

CROSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held on 10 April 2019 at 7.30 pm in The Old School, Croston.

Present Councillors A Peet, (Chairman), K Almond, P Fenemore, K Iddon and G Stubbs.

Also present Borough Councillors D Dickinson and A Whittaker and 33 Members of the Public.

36.19 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors M Cowley, B Paillusson and K Ward.

37.19 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

38.19 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 13 March 2019

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

Resolved: Standing Orders were suspended.

39.19 Public Participation

Information on the history of the Bishop Rawstone C of E Academy and the current Admissions Policy was provided. It was suggested that, due to the admissions policy favouring church attendance, 15 applicants from the Foundation Parishes of Croston, Eccleston, Wrightington with Heskin, Mawdesley and Bretherton had not gained places. The Parish Council was requested to ask the Governors to be more flexible in terms of the Admissions Policy for September 2019, to admit these applicants, and, in view of the amount of new properties being built in the surrounding area, to increase the intake to a 7 or 8 form entry.

A resident reported an increase in dog fouling, particularly on Castle Walks and Turflands. A resident advised he had reported fouling on Station Road to Chorley Council and, within hours, it had been cleaned up and notices erected. Residents were encouraged to report dog fouling.

A number of residents provided views on the Meadow Lane Bridge. A resident mentioned the MP had suggested the Parish Council should arrange a public meeting with Network Rail. The Chairman advised the Council had been contacted by Network Rail and was in the process of trying to arrange a meeting. Residents provided options including wrapping the bridge, as opposed to painting, with some form of mural options and requested the ends of the bridge should be replaced with more substantial structures. Information on the Health and Safety reasoning behind the design was provided. A resident reiterated the need for the bridge ends to be improved. The possibility of a similar situation occurring with Station Bridge was raised.

Resolved: Standing Orders were restored.

40.19 Planning Matters

19/00157/FUL Change of use of redundant agricultural building to residential including associated works at Moss Farm, Moss Lane

19/00226/TCON Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area: Trees T1 beech (*Fagus Sylvatica*), T2 white willow (*Salix Alba*), T3 silver birch (*Betula Pendula*), T4 scots pine (*Pinus Sylvestris*) - all to have 25% crown reduction at 65 Town Road

19/00275/FULHH Erection of front and side boundary wall following demolition of existing wall and single storey front/side extension at 74 Town Road

19/00276/FULHH Replacement rooflights and new window openings at Town Bridge Farm, The Hillocks

There were no objections to these applications.

41.19 Financial Matters

i) Councillors considered the year end financial monitoring statement as at 31 March 2019.

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

ii) Councillors considered the monthly financial monitoring statement.

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

iii) A grant request from North West Air Ambulance, towards the costs of operations was considered. A proposal to award a grant of £100 was made. An amendment to increase the amount to £200 was tabled.

Resolved: a grant of £200 was awarded.

iv) Resolved: the following payments were approved:

£ 4800.00	The Potting Sheds	Recreation Ground interim payment
£ 18.50	Croston Old School	Room hire
£ 200.00	Croston Coffee Day Committee	Grant
£ 350.00	St Michael & All Angels Croft Field Fund	Grant
£ 300.00	Croston in Bloom	Grant
£ 509.50	Lancashire Association of Local Councils	Annual subscription
£ 15.00	SELRAP	Annual subscription
£ 478.83	Employee 1	Salary
£ 497.24	Employee2	Salary
£ 42.00	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE

42.19 Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31 March 2019 was considered.

Resolved: the Asset Register was approved and signed by the Chairman.

The effectiveness of the system of internal control was reviewed in November 2018, prior to completion of the Annual Governance Statement.

Resolved: the Annual Governance Statement was approved and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

The Accounting Statements had been signed by the Responsible Financial Officer prior to the meeting.

Resolved: the Accounting Statements were approved and signed by the Chairman.

43.19 Recreation Ground Signage

Councillors discussed options for signage for the Recreation Ground. A suggestion to ban dogs from the area had been raised prior to the meeting however, it was pointed out that Public Right of Way runs the length of the Recreation Ground so this would not be possible. A white background, including the use of pictograms was preferred and items such as no alcohol, no drugs, no litter, no barbecues, no vehicles (without the Parish Council's consent). contact details and a location postcode for emergency vehicles should be included, together with an instruction to keep dogs on leads. The Clerk is to provide example signage for Councillors.

44.19 Reports from Outside Bodies

Chorley Liaison - support for an initiative from Bretherton Parish Council to divert HGV's from the villages has been offered.

45.19 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 8 May 2019.

46.19 Exclusion of the Press and Public

Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the exclusion of members of the press and public for the following item was considered on the grounds that the item comprises information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) and, in accordance with Part 1 (3) of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, is exempt from public disclosure.

Resolved: due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, Members of the press and public were excluded for the consideration of the following item.

47.19 Recreation Ground Improvements

Resolved: additional works were approved.

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