

CROSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Remote Meeting held on 11 November 2020 at 7.30 pm.

Present Councillors A Peet (Chairman), K Almond, R Baker, P Fenemore, K Iddon, S Myers, B Paillusson and G Stubbs.

Also present 2 Members of the public.

69.20 Apologies for Absence

None received.

70.20 Declarations of Interest

None declared.

71.20 Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 October 2020

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

Resolved: Standing Orders were suspended.

72.20 Public Participation

A resident provided information on recent litter picking carried out by volunteers. The resident advised of large amounts of litter in the village and questioned the areas covered and the performance and monitoring of a staff member. Councillors pointed out the village has always received very high marks in competitions for the lack of litter over a long period of time and that, due to the pandemic, some volunteer activities on roads outside the centre of the village have been curtailed. A suggestion for some form of anti-litter campaign was put forward.

Resolved: Standing Orders were restored.

73.20 Planning Matters

20/00856/FUL Erection of 2no. detached dwellings at Land off Moor Road

20/00983/FULHH Single storey rear extension at 16 Pear Tree Road

20/01079/TCON Notification of proposed works to tree within a conservation area for the reduction in height of a willow tree at 2 Melrose Gardens

20/01098/FUL Formation of an earth banked slurry lagoon at Home Farm, Grape Lane

20/01116/FULHH Part first floor side, part single storey rear extension at 5 Yarrow Close

20/01131/FULHH Replacement and extension of existing fence to side elevation of property with round topped fencing panel of maximum height 1.83m (part retrospective) at Elsinor, 24 Drinkhouse Road

20/01156/FULHH and 20/01157/LBC Single storey side extension to existing link at 73 Town Road and Listed Building Consent for same

There were no objections to these applications.

20/001149/FUL Erection of 1no detached dwellinghouse and detached garage at Land 60m West of No. 3 Castle Walks. It was mentioned the area was designated as open space and concerns were raised regarding the proposed vehicular access crossing the public right of way (FP5) and possible problems with the handling of Japanese Knotweed on the site.

74.20 Financial Matters

i) Councillors considered the monthly financial monitoring statement.

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

Cllr Iddon joined the meeting

ii) A grant application from Croston Village Festivities Group, towards the costs of replacement lights and electrical equipment was considered. A proposal to award £500 was tabled, followed by an amendment to award £300. The amendment was voted on and lost.

Resolved: a grant of £500 was awarded.

ii) Resolved: the following payments were approved:

£ 390.00	Countrywide Grounds Maintenance	Grounds maintenance
£ 445.00	DWG (NW)	Winter planting
£ 360.00	PKF Littlejohn LLP	Audit fee
£ 177.84	Galaxy Print	Hi vis jackets
£ 250.00	RBL Poppy Appeal	Donation
£ 247.87	LYFAG Member	Reimbursement - diesel for pump
£ 1046.72	Staff costs	Salaries and deductions
£ 1107.60	Employee 2	Reimbursements -defibrillator purchase
£ 49.00	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE
£ 500.00	Croston Village Festivities Group	Grant

75.20 Internal Audit Review

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.

Councillors considered the appointment of the Internal Auditor for the current financial year and the internal audit fee.

Resolved: Mrs A Partington was appointed and the fee set at £80.

76.20 Replacement Defibrillator

As a result of the battery of the existing unit failing, with a replacement costing £295, and the warranty expiring in December, the purchase of a replacement unit was discussed. Units from St John Ambulance, costing £923 and London Hearts costing £1007 were considered.

Resolved: the purchase of a replacement from St John Ambulance was approved.

77.20 Christmas Arrangements

A request, from Croston Village Festivities Group, to place an additional tree on the Village Green for residents to hang wishes was considered.

Resolved: the request was granted.

Details of arrangements for the installation of the Christmas lights were provided. Due to current restrictions, the Christmas tree lights will be put on by two people and Festivities Group Members, in groups of two, will install the lights in the large trees.

78.20 Precept

The precept will be set at the January meeting and Councillors were reminded of the need to provide suggestions for inclusion in time to allow costings to be obtained.

79.20 Reports from Outside Bodies

No reports.

80.20 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 9 December 2020.

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