

CROSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 12 March 2008 at 7.30 pm in The Old School, Croston.

Present Cllrs P A Peet (Chair), K Almond, J Forrest, C Gibbons, J Kearton, S Mosalski, S Parkinson, B Thompson.

Also Present Borough Councillor M Iddon.

25.08 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr S Thompson and Borough Councillor D Dickinson.

26.08 Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

27.08 Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 February 2008

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

28.08 Public Participation

Resolved: Standing Orders be suspended to allow members of the public to speak.

i) Police Report

No report.

ii) Borough Councillors

A request was made to consider the reinstatement of the 'Slow' marking on Highfield Road by the entrance to the Schools during the discussions on the Lancashire Local Highways Allocation Budget.

Details of attendees from the Environment Agency, Lancashire County Council and Chorley Council at the Drop In Evening on 14 March 2008, arranged by the Environment Agency, to provide information on flooding were provided.

iii) Residents Points of Interest

Residents had mentioned the unsuitability of the signage recently erected by Town Bridge. The Chorley Council Regeneration Officer is currently negotiating with Lancashire County Council.

Resolved: Standing Orders be restored.

29.08 Financial Matters

Councillors considered the financial update and bank reconciliation.

Resolved: the financial update and bank reconciliation be received and accepted and signed by the Chairman.

Councillors considered a grant application from Homestart Chorley and South Ribble towards operating costs. No proposal was forthcoming.

Councillors considered requests for payment to the Council.

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

£ 310.96	Employee 1	Salary
£ 301.54	Employee 2	Salary
£ 55.14	HM Revenue & Customs	Tax
£ 188.31	Employee 2	Reimbursements

£ 14.50	Croston Old School	Room hire
£ 40.00	I Galliers	Removal of tree
£ 40.00	North West in Bloom	Competition entry
£ 15.00	Lancashire Best Kept Village	Competition entry
£ 550.00	C Barbour	Grasscutting
£ 150.00	C Wilson	Planting
£ 143.00	Minuteman Press	Newsletter printing

30.08 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

Cllr B Thompson withdrew from the meeting.

08/00150/FUL and 08/00151/LBC Side and rear extensions and internal alterations to existing property, and Listed Building Consent for same, at 5 Back Drinkhouse Lane.

Resolved: no comments be lodged.

Cllr B Thompson rejoined the meeting.

08/00198/TCON Pruning of sycamore tree to rear of garden at Grape Hyacinth Cottage, 29 Grape Lane.

08/00229/FUL Erection of a conservatory to the rear and a porch to the front of the property at Woodlea, Highfield Road.

Resolved: no comments be lodged.

31.08 Amenity Lighting on the Village Green

A suggestion to improve the lighting in the vicinity of the Village Green was considered. Councillors were not keen to increase light pollution in the area and it was pointed out the streetlight attached to Fresco Fresco is not of the same brightness as other streetlights and the streetlight opposite the Wheatsheaf is out. A Councillor felt additional lighting was required around the junction of Town Road and Out Lane.

Resolved: Councillors are to inspect the area, once the streetlight has been repaired, in the hours of darkness prior to further consideration of this suggestion at a future meeting.

32.08 Bus Shelters

Councillors considered a suggestion to apply for a bus shelter by the entrance to the Schools on Highfield Road, under the Lancashire County Council Parish and Town Council Bus Shelter Grant. The Clerk is to query the suitability of the proposed location in the light of information provided by Lancashire County Council.

33.08 Lancashire Local Chorley Highways Allocation Budget

Councillors considered suggestions, for the Highways Budget Allocation, for items which would otherwise not be completed. Suggestions for the levelling of the pavement outside 23-25 Grape Lane, bollards outside the Co-op and by the wayside seat on Town Road by Town Bridge, a disabled parking bay by the telephone box at the Co-op and reinstatement of the 'Slow' road marking on Highfield Road, by the entrance to Bishop Rawstone were made.

Resolved: provision of bollards outside the Co-op and by the wayside seat on Town Road, a disabled parking bay by the telephone box at the Co-op and the levelling of the pavement outside 23-25 Grape Lane be put forward to the Lancashire Local.

34.08 Lancashire County Council Cabinet Question Time

Items for discussion at the forthcoming Cabinet Question Time were discussed. Councillors wished to bring up the performance of the Highways Partnership, the condition of road surfaces in general,

the possible co-ordination of bus and rail services, the cost of rail fares and the South Penwortham Bypass during the Question Time.

35.08 Personnel/Employment Law Service

Councillors considered a suggestion from the Lancashire Association of Parish and Town Councils for joint subscription to a service to provide advice on personnel matters. It was felt this information should be available from the National Association of Local Councils.

36.08 The Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition

Councillors considered nominations for the Certificate of Merit categories.

Resolved: St Michaels Church, Croston Methodist Church, the Old School, St Michael's Terrace, 14-24 The Orchard, Croston Park Care Home, Bishop Rawstorne, Trinity and St Michaels School, Croston Corn Mill, the Co-op, Butterfly Farm, the Crown, the Grapes, the Quality Hotel, noticeboards on the Village Green and Station Car Park, the War Memorial, the Station and grounds, Bishop Chesters Wood Outdoor Classroom, Croston Bowling Club and Croston Sports Club be entered into their respective categories.

37.08 Colne to Skipton Railway

A request for support from the Skipton-East Lancashire Rail Action Partnership (SELRAP) for its campaign to have the Colne-Skipton railway re-opened, which would provide residents of Lancashire with easy access to Yorkshire and Humberside was considered.

Resolved: a letter of support for the re-opening of the line be sent.

38.08 Reports from Outside Bodies

No reports.

39.08 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 9 April 2008.

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