

CROSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting held 14 December 2005 at 7.30 pm in The Old School, Croston.

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

Also Present Borough Cllr Iddon and 1 member of the public.

113.05 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr B and S Thompson (prior engagements).

114.05 Personal/Prejudicial interests

Cllr Maddran declared an interest in matters for consideration within item 8 on the agenda.

115.05 Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 November 2005

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

116.05 Matters for Report

Land at Rectory Farm (100.05) The Diocesan surveyor advises the property is in the process of being sold to the company with whom negotiations have been ongoing for over two years.

Sustainable Communities Bill (84.05) Lindsay Hoyle MP advises of his signing of the Early Day Motion in support of the Bill.

Noticeboard (112.05) PC Plummer and Inspector Edmondson have been contacted. PC Plummer has no objections to the proposed location and Inspector Edmondson will liaise with the relevant department within Lancashire Constabulary.

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

117.05 Police Matters

PC Plummer advised of incidents including two burglaries, theft from, and damage to, vehicles, and vandalism with an incident involving a neighbour dispute occurring on Pear Tree Road.

PC Plummer is now a Community Beat Manager, and will be arranging Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings to the future.

Cllr Parkinson requested a light for the telephone outside the Police Station and mentioned an increase in dog fouling on Station Road. Councillors also mentioned Westhead Road and Castle Walks were also affected.

Cllr Thompson mentioned an assault involving youths on Grape Lane over the New Year period.

Cllr Forrest reported parking on the pavement outside the Co-op. PC Plummer has been taking details of vehicles to ascertain persistent offenders.

incident

118.05 Residents Points of Interest

No points raised.

119.05 Borough Councillors

Borough Cllr Iddon advised a final sweep to remove the remaining leaves has been requested.

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



120.05 Finance

Cllr Maddran declared a prejudicial interest in the following item and left the meeting.

Councillors considered a grant request from Croston Junior Cricket Club towards the purchase of additional cricket equipment costing a total of £600 for Junior teams.

Cllr Parkinson mentioned the cricket club operates independently of the Sports Club, which allows free use of facilities and felt grants should be awarded to local organisations providing facilities for younger residents.

Proposed Cllr Almond, seconded Cllr Forrest and agreed, that a grant of £500 be awarded.

Cllr Maddran rejoined the meeting.

Cllr Forrest suggested £50 be paid to Mrs Wilson towards the supply of the Christmas tree.

Proposed Cllr Forrest, seconded Cllr Almond and agreed that £50 be paid to Mrs Wilson as a contribution towards this year's tree.

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

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

£ 297.95	Employee 1	Salary
£ 285.65	Employee 2	Salary
£ 80.52	Inland Revenue	Tax
£ 544.14	A Platt	Reimbursement for Christmas lights
£ 204.11	A Platt	Reimbursements
£ 40.00	A P Griffiths	Repair to noticeboard
£ 36.75	Allianz Cornhill Insurance	Additional premium
£ 148.40	C Wilson	Autumn planting
£ 12.00	Croston Old School	Room hire
£ 500.00	Croston Cricket Club	Donation
£ 50.00	C Wilson	Christmas tree

Croston Community Centre thanked the Council for the offer of the donation.

121.05 Planning Matters

05/01140 Retrospective application for the erection of an internally illuminated fascia sign and projecting sign and non-illuminated welcome/security sign at The Royal Bank of Scotland, 23 Town Road - Councillors agreed to object as the signage is not in keeping with the village and the conservation area. Also the fascia sign appears oversized and obscures an important feature of the building.

05/01149 Development of two intersecting grass airstrips for microlight and very light aircraft (within South Ribble Borough). Access to the airstrips via a grass taxiway, with car parking and office/toilet facilities provided in existing farm buildings (within Chorley Borough) at Long Fold Farm, North Road, Bretherton - Councillors agreed to object as the Parish Plan had highlighted residents concerns regarding light aircraft flying over the village. Residents found the noise from light aircraft to be a major nuisance currently and would obviously not want the problem exacerbated. The increase in traffic, particularly with trailers, on minor roads may lead to problems and the noise nuisance may have an adverse effect on local farms' livestock.

122.05 Parish Precept for the Year Ending 31 March 2007



Councillors suggested possible items for the precept to be decided at the next meeting. A wireless closed circuit TV camera and additional Christmas lights were put forward, together with the possible relocation of the electricity supply post to nearer the Village Green noticeboard. A power supply adjacent to the play area and an additional noticeboard were also mentioned.

123.05 Recreation Ground

Cllr Gibbons had surveyed the area, but intends to resurvey in time for the next meeting. Items requiring attention were highlighted including the safety surfacing, which was considered in need of maintenance, the tarmac path which requires repair or possible replacement and edging with the resetting of a manhole cover. Cllr Forrest suggested the removal of the half-pipe. The mound behind the Youth Shelter was also discussed. Cllr Parkinson suggested the mound could be re-contoured to allow mowing, rather than incur the costs of removal. The lighting is in need of improvement with an additional column suggested by the Youth Shelter. The walls of buildings bordering the play area could be painted in conjunction with Lancashire Youth Services .

The Clerk is to obtain estimates for a mini digger and operative to re-contour the mound.

124.05 Strengthening Local Democratic Decision Making in Lancashire

Cllr Parkinson commented that, whilst the information made interesting reading, previous initiatives, such as the Parish Business Plan, should be followed through prior to the implementation of new ones. Councillors agreed with the comments.

125.05 Croston United Churches Coffee Day Committee

In response to an invitation for a member of the Council to attend the next Committee meeting on 16 January 2006 so as to gain a better understanding of the operation of the Committee several Councillors volunteered to represent the Council.

Proposed Cllr Gibbons, seconded Cllr Maddran and agreed, Cllr Parkinson is to attend on behalf of the Council.

126.05 Wayside Seat on Town Road

Cllr Almond advised FRY wished to place a seat by Town Bridge and requested the Council's opinion. The Clerk requested details of future maintenance and Cllr Almond will clarify this. Councillors had no objections in principle.

127.05 Reports from Outside Bodies

The Chairman reported on the recent joint meeting with Bretherton and Ulnes Walton Parish Councils. Issues considered included the Prison Liaison Committee, the South Penwortham Bypass, the Quiet Lanes initiative, a joint committee for road safety in the ward and audit fees.

Councillors agreed to support Ulnes Walton's attempts to have Chorley Borough Council redraft the Prison Liaison Committee to include more local representation.

The next meeting will be hosted by the Parish Council and will take place in early March.

128.05 Correspondence

Lindsay Hoyle MP is holding a meeting with Parish Councils on 5 January 2006. Cllrs Forrest and Maddran will attend.

Lancashire County Council provided details of a Parish and Town Council's Conference on 14 January 2006. The Chairman will liaise with the Vice Chairman regarding attendance.

Chorley CPRE District Group is holding it's AGM on 3 January 2006. Cllr Almond will attend.

Chorley Borough Council will hold the next Area Forum in Croston on 23 March 2006.



NALC proved details of draft guidance on The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act.

129.05 Matters for Further Discussion

Cllr Forrest asked whether the Lengthsman could cover the Jubilee Mills estate occasionally.

Recycling bags are not being collected when mixed bags are left out. An item advising of the correct usage of the containers is to be included in the next newsletter.

Cllr Forrest reported the hedge on the corner of Moor Road is overgrown. The Clerk will advise the Highways Partnership.

Cllr Almond advised of recent occurrences of bank card cloning at the Royal Bank of Scotland. Other local incidents have occurred and residents are urged to exercise caution and report any suspected tampering with the machines.

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

