

CROSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held on 10 October 2018 at 7.30 pm in The Old School, Croston.

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

101.18 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors M Cowley and B Paillusson.

102.18 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

Cllr Peet, as an employee of Croston Old School, declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 6(ii) (Financial Matters).

103.18 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 11 July 2018

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

Resolved: Standing Orders were suspended.

104.18 Public Participation

Residents had complained about the appearance of Meadow Lane railway bridge following the work carried out by Network Rail.

An increase in incidents of vandalism was mentioned and small Nitrous Oxide canisters have been found around the village.

A dead tree on the verge opposite the War Memorial was reported

A damaged fence on Riverside Crescent was reported.

Resolved: Standing Orders were restored.

105.18 Planning Matters

18/00782/LBC Application for Listed Building Consent for replacement windows at the back of the property at 5 Church Street

18/00824/FUL Installation of 2m high security fencing with holly hedge screening (part retrospective) at Croston Hall, Croston Hall Estate, Grape Lane. Details of a representation from a resident were provided. Members were advised of no objections, one letter of support and no objection from the Conservation Officer registered on Chorley Council's website.

18/00906/FUL Removal of existing banking related fittings and ATM. New glazing panel to be installed following ATM removal at The Royal Bank of Scotland, 23 Town Road

18/00940/TPO Application for works to a protected tree: Chorley BC TPO 8 (Croston) 1990 - Ash (T11) - Reduction of end weight beyond rip out at The Coach House, Grape Lane

There were no objections to the above applications.

106.18 Financial Matters

i) Councillors considered the monthly financial monitoring statement.

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

As Cllr Peet had declared a pecuniary interest, the appointment of a Chairman for the next item was considered.

Resolved: Cllr Iddon was elected as Chairman for the next agenda item.

ii) A grant request from Croston Old School towards the costs of replacement of the heating system was considered.

Resolved: a grant of £500, to be applied to the Sundries budget, was awarded.

Cllr Peet re-assumed the Chair.

Resolved: Agenda item 8 was brought forward.

iii) Quotations for the annual insurance were considered.

Resolved: a three year agreement at a premium of £1284.29 is to be arranged with Inspire.

iv) Resolved: the following payments were approved:

£ 18.50	Croston Old School	Room hire
£ 30.00	DWG (NW)	Strimming
£ 294.00	Countrywide Grounds Maintenance	Grass cutting
£ 464.19	Employee 1	Salary
£ 475.96	Employee2	Salary
£ 49.60	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE
£ 480.00	PKF Littlejohn LLP	Audit fee
£ 1284.29	Came & Co	Insurance premium

107.18 Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2018

The report of the External Auditor was presented and noted.

108.18 Japanese Knotweed

A small number of responses to the newsletter article had been received. Local groups had been contacted to assist with identifying sites of infestation. A draft report was presented at the July meeting and, given there were no suggestions for alteration, endorsement by the Council will be requested at the next meeting.

109.18 Neighbourhood Plan

A Councillor proffered the opinion that the Parish Council acts in a reactive manner and a suggestion to formulate a position on issues which may arise was put forward. Councillors discussed, at length, a suggestion for the production of some form of plan for the village.

Cllr Iddon left the meeting.

A number of issues raised in the Parish Plan, produced in 2004, were mentioned as still being current including traffic and parking problems, over development, policing, lack of suitable housing and a discussion took place as to what would be required or preferable for the village.

110.18 Remembrance Sunday

Arrangements for the Parade and Service were confirmed. Subject to road closures being in place, the Parade will leave from the Community Centre for this year.

111.18 Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)

A meeting had taken place with County Councillor Holgate regarding community orchards. Information regarding grants had been provided.

112.18 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 14 November 2018.

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