

## **CROSTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of meeting held 10 November 2004 at 7.00 pm in The Old School, Croston.

Present Cllrs P A Peet (Chair), K Almond, J Forrest, A Maddran, S Parkinson.

Also Present Borough Cllr D Dickinson, PC Plummer and 4 members of the public.

### 84.04 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors D Clough (work commitments), M A Iddon and J Kearton (previous engagements) and B Thompson (holiday).

### 85.04 Personal/Prejudicial interests

None declared.

### 86.04 Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 October 2004

Proposed the Chairman, seconded Cllr Maddran and agreed the Minutes (as circulated) be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### 87.04 Matters for Report

Parish Business Plan (75.04) The Clerk drew Councillors attention to a recent leaflet received via the LAPTC and an article in the latest Road Safety partnership newsletter advising of Plans for 2005 - 2006. The Clerk had contacted R Hayton at Lancashire County Council regarding the apparent lack of action on the 2004 -05 plan and has been advised the matter will be investigated shortly.

Draft Licensing Policy (70.04) Having studied the draft Councillors had no comment to make.

Fly Tipping (76.04) Cllr Iddon has contacted the Neighbourhood Warden with a view to his attendance at a Parish Council meeting to offer advice.

### 88.04 Police Matters

Proposed the Chairman, seconded Cllr Forrest and agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow members of the public to speak.

PC Plummer presented crime and incident figures for Croston for the period between 1 June 2004 and 10 November 2004, with comparative figure for the same period in 2003. Councillors commented on the similarity between the figures.

Cllr Almond queried whether the police newsletter could be produced as it provides useful information to residents. PC Plummer advised it is in the process of being prepared.

Councillors Forrest and Parkinson mentioned the problem with cars congregating on the station car park and then driving through the village at excessive speeds, particularly on a Friday and Saturday evening. PC Plummer will look into this when she is next on evening duty.

### 89.04 Residents Points of Interest

Mrs Sprake, the Acting Headteacher of Bishop Rawsthorpe International Language College, advised of a request to the School Governors for the letting of the school grounds for a Folk Festival over the weekend of 25 June 2005, and asked the Council's opinion on the matter. The Festival is sponsored by Chorley Borough Council and will entail caravans and camping on the grounds over the weekend. The Chairman advised the Parish Council can only pass comment on behalf of local residents and Out Lane is discussed regularly at Parish Council meetings particularly with regard to traffic problems and the lack of pavements.



Cllr Parkinson has attended similar events previously and advised they attract a more mature audience. The event could be a good thing for the village, bringing in trade to local businesses. The attendees should be encouraged to use the Royal Umpire Caravan Park for caravans and tents rather than the school grounds.

Cllr Almond questioned whether there was no venue in Chorley more suitable.

Mrs Sprake thanked the Council for its comments.

Proposed the Chairman, seconded Cllr Parkinson and agreed to restore Standing Orders.

#### 90.04 Finance

The financial monitoring statement was circulated and, as none had been received, no reconciliation of monies received was carried out.

The Chairman and Cllr Parkinson advised of a meeting with Messrs O'Loughlan and Davies of Chorley Borough Council regarding the invoice for the election recharge. Following protracted negotiations the offer was made to reduce the amount payable by the Parish Council to £875.00. Proposed the Chairman, seconded Cllr Parkinson and agreed to accept this offer.

Cllr Parkinson suggested the LAPTC Chorley Area Committee be advised of the events and asked to request Chorley Borough Council consider a fund be set aside from Council Tax out of which Parish Council elections could be paid for. The assistance of local Borough Councillors should be sought in this matter.

Proposed Cllr Almond, seconded Cllr Forrest, and agreed the following payments be approved, the invoices having been inspected by Cllr Almond:

£ 169.99	Employee 1	Salary
£ 243.60	Employee 2	Salary
£ 68.64	Inland Revenue	Tax
£ 300.00	A P Griffiths	Supply and installation of noticeboard

The Clerk reminded Councillors of the approaching precept.

#### 91.04 Planning Matters

9/04/01187 Conversion of redundant Methodist School into 4 houses and 2 self contained apartments including car parking and landscaping at Trinity and St Michaels, Station Road. Councillors felt there to be inadequate parking provision particularly as the Parish Plan data revealed there to be 1.8 vehicles per household in Croston, which is greater than the 1.5 stipulated by the Planning Authority. Vehicular access was felt to be a problem and the development was felt to be over intensive.

