

CROSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of meeting held 12 October 2005 at 7.30 pm in The Old School, Croston.

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

Also Present Borough Councillors Dickinson and Iddon and 2 members of the public.

81.05 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Gibbons.

82.05 Personal/Prejudicial interests

None declared.

83.05 Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 September 2005

Proposed Cllr Parkinson, seconded Cllr B Thompson and agreed the Minutes (as circulated) be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record with the following amendment:

Borough Councillor Iddon and PC Plummer were not present at the meeting.

84.05 Matters for Report

Land at Rectory Farm (67.05) Copies of correspondence have been forwarded to the Diocesan surveyor. Car Park Bollards (54.05) – Chorley Borough Council has no information regarding future maintenance. The Clerk is to examine the deeds held in safe keeping by the Bank and will require the authority of the Council to do so.

Proposed Cllr B Thompson, seconded Cllr S Thompson and agreed a letter of authority allowing the Clerk to view the deeds be signed.

Methodist School Railings (74.05) A response is awaited from Lancashire County Council.

Joint Meeting (76.05) Ulnes Walton Parish Council has provided 2 dates. Councillors are to advise the Clerk of the suitability of the dates.

Local Development Framework (78.05) Comments are required by 26 October 2005.

Proposed Cllr Parkinson, seconded Cllr Forrest and agreed a meeting be held on 17 October 2005 to consider the documents in detail and formulate a response.

Sustainable Communities Bill (78.05) Councillors agreed to request Lindsay Hoyle MP to sign an Early Day Motion in support of the Bill.

Litter bins (79.05) Chorley Borough Council is to replace the concrete bins.

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

85.05 Police Matters

Recent incidents have included several burglaries and attempted burglaries. There has been an increase in youth problems and reports of dangerous driving and inconsiderate parking on Station Road and Town Road. PC Plummer requested the Parish Council's support for the Neighbourhood Policing Policy which should avoid her being called away to deal with incidents in other areas and result in more time being spent within the village.

Cllr B Thompson thanked PC Plummer for her response to an incident and queried the situation regarding traffic on Out Lane. The Chairman reminded Councillors that Out Lane is in the process of being addressed under the Parish Business Plan. PC Plummer will keep an eye on the parking situation.

Cllr Forrest mentioned parking on the pavement outside the Co-op. PC Plummer will discuss signage with the Co-op and has issued several fixed penalties notices.



Cllr S Thompson advised of a recent problem with youths camping on the Recreation Ground. The light on the Recreation Ground is not working. The Clerk is to arrange its repair.

PC Plummer advised she is now trained in the use of mobile speed cameras and will be working in conjunction with other local Officers in various locations throughout the Ward. Cllr Kearton requested PC Plummer's views on the mobile speed indicators and was advised they could be very useful if located in the right areas.

86.05 Residents Points of Interest

A resident mentioned the traffic problem on Out Lane. The Clerk is to obtain an update regarding the 20mph zone consultation from Lancashire County Council. The Chairman is to meet with the new Headteacher of Trinity and St Michaels Primary School and will discuss the traffic issue.

Residents advised of flooding of the pavement on Town Road between the Halifax and Memory Lane. Borough Councillor Iddon will report the problem.

87.05 Borough Councillors

Borough Councillor Iddon advised she will arrange the leaf sweeping by the Borough Council once the majority of leaves have been shed.

New signage and road markings have finally been agreed on the bend by the School entrance on Highfield Road following much negotiation with Lancashire County Council.

Proposed Cllr Forrest, seconded Cllr B Thompson and agreed to restore Standing Orders.

Proposed Cllr Parkinson, seconded Cllr Forrest and agreed a letter be sent to Chief Inspector Howard supporting the redesignation of PC Plummer as a Community Beat Manager

88.05 Finance

The budget monitoring statement was circulated and the Chairman carried out the reconciliation of monies received in accordance with the fidelity guarantee.

Councillors considered a grant request from Croston St Michaels Scout for the purchase of new tents costing £600, which are required following the intake of girls into Scouts.

Proposed Cllr Parkinson, seconded Cllr S Thompson and agreed that a donation of £600 be awarded.

Councillors considered the cash amount to be withdrawn for the Remembrance Sunday donation which also includes the wreath and refreshments following the Church Service.

Proposed Cllr Parkinson, seconded Cllr B Thompson and agreed that £80 be withdrawn.

Proposed Cllr S Thompson, seconded Cllr B Thompson, and agreed the following payments be approved, the invoices having been inspected by Cllr B Thompson:

£ 249.95	Employee 1	Salary
£ 285.65	Employee 2	Salary
£ 80.52	Inland Revenue	Tax
£ 25.00	CPRE	Subscription
£ 141.00	BDO Stoy Hayward	Annual audit
£ 75.00	Croston St Michaels Scouts	Newsletter delivery
£ 15.00	Croston Old School	Room hire
£ 312.00	R Sutton	Grasscutting
£ 558.83	Lancashire County Council	Replacement boundary signs
£ 80.00	Cash	Remembrance Sunday donation
£ 135.00	Minuteman Press	Newsletter printing
£ 600.00	Croston St Michaels Scouts	Donation



Cllr Parkinson advised that a donation of £25 had been made to Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team rather than the £50 agreed. The Clerk confirmed the error and will raise a further cheque for the balance at the next meeting.

