

CROSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 10 September 2008 at 7.30 pm in The Old School, Croston.

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

Also Present Borough Councillors D Dickinson and S Moulton.

96.08 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors J Forrest, C Gibbons and S Thompson.

97.08 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

Cllr K Almond, as a Trustee of Croston Community Centre, declared a personal interest in an item forming part of agenda item 5 (Financial Matters).

98.08 Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 July 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.

99.08 Public Participation

i) Police Report

No report.

ii) Borough Councillors

A Ward Walk, to identify areas of the village which are in need of attention, is to take place on 22 September 2008, as part of the build up to the launch of the new Neighbourhood Working scheme. Councillors were asked to provide details of any areas.

iii) Residents Points of Interest

No points raised.

Resolved: Standing Orders be restored.

100.08 Financial Matters

Councillors considered the financial update and bank reconciliation.

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

Councillors considered a grant request from Villages in Partnership, on behalf of Early Days, towards rent of the Community Centre for meetings. There was no proposer for the request.

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

£ 310.96	Employee 1	Salary
£ 308.96	Employee 2	Salary
£ 77.40	HM Revenue & Customs	Tax
£ 329.01	Employee 2	Reimbursements
£ 14.50	Croston Old School	Room hire
£ 158.63	BDO Stoy Hayward	Audit fee
£ 600.00	C Barbour	Grasscutting
£ 65.09	Galaxy Print	Safety wear
£ 28.00	CPRE	Annual subscription



101.08 Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:

08/00705/LBC Listed Building Consent for replacement of 3 windows to the front of bungalows 5, 6 & 7 Back Drinkhouse Lane.

08/00717/FUL Demolition of existing house and erection of new replacement dwelling and associated works (revised scheme following extant permission reference no. 07/00336/FUL, granted on 17.05.2007) at 16 Cock Robin Cottages.

Resolved: no comments be made relating to the applications.

Councillors discussed the lack of provision of the pedestrian link between Station Road and the Recreation Ground, the provision of which was a condition of the planning permission for the Former Methodist School development. Chorley Council's Enforcement Officer has contacted the Developer and was advised the works should be completed within the next few weeks

102.08 Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2008

Councillors considered the Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2008, together with the Issues Arising Report.

Resolved: the Annual Return be approved and accepted and the Issues Arising Report noted.

103.08 Fidelity Guarantee Insurance Cover

The Issues Arising Report within the Annual Return advised the level of fidelity guarantee cover appears insufficient in the light of bank balances held at 31 March 2008 and the amount of precept subsequently received in April 2008. Councillors considered the level of cover and the internal safeguards in place to prevent potential losses and deemed the level of fidelity guarantee cover to be sufficient.

104.08 Former Methodist School Railings

The Lancashire Local agreed to the refurbishment of the railings provided the Parish Council takes on all future responsibility. The Clerk is to query the implications with the Council's Insurer.

Resolved: subject to a satisfactory inspection of the works, and the availability of insurance cover, the Parish Council will take on future responsibility for the railings.

105.08 Noticeboard

Councillors considered the purchase of a Parish Council noticeboard to be located outside the Police Station. The lack of lighting outside the Police Station was mentioned and the Clerk is to take this up with PC Plummer.

Resolved: a new noticeboard at a cost of £450 be purchased.

106.08 Chorley Council Standards Committee

The Council was invited to nominate one Councillor for a selection process to join the Standards Committee. No volunteer was forthcoming.

107.08 Japanese Knotweed

Councillors considered methods of raising awareness, locally, of the spread of japanese knotweed within the parish. A resident is keen to take on a project to identify and map locations where the knotweed is growing and attempt to obtain funding for a three year treatment programme. Councillors will support the initiative in any way possible and further details are to be provide by the resident.

108.08 Lancashire County Council's Parish and Town Council Charter



Councillors considered the draft Charter. It was felt that, in order to be successful, the Charter should include the Borough Council.

109.08 Reports from Outside Bodies

Details of the new Neighbourhood Working Scheme were presented at the Borough/Parish Council Liaison meeting and Leader of the Council agreed that existing policy be reviewed to include Parish Councils in the consultation process on the setting of planning agreements and how funds raised are spent.

The Lancashire Local approved the Parish Council's requests for a bollard at the junction of Town Road with Town Bridge, bollards to the front of the Co-op and the refurbishment of the railings to the front of the Former Methodist School on Station Road, provided the Parish Council is willing to take on all future responsibility, from the 2008-09 budget. The request for provision of a disabled parking bay in the vicinity of the Co-op will be assessed once a review of the current policy regarding disabled bays has been issued.

110.08 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 12 November 2008.

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

..... (Chairman)

