

CROSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of meeting held 9 November 2005 at 7.30 pm in The Old School, Croston.

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

Also Present 2 members of the public.

97.05 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Kearton and Borough Councillors Dickinson and Iddon.

98.05 Personal/Prejudicial interests

Cllrs Almond, Forrest, Gibbons, Parkinson and S Thompson declared interests in matters for consideration within item 8 on the agenda.

99.05 Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 October 2005

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

100.05 Matters for Report

Interests (80.05) The Monitoring Officer is currently looking into Parish Councillor declarations.

Land at Rectory Farm (84.05) A chasing letter has been sent to the Diocesan surveyor.

Car Park Bollards (84.05) The documents held by the Bank have been inspected and no reference to future maintenance was discovered. Councillors suggested the Clerk liaise with Borough Cllr Iddon, who was a member of the Council at the time of the adoption.

Methodist School Railings (84.05) Lancashire County Council has been chased for a reply.

Joint Meeting (84.05) The meeting will take place on 7 December 2005 at the Old School, Ulnes Walton. Councillors are to advise the Clerk of attendance and agenda items as soon as possible.

Local Development Framework (84.05) The Parish Council's response has been forwarded.

Chorley Citizen (96.05) The publishers are considering distribution in the Croston area and requested suggestions regarding delivery. An article will be placed in the next newsletter.

101.05 Police Matters

None reported

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

102.05 Residents Points of Interest

A representative of Croston Scout Group advised the tents, for which the Council had provided a grant, have been purchased and suggested one could be erected for a photo opportunity. Also, given the lack of other organisations coming forward, the Scouts will deliver the forthcoming newsletter.

103.05 Borough Councillors

None present

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



104.05 Finance

Cllrs Almond, Forrest, Gibbons, Parkinson and S Thompson declared interests in the following item and left the meeting. Cllrs Almond and Forrest also declared interests in the subsequent item.

Councillors considered a grant request from The Parish Plan Steering Group towards the production of a business directory as stipulated in the Parish Plan. The anticipated cost is £345.

The Chairman mentioned the excellent quality of previous publications and suggested the Council should offer assistance.

Proposed Cllr B Thompson, seconded Cllr Maddran and agreed, that a grant of £345 be awarded.

Cllrs Gibbons, Parkinson and S Thompson rejoined the meeting.

Councillors considered a grant request from The Croston Community Centre Committee towards the purchase of the Over 60's Building and the legal fees. The purchase price is £27000 and legal fees will start at £395 (+VAT).

Cllr Parkinson reminded the Council of the policy of awarding grants for material purchases only.

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

A member of the public answered Councillors queries relating to the application.

The purchase price includes the land and building. Grant funding is also being sought from other sources and there does not appear to be a time limit on the purchase at this stage.

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

Cllr B Thompson suggested any grant awarded should be seen as a one-off and should not be considered as a regular item.

Proposed Cllr Parkinson, seconded Cllr S Thompson and agreed, that a grant of £1000 be awarded towards the purchase of the building. The grant will be available only for the actual purchase.

Cllrs Almond and Forrest rejoined the meeting.

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

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

£ 242.40	Employee 1	Salary
£ 285.65	Employee 2	Salary
£ 80.52	Inland Revenue	Tax
£ 25.00	Bowland Pennine MRT	Donation
£ 1175.00	Permavision	Closed Circuit TV system
£ 29.08	Chorley Borough Council	Waste bags
£ 39.95	I M Brown	Repair to swing
£ 16.80	Croston Old School	Room hire
£ 345.00	Parish Plan Steering Group	Donation

Croston Scout Group thanked the Council for the donation to purchase new tents.

105.05 Planning Matters

05/01014 Rear conservatory at 10 Coniston Way - no comment.



05/01032 Erection of single storey rear extension and insertion of velux roof light in existing roof at 42 Lonsdale Drive - no comment

106.05 Code of Practice

Proposed Cllr S Thompson, seconded Cllr B Thompson and agreed, that the Code of Practice for Handling Complaints, distributed at the last meeting, be adopted.

