

## CROSTON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of the Meeting held 11 December 2013 at 7.30 pm in The Old School, Croston.

Present Councillors A Peet (Chairman), K Almond, M Cowley, P Fenemore, K Iddon, E Norris, B Paillusson, S Parkinson and G Stubbs.

Also Present Representatives from Lancashire County Council, the Environment Agency and 6 members of the Public.

### 136.13 Apologies for Absence

None received.

### 137.13 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

### 138.13 Minutes of Meeting held 13 November 2013

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

### 139.13 Public Participation

Representatives from Lancashire County Council and the Environment Agency advised a pump is to be provided at The Old School as part of the flood resilience programme. The Parish Council's assistance towards the insurance excess and maintenance costs was requested. Councillors advised discussions should be undertaken with the Trustees of The Old School regarding the potential impact of siting the pump at the Old School. The representatives were thanked for their assistance.

A resident raised concerns regarding the application for the proposed extension to the opening hours of the all weather sports pitch at Bishop Rawstone College. Councillors advised the Council's objection to the application had been submitted.

Information was provided on a possible project to provide bungalows on a site off Castle Walks.

Residents advised the contractors for the St Aidan's Place development are causing problems on Station Road. Large amounts of soil and other debris are trailed along the road and the sweeping system used by the contractors is totally inadequate. Large pieces of soil and rock are left along the pavement causing a hazard to pedestrians. Contractor's vehicles are taking up places on the Station car park, to the detriment of passengers.

A resident advised of problems with litter, particularly on recycling collection days.

Comments had been made regarding the size of the Christmas tree. Councillors are to liaise with neighbouring pubs with a view to obtaining future trees from an alternative supplier.

The meeting was advised the elderly resident of a first floor flat, who had been unsuccessful in bids for three local properties, has been rehoused to a ground floor property.

Resolved: Standing Orders were restored.

### 140.13 Financial Matters

Councillors considered the financial update and bank reconciliation.

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

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

£	383.63	K Greenhalgh	Salary
£	426.94	A Platt	Salary
£	59.00	HM Revenue & Customs	Tax and NI
£	18.00	Croston Old School	Room hire

£ 425.00 Minuteman Press  
£ 307.80 J H Mayor and Sons  
£ 20.00 Chorley Civic Society

Newsletter printing  
Christmas tree  
Annual subscription

#### 141.13 Planning Matters

13/01070/TCON Fell and remove small Ash tree and reduce and thin small Ash tree to prevent damage to building to rear owned by third party at 1 Highfield Road.

13/01090/FUL Formation of new vehicular access at Butterfly Hall Farm, Highfield Road.

13/01100/FUL Application to vary condition 3 to consent granted under 12/00942/FUL to retention of existing bungalow and erection of 4 detached dwelling houses on former builders merchants site at 127A Station Road.

13/01101/FUL Demolition of existing front porch and single storey extension to the front elevation at 18 Yarrow Close.

Councillors had no comments to make relating to these applications.

13/00907/FUL and 13/00908/LBC Two storey extension to provide 18 no. bedrooms at Croston Park Nursing Home.

Resolved: comments that the Council supports the application in principle however concerns are to be raised regarding the impact of surface water drainage on the existing flooding issues and car parking provision are to be submitted.

13/01143/SCE Request for Screening Opinion for two wind turbines measuring 45.5m to tip at Land 250m north of Croston Brickworks, Brickcroft Lane. Councillors expressed serious objections to the proposal however the Clerk advised this was not a matter for comment at this stage as the Request for a Screening Opinion is dealt with solely by the Planning Authority.

#### 142.13 Precept 2014 - 2015

Councillors discussed items for inclusion in the Precept, which will be set in January. Suggestions included additional expenditure on Christmas celebrations, contracting out the watering of summer bedding plants and a contribution towards the new pump maintenance.

#### 143.13 War Memorial

Refurbishment of the War Memorial was discussed. Rawcliffes of Chorley have been asked to inspect the Memorial and surround area and provide an indication of what is required.

#### 144.13 Local Audit

A consultation from the Department for Communities and Local Government regarding draft regulations relating to the future of the Local Audit was discussed. It was noted changes already implemented have resulted in reduced fees for the external audit.

#### 145.13 Play and Open Space Consultation

Councillors considered a consultation from Chorley Council. It was noted the Recreation Ground was to be protected and funding applied for to enhance the facilities.

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

Borough/Parish Council Liaison meeting - issues raised included grass cutting and winter gritting.

Borough/Parish Clerks meeting - a new system for reporting issues direct online was presented.

#### 147.13 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 (1) of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

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

148.13 Personnel Matters

Staff salaries were reviewed.

149.13 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 8 January 2014.

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