

CROSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Annual Meeting held 8 May 2013 at 7.30 pm in The Old School, Croston.

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

Also present Simon Clark, Chorley Council, and 2 members of the public.

51.13 Election of Chairman for 2013 - 2014

Resolved: Cllr Peet was elected as Chairman for the forthcoming year.

52.13 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Borough Councillor D Dickinson.

53.13 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

Councillor Fenemore declared a personal interest in an item forming part of Agenda Item 12 (Flood Issues).

54.13 Election of Vice Chairman for 2013 - 2014

Resolved: Cllr Parkinson was elected as Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year.

55.13 Appointment of Planning Committee

As the Planning Committee had not met for several years Councillors discussed alternatives and a suggestion was put forward to appoint a Lead Member, who would look at applications and report and make recommendations to the Council.

Resolved: Cllr Parkinson was appointed Lead Member - Planning.

56.13 Appointment of Representatives to Outside Bodies for 2013 - 2014

Resolved: the following be appointed:

Chorley Borough/Parish Council Liaison Meetings - Cllr Peet.

Chorley Council Western Parishes Neighbourhood Area Meeting - Cllr Peet

Lancashire Association of Local Councils Chorley Area Committee - Cllrs Parkinson and Peet.

Tree Warden - Cllr Almond.

Appointments to Croston United Charities and Peter Lathom's Charity will be made as and when vacancies arise.

57.13 Minutes of Meeting held 10 April 2013

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

Agenda Item 12 was brought forward.

58.13 Flood Issues

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

Simon Clark, Head of Health, Environment and Neighbourhoods at Chorley Council, advised that the Western Parishes Neighbourhood Area Meeting had set flood issues as a priority and, following the failure of a bid for funding from the Lower Yarrow Flood Action Group (LYFAG) to the DEFRA Pathfinder Fund, the Meeting wanted to carry on the initiative to encourage the local community to take up flood resilience measures. Funding bids are to be submitted for IT, ditch clearance days and other measures. The Parish Council was asked to act as a conduit between LYFAG and Chorley Council for the dispersal of funds. It is intended the Group would bring ideas to the Council for agreement prior to submitting proposals to Chorley Council.

Resolved: Standing Orders were restored.

Resolved: the Parish Council is to take on the liaison role between LYAG and Chorley Council.

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

58.13 Public Participation

The gates on the former Library car park are in need of repair.

A vehicle has been parking in the disabled parking bay on the Village Green on a regular basis.

A water leak has been noted on Station Road.

A wall between the Station House and the platform has fallen down.

A request for some form of sign to identify Little Lane was mentioned.

Resolved: Standing Orders were restored.

59.13 Financial Matters

Councillors considered the financial update and bank reconciliation.

The Clerk provided evidence of receipt of the precept from Chorley Council.

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	Employee 1	Salary
£	423.16	Employee 2	Salary
£	58.00	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE
£	17.00	Croston Old School	Room hire
£	60.00	J R Lawson	Internal audit fee
£	231.42	Countrywide Grounds Maintenance	Grass cutting
£	1620.00	G Otterburn	Forest School sessions
£	192.48	Nimbus Contractor Network	VAT element of replacement seat
£	10.23	EON	Christmas lights electricity

60.13 Planning Matters

13/00360/FUL Erection of a first floor side extension at 25 Coniston Way.

Councillors had no comments to make relating to this application.

13/00379/LBC Installation of photovoltaic panels on the roof of a single storey building within the curtilage of the listed building at 3 Out Lane.

Councillors discussed the potential impact on neighbouring properties from reflected glare from the panels.

61.13 Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2013

Councillors received the report of the Internal Auditor.

Resolved: the report was noted.

62.13 Tree Spree

Councillors were asked to approve the final elements of the Croston Tree Spree, comprising a further two community planting days and education work with Bishop Rawstone C of E Academy. The Parish Council's thanks are to be expressed to Tim Blyth for all the work he has put into the Tree Spree

Resolved: the final elements of the Croston Tree Spree were approved.

63.13 Recreation Ground Project

An update from a meeting of the Working Group held on 7 May was provided. The Working Group intends phase the project, with funding being sought to enable delivery of the first phase involving drainage works, paths and edging and creation of a play area for younger users.

An Oak tree, presented by Azay le Rideau, is to be planted on the Recreation Ground.

64.13 Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)

No reports.

65.13 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 12 June 2013.

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

..... (Chairman)