

CROSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held on 8 November 2017 at 7.30 pm in The Old School, Croston.

Present Councillors A Peet (Chairman), K Almond, M Cowley, P Fenemore and K Iddon,

Also present 1 Member of the public.

114.17 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors B Paillusson, G Stubbs and K Ward.

115.17 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

116.17 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 11 October 2017

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

Resolved: Standing Orders were suspended.

117.17 Public Participation

A resident queried whether a grant will be made to Croston Village Festivities Group. The request had not been submitted in time and will be considered at the December meeting.

The poor condition of the pavements on the Lonsdale estate was reported.

Resolved: Standing Orders were restored.

118.17 Planning Matters

17/00982/TCON Works to trees within Croston Conservation Area: Trees within rear garden: Fell saplings close to southern property boundary with no. 34 and replant with 2 apple and 2 plum trees, crown raise horse chestnut to 3m at Yarrow Place, 32 Grape Lane

17/00987/FUL Erection of two storey side extension at Drinkhouse Farm Cottage, 2 Drinkhouse Farm, Drinkhouse Road

17/01034/FULHH Creation of dropped kerb at front of property and demolition of front wall at 105 Station Road

17/01058/TCON Works to a tree within a conservation area: Flowering cherry - requires crown lifting, thinning and removal of dead branches at St Michael and All Angels Church, Church Street.

There were no objections to the above applications.

119.17 Financial Matters

Councillors considered the monthly financial monitoring statement.

Resolved: the monitoring statement 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:

£	450.67	Employee 1	Salary
£	456.24	Employee 2	Salary
£	50.40	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE
£	18.50	Croston Old School	Room hire
£	651.60	Earth Anchors	Seats
£	144.00	Ark Welding	Install seats

£ 489.85 DWG (NW)
£ 150.00 Cash

Grass cutting
Remembrance Day expenditure

120.17 Internal Audit

The annual review of the effectiveness of the internal audit was carried out.

Resolved: the current system of internal audit was found to be adequate.

The appointment of an Internal Auditor was discussed. The current auditor is no longer able to carry out the audit and the Clerk is to attempt to locate a replacement.

121.17 Town Bridge - Consultation on Possible Closure to Vehicular Traffic

Historic England has asked Lancashire County Council to consider the closure of Town Bridge to vehicles for its protection and the opinion of the Parish Council had been requested prior to carrying out a wider consultation with the community. Opinions put forward included inconvenience to motorists and local residents resulting from having to use the congested main road. Other opinions included concerns regarding damage to the bridge caused by vehicles and its use as a 'rat run' and were in favour of the closure to protect this historical asset.

Resolved: Lancashire County Council is to be advised the general consensus of the Parish Council is in favour of closure with the proviso a full public consultation should be carried out.

122.17 Notice boards

Councillors considered relocating the Flood Management Scheme notice board to McColls, with the wooden board there being moved to replace the board at the Medical Centre. A price of £160 has been obtained subject to the legs of the Medical centre board being satisfactory.

Resolved: the relocations were approved.

123.17 Out Lane Car Park

The mapping of the area to provide an idea of the most efficient layout is awaited.

124.17 Recreation Ground Play Area

The contractor is still looking at ways of addressing the tarmac surfacing issue and removal of the remaining Heras fencing has been requested. A guide to the potential cost of drainage is awaited.

125.17 Precept

The new Recreation Ground Group had requested the funding for improvements continues to be included in the budgets for 2018-19.

126.17 Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)

Croston in Bloom - details of the village's successes in Britain in Bloom (Silver Gilt Award and, according to the judges, very close to achieving Gold) and North West in Bloom (Gold Medal and Best Large Village Award) were provided. The Friends of Croston Station achieved an 'Outstanding' award and The Black Horse a Gold medal and Best in Category award.

127.17 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 13 December 2017.

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