89.05 Planning Matters

05/00794 Felling of 3 leylandii within Croston Conservation Area at 21 Rectory Close - no comment.

05/00978 Erection of single storey rear extension and insertion of velux roof light in existing roof at 42 Lonsdale Drive – no comment

05/01000 Erection of single storey extension (orangery) at 4 Home Farm Mews, Grape Lane - no comment as the application would be viewed by the Conservation Officer.

05/01001 Erection of summerhouse at 4 Home Farm Mews, Grape Lane - no comment as the application would be viewed by the Conservation Officer.

90.05 Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2005

The Clerk presented the completed Annual Return.

Proposed Cllr S Thompson, seconded Cllr Kearton and agreed that the Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2005 be approved and accepted by the Council.

91.05 Closed Circuit Television System

Cllr Parkinson has discussed operational issues with PC Connor, who should be able to provide signage. Councillors discussed the locations the system could be used. The Village Green, Recreation Ground and Station car park are valid locations provided sites can be found for the camera.

Cllr Parkinson presented three alternative quotations for the purchase of a system, and advised that the Y3K equipment appears to be of a lower quality than the alternatives.

CPC (Preston) £1065, Y3K (mail order) £939.90 and Permavision (Chorley) £1000.

Proposed Cllr Maddran, seconded Cllr B Thompson and agreed that the Permavision quotation be accepted. The Clerk is to issue the order for the goods.

92.05 Village Entrance Project

Cllr Almond drew Councillors attention to the Best Kept Village judges comments which suggested "more special/imaginative planting/floral displays and focal points at key areas are needed." Assistance with the Village Entrance Project will be required and the next newsletter is to contain a request for volunteers.

The Chairman suggested a discussion following the meeting on Monday 17 February 2005.

Cllr Parkinson suggested the grant recently received should be spent on existing areas.

93.05 Recreation Ground

Councillors agreed to a clean up of the area over the weekend of 29/30 October 2005. The Clerk is to contact Chorley Borough Council to request bags, gloves and removal of the rubbish collected. The Arboricultural Officer is to be asked to inspect an apparently dead tree and advise whether it can be removed.

94.05 Reports from Outside Bodies

The Chairman reported on the recent Borough/Parish Council Liaison Meeting which covered Planning and Enforcement. The Borough Council has received funding for an additional staff member in the Enforcement Section and will be re-evaluating and prioritising outstanding matters. The Development Control Section, now comprising of very young teams lead by experienced team leaders, and the Regeneration Section are to merge.



The Head of Planning provided useful information on the planning process.

Cllr Almond reported on the Station Adoption Group Meeting at which members received a safety briefing. The shelter had been vandalised prior to the meeting. Cllr Almond is the Liaison and will provide a list of members.

95.05 Correspondence

Chorley Borough Council advised of a forthcoming Borough/Parish Council Liaison meeting. Cllr B Thompson will attend.

Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team thanked the Council for its donation.

A resident applied for a grant for educational purposes. The Clerk is to respond advising the Council does not receive funding for educational grants. There are other possible sources of assistance and the Clerk is to offer to pass on the residents' details with their permission.

Lancashire County Council weight restriction for Town Bridge. The Clerk is to reiterate the Council's fears for the structure.

Lancashire County Council provided details of its Mineral and Waste Development Framework Submission Draft Statement of Community Involvement.

Croston Drama Group queried the Council's financial support of the South Lancashire Arts Partnership events and requesting consideration should further drama workshops be arranged. The Clerk had replied advising of the stipulation that Developers Funds must be used for the provision of youth facilities and Councillors had nothing further to add.

96.05 Matters for Further Discussion

Following Cllr Almond's concerns the Clerk has arranged for Chorley Borough Council to repair and repaint the Station Road bus shelter.

Cllr Almond had suggested the Chorley Citizen be requested to arrange delivery in Croston. The Clerk had contacted the company and was advised that current funding would not allow it, but residents could subscribe to receive copies. The Clerk is to obtain details of subscription.

Cllr Almond mentioned repair of the fencing on the land adjacent to Coniston Way was needed as it was being used as a short cut to Westhead Road. Cllr Kearton had discussed the matter with the landowner, who did not wish to upset residents by replacing the fencing. Cllr Kearton will suggest the landowner repairs the fence.

Cllr Almond queried the position with the footpath between the Old School and the Cemetery.

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

Having been advised by Lancashire County Council that the path recently is deemed acceptable as a public footpath Borough Cllr Iddon is attempting to have the tarmac replaced.

Proposed Cllr Almond, seconded Cllr Forrest and agreed to restore Standing Orders.

Cllr Parkinson provided a draft Code of Practice for Handling Complaints, copies of which were provided for Councillors to study. The Code will be considered for adoption at the next meeting.

Cllr S Thompson advised Cllr Gibbons was considering the Clerks contract.

Councillors were advised the Remembrance Sunday Parade will depart from The Old School at 2.30 pm on 13 November.

Cllr Forrest mentioned the flag poles on The Mill Hotel remain. The Clerk is to query the situation with the Enforcement Officer.

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

