

## **CROSTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the Meeting held on 9 July 2014 at 7.30 pm in The Old School, Croston.

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

### 72.14 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors P Fenemore and K Iddon.

### 73.14 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

### 74.14 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 11 June 2014

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

### 75.14 Public Participation

A representative from Croston Village Festivities Group queried the allocation of the Christmas budget. Councillors advised the budget was to cover costs of parish council items such as the Christmas tree, replacement lights etc. The Council could look to fund items such as the Band for the switch on event but would wish to take part in the switch on.

A resident queried why the recently reported request for the Parish Council to impose a levy on Croston council taxpayers for the flood defences was not on the agenda. The meeting was advised no request had been formally received and that it was understood the Government is to be approached to fund the shortfall.

Road closures, and whether residents are consulted, were queried. The meeting was advised the highways authority has powers to close roads without consultation.

Several other items were mentioned including the repairs to the base of the Cross, the missing bin on Castle Walks, a covered bus stop sign by the Co-op and the possibility of training in the use of the defibrillator was queried.

### 76.14 Planning Matters

14/00667/FUL Erection of a first floor bedroom extension and ground floor sun room. at 16 Cock Robin, Highfield Road.

14/00727/FUL Demolition of existing outrigger and erection of a two storey rear and side extension with a single storey rear element at 5 Highfield Road.

Councillors had no comments to make relating to these applications.

14/00544/P3PAK Prior approval application under Part 3, Class MA of The Town and Country (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) Order 2013 to change an existing agricultural building to a registered nursery (Use Class D1) at Isle Of Man Farm Meadow Lane. Councillors were advised this was permitted development and enquiries are to made as to whether a full application will be necessary in future.

### 67.14 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:

£	430.95	Employee 1	Salary
£	419.14	Employee 2	Salary
£	66.80	HM Revenue & Customs	Tax and NI

£	18.00	Croston Old School	Room hire
£	231.42	Countrywide Grounds Maintenance	Grass cutting
£	240.00	BDO LLP	Audit fee
£	35.00	T and A Martland	Plant watering
£	54.00	Wicksteed Leisure	Play equipment safety inspection
£	430.95	Employee 1	August salary
£	419.34	Employee 2	August salary
£	66.60	HM Revenue & Customs	August tax

#### 68.14 Annual Return

The External Auditor's opinion was considered. A minor issue was raised regarding the inclusion of Chorley Council's precept top up grant within the precept figure. This will be restated for the next annual return.

Resolved: the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2014 was approved and accepted.

#### 69.14 Lancashire County Council Pump

As the pump is not now to be based at The Old School a revised contract provided by Lancashire County Council was considered.

Resolved: the contract was approved and the Chairman and Cllr Almond were authorised to sign on behalf of the Council.

#### 70.14 War Memorial

A suggestion for application for Listed status for the War Memorial was considered. Enquiries regarding ownership of the Memorial are to be made with the Conservation Officer.

#### 71.14 Village Green Weathervane

Councillors discussed an offer to refurbish the weathervane at no cost to the council in return for permitting a memorial plaque, in memory of a young resident to be installed. Concerns were raised regarding a proposed mounting stone for the plaque and Councillors discussed whether the Village Green is appropriate for this type of memorial, as it may be seen to set a precedent. It was mentioned further applications of this nature should be considered entirely on merit.

Resolved: the offer is to be accepted, with the plaque to be attached to the stone base of the weathervane.

#### 72.14 Subsidised Bus Services Assessment Criteria

A response to a Lancashire County Council consultation on a proposed new method to assess subsidised local bus services was considered. As less emphasis is to be placed purely on financial implications Councillors were supportive of the proposals.

#### 73.14 Chorley Local Plan - Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Show People Preferred Options

A response to a Chorley Council consultation on a preferred option document was considered. Councillors were in favour of the preferred option site contained within the document.

#### 82.14 Review of Polling Places and Districts

A response to a Chorley Council review of polling arrangements was considered. Councillors had no comments.

#### 83.14 Onshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Production and Distribution Supplementary Planning Document

A response to a consultation from Lancashire County Council, Blackpool Council and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council was considered. Councillors had no comments.

84.14 Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)

Western Parishes Neighbourhood Area Meeting - car parking in the village is one of the neighbourhood priorities.

A brief report on the judging for the North West in Bloom Competition was provided.

85.14 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 10 September 2014.

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