

CROSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 12 November 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, S Thompson.

Also Present 9 Members of the Public.

127.08 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors B Thompson.

128.08 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

Cllr S Parkinson, as a neighbour of the land subject to a planning application, declared a personal interest in an item forming part of agenda item 6 (Planning Matters).

129.08 Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 October 2008

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

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

130.08 Public Participation

i) Police Report

No report.

ii) Borough Councillors

No report.

iii) Residents Points of Interest

Increases in the amount of dog fouling in Castle Walks and by Bishop Rawstorne were reported, together with problems caused by overgrown hedges obscuring streetlights on Castle Walks. Residents were advised the hedges had been reported to Lancashire County Council.

Residents of Bramblewood and Station Road expressed concerns regarding the planning application for the erection of two new dwellings in the rear garden of 79 Station Road. The residents concerns were mainly on road safety issues as the proposed access is on a blind corner and Bramblewood is a narrow road with no pavements. Vehicles belonging to visitors to the Pharmacy and residents of Station Road already cause problems with access and additional vehicles may exacerbate the situation, particularly in the event of emergency services vehicles requiring access. The removal of trees and loss of ornamental shrubs were also mentioned. A previous application for rear access to a dwelling on Station Road was refused.

The overnight parking of a heavy goods vehicle and a large van on the Station car park were mentioned.

A local photographer is undertaking a project to provide a pictorial record of the village as it currently is. An article advising residents is to be included in the next newsletter.

Resolved: Standing Orders be restored.

131.08 Financial Matters

Councillors considered the financial update and bank reconciliation.

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

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



£ 322.79	Employee 1	Salary
£ 346.81	Employee 2	Salary
£ 86.80	HM Revenue & Customs	Tax
£ 14.50	Croston Old School	Room hire
£ 387.40	Environplas	Replacement litter bins
£ 625.00	Croston Village Festivities Group	Grant

132.08 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

08/00715/FUL Application to vary the conditions on planning permission 06/01341/FULMAJ (Rectory Farm Development) to allow the Methodist Sunday School extension to be commenced before the housing development and barn conversion (to include the creation of the access onto Westhead Road, temporary access road and creation of Methodist Church car park. Councillors had no objections to the application however it was reported that work had commenced on the site, which lies within the Croston Conservation Area, in advance of the application being determined. The Clerk is to bring this to the attention of Chorley Council.

08/01086/FUL Two storey side/rear extension and side carport at 38 Langdale Avenue.

Resolved: no comment be made relating to the application.

08/01107/FUL Erection of two detached dwellings 71 Station Road.

Resolved: an objection be lodged on the following grounds:

The proposed drives for the dwellings are on a blind corner. Bramblewood has no pavements, with the roadway being used as the only safe walking surface, and, historically, problems have occurred with access for refuse collection vehicles as a result of visitors to the Pharmacy and residents of Station Road parking in Bramblewood. The additional dwellings, and the associated traffic, may exacerbate the problems. Furthermore the verge and shrubs, marked for removal, contribute positively to the visual amenity of the area. The Parish Plan describes a need for single storey accommodation, with no requirement for dwellings of the nature of this application.

Councillors considered a proposal to submit a planning application for the removal of a Rowan tree on the Village Green which is necessary to avoid damage, by the roots of the tree, to the improvements to be carried out to the seating area.

Resolved: the approval be delegated to the Clerk, subject to the recommendations of the Village Green Working Party.

133.08 Bus Shelter on Highfield Road

Councillors considered a suggestion for the siting of shelter for the bus stop adjacent to the new entrance to Bishop Rawstone C of E Language College.

Resolved: Lancashire County Council be requested to provide a bus shelter.

134.08 Freedom of Information Act Publication Scheme

The adoption of a method by which the specified information, as described by the Freedom of Information Act, will be available to members of the public was considered.

Resolved: the Model Publication Scheme be adopted.

135.08 The Making and Enforcement of Byelaws

Councillors discussed a consultation document on proposals to allow parish councils to implement certain byelaws without the need for scrutiny by the Secretary of State.

Resolved: the Clerk is to respond on behalf on the Council welcoming this devolution of powers.

136.08 Central Lancashire Preferred Core Strategy



Councillors considered a response to a consultation by Chorley Council on the Preferred Core Strategy.

Resolved: the Council’s support for the Core Strategy be lodged.

137.08 North West in Bloom Competition

Councillors reviewed the Judge’s Report. Areas of the village are to be considered for entry into the Neighbourhoods category for next year. An article is to be included in the next newsletter invite interested residents to form a group to work on the entry for next year.

138.08 Reports from Outside Bodies

The Borough/Parish Liaison Meeting was advised a group of Chorley Council Officers is to look into parish council involvement in the drawing up of Section 106 agreements. Presentations were received on Neighbourhood Working, the Local Development Framework Preferred Core Strategy, the Regional Spatial Strategy and the Sustainable Resources Development Plan Document.

The Lancashire Association of Local Councils received a presentation on the Preferred Core Strategy.

139.08 Exclusion of the Press and Public

Councillors considered the exclusion of members of the press and public for an item of business, in accordance with Part 1(section 1) of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

Resolved: members of the public be excluded for the consideration of the following item.

140.08 Personnel Matters

Councillors considered a means of recognition for the efforts of the Village Lengthsman following the village’s achievement of 19.5 from a maximum of 20 points in the Cleanliness Section of the North West in Bloom 2008 Competition.

Resolved: the efforts of the Village Lengthsman be recognised.

141.08 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 10 December 2008.

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

..... (Chairman)