Proposed Cllr Parkinson, seconded Cllr Forrest and agreed, that the Code of Conduct for Employees, distributed at the last meeting, be adopted.

107.05 Recreation Ground

Councillors discussed the recent clean up of the area. Cllr Almond recommended the removal of the mound behind the Youth Shelter. Cllr Parkinson suggested the area is in need of a complete overhaul and should be considered in time for the setting of the precept.

Cllr Gibbons offered to survey the area. Suggestions were made including the re-tarmacing of the path and the removal of the half pipe.

Cllr Forrest has obtained written permission for the walls of the adjoining building to be painted.

The Chairman requested Councillors bring ideas to the next meeting.

108.05 Closed Circuit Television System

Cllr Parkinson advised the system must be used in compliance with the Data Protection Act. It would be deployed for Parish Council assets only and may be extended to the Station area. Requests from the Police would also be considered. The required log of use and signage must be arranged and the relevant permission of landowners obtained prior to use.

Proposed Cllr Forrest, seconded Cllr B Thompson and agreed, Cllr Parkinson, in conjunction with the Chairman and Clerk, will be responsible for the deployment of the system.

A simple article advising the Council now has the system is to be placed in the newsletter. The article will not contain details of potential locations so as to avoid possible damage to the camera.

Cllr Parkinson left the meeting

109.05 Christmas Lights

Cllr Forrest advised he and the Clerk had visited to MK Illuminations to inspect the options available. A system of LED lights coloured blue costing £488.10 (+VAT) appeared to offer the best solution and would cover the christmas tree and two or three perimeter trees.

Proposed Cllr Forrest, seconded Cllr S Thompson and agreed, the Council purchases the LED lights. The Clerk is to issue the order to MK Illuminations.

Cllr Forrest requested permission for a small trench to be dug on the Village Green to lay a power cable between the christmas tree and the perimeter trees.

Proposed Cllr S Thompson, seconded Cllr Gibbons and agreed, permission be granted for the digging of the trench.

110.05 Reports from Outside Bodies

The Clerk reported on the recent Borough/Parish Council Liaison Meeting. Issues considered included the Draft Corporate Strategy 2006/07-2008/09 and conflict between horse riders and pedestrians and motorists.

The Chairman reported on the recent LAPTIC Chorley Area Committee meeting. Inspector Edmondson advised PC Plummer has been taken off response and should be able to spend more time on her area. The LAPTIC was discussed, with questions being raised concerning the value of



membership. Most members valued the local committee meeting, and the opportunities to share problems and experiences at a Chorley Committee, outside of the LAPTC, was suggested.

Cllr Forrest advised that the RCPT is now based at the Old School and is fully operational. A Torchlit procession will begin from the Village Green on 16 December, with a Father Christmas being in attendance. Councillors granted permission for the use of the Village Green.

111.05 Correspondence

Lancashire County Council provided details of a proposal for consultation - Strengthening Local Democratic Decision Making in Lancashire. As comments are required by 20 December the information was placed in the mailbag for consideration.

Cllr Forrest queried the current situation with the Parish Business Plan. Lancashire County Council has designated an Officer specifically to deal with the Plans. Copy correspondence has been forwarded.

112.05 Matters for Further Discussion

Cllr S Thompson advised the footpath by Ruttles fence was overgrown. The Clerk will notify the Countryside Officer.

Incidents of vandalism carried out by local youths had been reported. The Clerk is to advise the Headteacher at Bishop Rawsthorn.

Cllr Almond suggested the location of an additional noticeboard in the garden area by the Police Station. The Clerk will seek permission from Lancashire Constabulary.

Cllr Almond reported the flag had, once again, been stolen from the flagpole. Councillors felt a replacement should be purchased in time for Remembrance Sunday and should fly only by day.

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

A resident suggested relocating the flagpole to the centre of the Village Green.

Councillors agreed this should be considered within the future Village Green regeneration.

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

Proposed Cllr Maddran, seconded Cllr B Thompson and agreed, Cllr Almond should be reimbursed for the missing flag and the Parish Council purchases a replacement. Cllr Forrest will obtain a new flag.

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

