish Council insurance over the last few years has been high now the culvert work is complete there is an opportunity for the Clerk to shop round for a cheaper quote.  

| 11. | It was discussed and agreed Cllr Mike Henty, Cllr Roger Mallows and Cllr Grahame Green would be responsible for reviewing Planning Applications which need a reply before the next meeting. They will send their responses to the Clerk who will collate a collective letter on behalf of the Parish Council.  

| 12. |  

**Location** | **Proposal** | **Decision**  
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17/00342/FULBaxters | The Longcroft Ridley Lane Proposed conversion and side extension of domestic garage to create single dwelling | Objection the boundaries of “The Longcroft” are in very close proximity to adjacent properties. Building another property will be over Intensification of the greenbelt.  
17/00304/FULHH Ashworth Nook Ridley Lane | Two storey rear extension and alterations to the roof space | The Parish Council have no objection to the extension at the rear of Ashworth Nook providing it is within the allowed volume.  
17/00268/FULHH The Bungalow Ridley Lane | Extension to roof over existing side extension to incorporate room in the roof; addition of front dormer | The submitted plans would actually improve the appearance of the property providing the plans are within the allowed volume the Parish Council has no objection.  
17/00191/FULHH 34 Ashtrees | Creation of dropped kerb and driveway at front of property | No objection  
17/00165/FUL White Gates Sandy Lane | Replacement dwelling following demolition of existing house | The building is of significant historical interest in the village and this should be investigated before significant changes are made  
17/00341/FULHH Horseshoe Cottage Back Lane | First floor side extension | The plans are not detrimental to the appearance of the cottage. However, the cottage has been extended several times. The volume allowance may have already been used.  
17/00340/FULHH Horseshoe Cottage Back Lane | Single storey rear extension | See above  

### Accounts for payment

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Total £20,973.85

Signed: ___________________________ Date_________________

Name: Colin Freeman, Chairman, Mawdesley Parish Council