Proposed the Chairman, seconded Cllr Parkinson and agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow members of the public to speak.

Residents expressed concerns regarding the extension of parking restrictions to allow access to the car park, and felt that generally access would present a problem.

Proposed the Chairman, seconded Cllr Maddran and agreed to restore Standing Orders.

The Parish Council is to object to the development on the grounds that the development is over intensive, the poor access may represent a traffic hazard, there is no a proven need for this type of residence and there is insufficient parking provision.

9/04/01207 Erection of wooden cabin at 46 Drinkhouse Road - no comment



9/04/01220 To reduce the height of a cherry tree by 6 feet and reduce the height of an ivy tree by 4 feet in the Croston Conservation Area at 46 Rectory Close - no comment

#### 92.04 Christmas Tree Lights

The Clerk reported on discussions with Apple Electrical, who had previously mentioned the requirement for work to the electrical supply, who now felt the work could be postponed for this year. The sum of £500 has been precepted for this and Councillors suggested contacting a local electrician, J McDougal, to investigate.

Proposed Cllr Almond, seconded Cllr Forrest that Mr McDougal investigates and, provided the cost is below £500, be instructed to carry out the work in time for the Parish Plan Launch.

#### 93.04 Railway Station

Residents had complained to Cllr Forrest regarding the litter and other refuse on the platform and shelter. The Clerk had emailed First North Western advising of the problem and requesting the installation of litter bags of the type used by MerseyRail. The Station Manager will investigate the suggestions.

Cllr Forrest suggested dummy CCTV cameras installed in other locations has worked well and may be worth considering. It was also mentioned that MerseyRail may be taking over the operation of the service.

#### 94.04 Newsletter

Councillors agreed the December issue should be held to cover the Parish Plan Launch and delivery could tie in with the Parish Plan Final Document. Advertising rates are to be held at the initial pricing structure and are to be included in the newsletter. Councillors are to provide articles for inclusion to the Clerk by 30 November.

#### 95.04 LAPTC

Proposed Cllr Forrest, seconded Cllr Parkinson and agreed that, given the absence of a number of Councillors, the selection of a representative for the Chorley Area Committee be deferred until the next meeting.

#### 96.04 Parish Plan

Cllr Forrest updated the Council. The summary has been completed and is currently with the printer. The launch date of 4 December is still being aimed at. A public meeting will be held in January to present the summary to residents.

#### 97.04 Correspondence

Lancashire Police Authority is holding its "Policing 05" meeting on 30 November. The Clerk is to attend.

The Department of Culture, Media and Sport advised of the listing of the Lord Nelson water pump, but that the Oak House water pump was not considered worthy of listing.

County Councillor Whittaker provided information on an item considered by the Executive Committee at Chorley Borough Council. An amount in excess of £19000, of Section 106 Developers Contributions, designated for Croston had been recommended by Officer's for award to the Bishop Rawsthorne School to support a grant application for an all weather pitch. The Parish Council concurred with Cllr Whittaker's view that it should have been consulted as the locally elected body and the Clerk is to write to the Borough Council expressing this.

Chorley Borough Council advised of its Christmas Continental Market on 11 - 13 November.

Information booklets on the Quality Parish Council scheme from the LAPTC were distributed.



#### 98.04 Matters for Further Discussion

The Chairman reported on the unauthorised use of the Village Green for a fireworks display. The Parish Council, as trustee, was not informed and concerns were expressed regarding the insurance implications. Cllr Parkinson suggested an article be placed in the newsletter, and the pubs and restaurant in the immediate vicinity be advised of the implications.

Cllr Almond reported the bollard in the vicinity of the Royal Bank of Scotland, which had been damaged by a car, was in the process of being attended to.

The Clerk is to contact the Planning Department regarding the pergola to the front of the Wheatsheaf, which was originally believed to be a temporary structure.

Cllr Forrest requested a letter of thanks be forwarded to M Walsh, of Lancashire County Council, thanking him for his assistance with the resurfacing of the stretch of Moor Road.

Cllr Almond requested a letter of thanks be forwarded to S Ainscough, of Chorley Borough Council, thanking him for his assistance with the bin for carrier bags by the recycling facilities. A larger (or additional) bin, or more frequent emptying, is to be requested as the new one appears permanently full.

Cllr Almond reported a new flag has been obtained for Remembrance Sunday, and the Chairman reminded Councillors of the meeting place and time for the Parade. Cllr Forrest offered his apologies for the day.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

