

CROSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 13 February 2013 at 7.30 pm in The Old School, Croston.

Present Councillors A Peet (Chairman), K Almond, R Baker, P Fenemore, K Iddon, E Norris, S Parkinson and G Stubbs.

12.13 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor B Paillusson and Borough Councillor D Dickinson.

13.13 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

Councillor Stubbs, as a fundraiser for Croston Scout Group, declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 11 (Newsletter Delivery).

14.13 Minutes of Meeting held 8 January 2013

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

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

15.13 Public Participation

The situation regarding the Community Defibrillator was queried. The case has been delivered and discussions are to take place with The Wheatsheaf to confirm the location of the unit.

Reports of speeding traffic within the 20mph zones were reported.

Entry into the Neighbourhoods Category of the North West in Bloom competition was questioned. Councillors advised any neighbourhood was free to enter.

Resolved: Standing Orders were restored.

Resolved: Agenda Item 9 was brought forward.

16.13 Use of Village Green and Car Park

A request, from Croston Village Festivities Group, for use of the Village Green and car park on Sunday 1 December 2013, for the Christmas Lights Switch On, and Sunday 8 December 2013, for the Christmas Fair, was considered.

Resolved: permission for the use was granted.

17.13 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:

£ 4271.10	Everglades Nurseries	Shrubs and trees
£ 360.53	Employee 1	Salary
£ 368.66	Employee 2	Salary
£ 72.40	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE
£ 42.50	Croston Old School	Room hire
£ 96.00	Wignalls Landscapes	Tree Spree planting
£ 1080.00	G Otterburn	Forest School sessions
£ 22.56	Euxton Parish Council	Litterpickers
£ 136.56	Everglades Nurseries	Shrubs and trees
£ 354.93	T Blyth	Tree Spree expenditure

18.13 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

12/01230/TCO Reduce overhanging branches to tree adjacent to property at 5 Westhead Road.

13/00008/FUL Loft conversion with rear dormer at 96 Station Road.

Councillors had no comments in respect of this application.

19.13 Recreation Ground

Councillors discussed proposals presented by members of the Working Group for the redesign of the Recreation Ground. Concerns including potential injuries and anti social behaviour were raised however it was acknowledge that are risks associated will all aspects of recreation and the Council has insurance cover for this. Approval of the design is required in order that the necessary permissions and applications for funding may be proceeded with.

Resolved: the design was approved.

20.13 Croston United Charities

Councillors considered the nomination of a representative to Croston United Charities. Cllr Almond volunteered.

21.13 Flood Prevention

A report was provided on the awarding of substantial funds for flood prevention in the village. The funding was achieved by means of a joint effort from a number of partners. Proposals on the best way to utilise the funding will be put to residents.

22.13 Newsletter Delivery

A request from Croston Scout Group for an increase in the amount paid for delivering the newsletters and inserting the additional page was considered.

Resolved: the amount is to be increased to £120.

23.13 Lancashire Best kept Village Competition 2013

Councillors discussed entry into this year's competition. Concerns were raised regarding the absence of concrete criteria and a lack of consistency in judging. Councillors decided not to enter this year's competition, but will consider entry next year provided there is more clarity.

24.13 Consultations

Councillors considered a consultation from Central Lancashire regarding the Open Space and Playing Pitch Supplementary Planning Document. Councillors had no comments.

Councillors also considered a consultation on the Highways and Transport Masterplan. Concerns were raised that the consultation was heavily based on urban areas and that the authority appears to be losing sight of rural areas. Resurrection of the proposal for a bypass south of Penwortham was suggested to remove HGV's from villages in the area.

25.13 Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)

Chorley Borough Neighbourhood Area Meeting - projects taken up were rural isolation, flooding and preventing Back Lane in Bretherton being used as a 'rat-run'.

26.13 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 13 March 2013.

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