

CROSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting held on 10 February 2016 at 7.30 pm in The Old School, Croston.

Present Councillors A Peet (Chairman), K Almond, B Paillusson, P Fenemore, K Iddon, S Laverick and E Norris.

Also present 2 Members of the public.

12.16 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors M Cowley and G Stubbs.

13.16 Disclosure of Interests

Cllr Peet declared a non pecuniary interest in an item forming part of agenda item 6 (Financial Matters).

14.16 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 13 January 2016

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

Resolved: Standing Orders were suspended.

15.16 Public Participation

Flooding on Westhead Road at the entrance to the Methodist Church was reported.

The death of North West in Bloom organiser, Trevor Leese, was reported. Free entry into this year's competition has been offered in recognition of the problems arising from the flooding.

Flower tubs were reported missing as a result of the flood. They are to be replaced during the next round of planting.

Resolved: Standing Orders were restored.

16.16 Planning Matters

16/00018/TCON Various works to Trees covered by TPO 5 (Croston) 1991 at Croston Park Nursing Home, Town Road.

16/00068/FULHH Erection of first floor rear extension and single storey side extension to form a store/car port at Grape Cottage, 52 Grape Lane.

16/00093/FUL Subdivision of existing single dwelling into 2 dwellings and associated alterations including raising of ridge height, extension of front porch and creation of rear balcony with the erection of two detached garages at Yarrow Place 32 Grape Lane.

Councillors made no comments relating to these applications.

17.16 Financial Matters

Councillors considered the financial monitoring statement.

Resolved: the monitoring statement was received and accepted and signed by the Chairman.

A grant request from St Michael's PCC towards costs associated with the maintenance and improvement of the Croft Field and arboretum was considered.

Resolved: a grant of £300, to be paid in the next financial year, was awarded.

A grant request from Croston Pre-school Nursery towards the cost of rugs was considered.

Resolved: a grant of £200 was awarded.

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

£	442.22	Employee 1	Salary
£	436.65	Employee 2	Salary
£	60.00	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE
£	14.40	Croston Old School	Room hire

18.16 Audit Procurement from 2017

Councillors considered arrangements for audit procurement from 2017. Smaller authorities can have an independent auditor appointed by Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd, a new sector-led body, or they can decide to procure their own.

Resolved: audit provision is to be provided by Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd.

19.16 Village Green Litter Bin

Chorley Council had advised the bin on the Village Green has become problematical to empty due to it being open to the elements. Councillors considered the replacement of the bin.

Resolved: a replacement, at a cost of £250, is to be ordered from Chorley Council.

20.16 Flooding

Reports were provided from a meeting of the Making Space for Water Group and meetings held at Chorley Council and Rufford. It was confirmed water had not been released from the Rivington reservoir and water may not be released to lower the reservoir levels with a licence. Concerns were raised by farmers regarding the loss of farmland. The stopping of the Rufford pump was also raised.

21.16 Consultations

Councillors considered a Chorley Council consultation on the proposed budget plans for 2016-17. There were no comments.

A Lancashire County Council consultation regarding the withdrawal of subsidy from local bus services was considered. The meeting was advised this will be discussed by Lancashire County Council tomorrow.

22.16 Chorley Liaison Meeting

Agenda items for the Chorley Liaison Meeting had been requested. No items were suggested.

Comments on the Play Area Assessment and Improvement Strategy 2014-2019 were sought. The amount of available funds and assistance with a planning application are to be requested.

23.16 Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition

Entry into the 2016 Competition was discussed. This will be considered at the next meeting.

24.16 Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)

Western Parishes Neighbourhood Area meeting - traffic speed on Moor Road/Southport Road was discussed. A footpath along Bretherton Road is in the programme of works, but with no indicated start date. Improvements to Public Footpaths 6 and 7 are under way.

25.16 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 9 March 2016.

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