

## **CROSTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the Meeting held 8 February 2012 at 7.30 pm in The Old School, Croston.

Present Cllrs A Peet (Chairman), K Almond, R Baker, P Fenemore, B Paillusson, S Parkinson, G Stubbs.

Also present Borough Councillor D Dickinson and 2 Members of the Public.

### 12.12 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors K Iddon and P Walmsley.

### 13.12 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

### 14.12 Minutes of Meeting held 11 January 2012

Resolved: the Minutes (as circulated) be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Resolved: Standing Orders be suspended to allow members of the public to speak.

### 15.12 Public Participation

A resident advised the grille for the culvert on Station Road is blocked with litter. The path from Station Road onto the Station car park is obstructed by trees and parts of the fence around the Woodyard are lying on the Station car park. Water is gathering on the Little Lane footpath. Dog fouling on Station Road and problems with parked cars by the Methodist School were reported.

Croston Bank Neighbourhood Watch thanked the Council for the donation towards the grit bin.

The new bus stops for Croston Park have been installed.

Problems with the mini roundabout on Jubilee Way have been reported to LCC.

A resident advised of receipt of confirmation of a grant, from the Big Lottery, for the Tree Spree.

Resolved: Standing Orders be restored.

### 16.12 Financial Matters

Councillors considered the financial update and bank reconciliation.

Resolved: the financial update be received and accepted and signed by the Chairman.

The Clerk provided evidence of the receipt of the Precept request by Chorley Council.

Councillors consider a grant request from North West Air Ambulance towards running costs.

Resolved: grant of £100 be awarded, to be paid in April 2012 from the 2012 - 213 budgets.

Resolved: the following payments be approved, the invoices having been inspected in accordance with fidelity guarantee requirements:

£ 350.39	Employee 1	Salary
£ 325.76	Employee 2	Salary
£ 75.20	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE
£ 16.00	Croston Old School	Room hire
£ 245.00	Croston Cricket Club	Memorial donations
£ 90.00	Ark Welding	Play area repairs
£ 72.00	Ark Welding	Fixing of Best Kept Village plaques

### 17.12 Planning Matters

12/00026/LBC and 12/00027/FUL Internal and external alterations and rear extension to a listed building (grade 2) at 13 Church Street.

12/00056/TPO Felling of one Horse Chestnut Tree (*Aesculus hippocastanum*) T5 of TPO No.5 (Croston) 1991 due to Canker infection at St Michael's Church Grounds, Church Street.

Councillors had no comments in respect of the applications.

#### 18.12 Summer 2012/Spring 2103 Planting

Councillors considered a quotation for the supply and planting of bedding plants.

Resolved: DWG (NW) be instructed to supply plants.

#### 19.12 Newsletter

A request to increase the amount paid for delivery of the newsletters was considered.

As a budget had already been set for the forthcoming financial year the issue will be reviewed at the setting of the precept for 2013 - 2014. Councillors suggested alternative means of delivery should also be investigated.

#### 20.12 Flooding Issues

The Community Flood Plan Group meeting suggested the Council sets up a Working Group to deal with the Plan. Cllr Fenemore volunteered to act as Co-ordinator for the Group, which will also comprise of Councillors Almond, Paillusson and Stubbs.

A detailed report from the Flood Overview Study Group was provided. The report was noted.

#### 21.12 Lancashire Mineral and Waste Development Framework

A consultation on proposed major modifications to the Framework was considered. As the modifications did not impact on the village Councillors had no comments to submit.

#### 22.12 Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition

Possible entries for the 2012 competition were discussed. Councillors are to check whether possible entrants are willing to be put forward and report back at the March meeting.

#### 23.12 Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)

The Borough/Parish Councils Liaison Meeting received information on the Community Infrastructure Levy, the Three Tier Forum and Chorley Council taking over the cutting of highway verges and other public realm work from Lancashire County Council.

#### 24.12 Exclusion of the Press and Public

Councillors considered the exclusion of members of the press and public for an item of business, in accordance with Section 1 (3) of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

Resolved: members of the public be excluded for the consideration of the following item.

#### 25.12 Personnel Matters

Councillors reviewed hourly rates of pay and hours worked for staff members.

Resolved: hourly rates of pay are to remain unchanged, subject to review in October 2012.

Resolved: the Clerk's hours be increased by 1 hour per week to 11 hours per week.

#### 26.12 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 14 March 2012.

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