RIBCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 21 March 2022 at SS Peter & Pauls Parish Centre, Ribchester

**PRESENT:**

Chairman: Cllr Milne

Councillors: Law-Riding; Mason; Rollinson; Royle

Also: Mr P Yates, representing Ribchester Ecology Group; + one other resident.

**88 APOLOGIES**: Councillor Brown, Councillor Dickinson; and County Councillor Swarbrick

**89 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Paul Yates outlined the work of the Longridge Environment Group (LEG) and its stated aim is to make Longridge (and area) a healthier, happier and more sustainable place to live. It comprises a Flood group, an Ecology Group, a Waste group. It also has an overarching educational role. The particular focus for this meeting was the issue of flooding in Ribchester. An important aspect for the focus was the consideration of the impact of the two tributaries - Boyce’s Brook and Duddel Brook – on the Ribble during periods of high rainfall. The LEG was undertaking research into slowing down the flow of water from them into the already high Ribble. An example was given of a local farmer who has applied for funding for a Bunded field (to retain rain water and to arrest soil erosion) which, it is hoped will stem the flow through Stydd. Another part of the strategy is to construct ‘leaky dams’ – again to slow the flow of water around the village. A final example cited was that of the utilisation of Riparian strips along the river to be used for tree and shrub planting. Further objectives of the local Ecology group were to get landowner involvement and also to apply for funding to support these developments.

This presentation generated a great deal of interest and discussion, given that so many people in Ribchester have been affected by flooding – increasingly so in recent years. The Chairman concluded the discussion by welcoming the proposals and initiatives and stated that anything which can be done will be very useful to the village. Mr Yates was thanked for his contribution.

90 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES: The Minutes were confirmed as a true record and duly signed.

91 MATTERS ARISING