

# Cromford Parish Council

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Minutes of a meeting of Cromford Parish Council held in the  
Cromford Institute, Cromford.

Wednesday 15 November 2023 at 7.30pm

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**Present:** Councillors: Matt Birch (Chair); Phil Curzon; Pam Ashley; Alistair Fraser; Russ Boyack; Richard Walsh and Cllr D Murphy (DCC).  
Sian Bacon (Clerk)

## **23/11.1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr M Szegota and Cllr N Whitehead (DDDC).

## **23/11.2 Co-option of new councillors**

The Clerk reported that at this time there had been no new applicants for the open Councillor positions.

## **23/11.3 Variation to the order of business**

None

## **23/11.4 Declaration of Members Interests**

Cllr Birch declared an interest in the Community Centre as a trustee.

## **23/11.5 Public Speaking**

### **Cllr D Murphy (DCC)**

Cllr Murphy reported that he had had an update regarding the deficit which has been reduced from £47 Million to £33 Million. A list of things has been issued to Councillors. It has been reported that the DCC isn't going to go bankrupt. Adult Social Care and Children's services have both been higher than expected. The DCC is working to bring it down.

The Via Gellia project has had issues with ownership of the land. The Peak Park are not very happy with some of the plans and have objected to some elements. So, the lighting and some things will not go ahead. The tree work is in abeyance until an ecology and wildlife assessment has been completed in spring and summer. The average speed cameras are going in but the rest is on hold until the survey has been done. Cllr Boyack noted that the money for the project will not go as far with all the delays. Cllr Murphy noted that the money isn't going to be more than the £3 million already granted.

The gullies between Cromford and Grange Mill are going to be cleaned in the next week.

Cllr Murphy reported that the trees on the A6 removal has stalled due to the landowner not being clear. Cllr Walsh will look for the owners of the land. **Action: Cllr Walsh.**

Cllr Murphy reported that he still has some funds available for projects. The Clerk will pass this to the Cromford Institute. **Action: Clerk.**

The Leashaw landslip was raised by Cllr Walsh and it was noted that there is no clear information on the reopening of the road. Cllr Murphy will look into this.

### **23/11.6 Minutes of the previous meetings**

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the previous meetings held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023, as true record of those meetings, proposed by Cllr Birch and seconded by Cllr Walsh.

### **23/11.7 Matters arising from the previous meeting (non decision making)**

The Snow Wardens were raised and Cllr Birch will get in touch with Mrs Bowman to complete the forms.

The Clerk will raise the wall at 87 The Hill with Planning.

### **23/11.8 Reports**

#### **a. Footpaths**

No update at this time.

#### **b. Speedwatch**

The report from Mrs Bowman was noted (Appendix A)

Speed Indicator Devices were raised and this will be discussed at the next meeting. Cllr Walsh will look into how the SID device's function and what needs doing with them.

The Community Speedwatch signs were raised as CS have changed their logo. It was decided to stick with the current signs as they are ok.

Cllr Curzon raised a crossing further up the hill and this will be raised with Cllr Murphy (DCC).

#### **c. Station Volunteers**

The report from Cllr Boyack was noted (Appendix A)

#### **d. Planting**

The report from Mrs Bowman was noted (Appendix A)

#### **e. Tourist Map**

No update at this time.

#### **f. Village Walk Around with DDC Officers – Cllr Birch**

Cllr Birch reported that they council is still awaiting an action plan from the walk round. The Clerk will chase this up. **Action: Clerk.**

### 23/11.9 Village Matters

- a. **Public Toilets** – The Community Centre trustees have spoken to DDDC who are undertaking a review into the future of the toilet. Cllr Fraser reported that he had spoken to local businesses regarding funding the toilet upkeep and would like to look at this formally whether they would be willing to put towards a monthly fee. Cllr Fraser reported that the Community Centre own the toilets. Cllr Walsh queried whether the Parish Council could take on the toilets. Cllr Boyack reported that he had looked at this in the past and the DDDC figures show that it would cost a minimum of £10,000. The electricity costs were raised and Cllr Birch will look into the electricity costs. **Action: Cllr Birch.**
- b. **Hedges** – the hedges at Hawthorne Lane and Bedehouse lane will be looked at by Cllr Curzon and Cllr Fraser to see if they have been cut. **Action: Cllrs Fraser and Curzon.**
- c. **Xmas tree** – the tree will be delivered at the end of the week and then it will be decorated with the electricity coming from the main Community Centre building. Some of the lights are damaged and will be replaced. The Clerk will look at the licence. **Action: Clerk.**

### 23/11.10 Outside bodies:

- a. **Cromford Institute** – No update at this time.
- b. **Cromford Community Centre** – Cllr Birch reported that the Centre is paying some debt off and the accountants have been paid. The Bell patrons have been at the community centre now that The Bell is closed.
- c. **Cromford Meadows Sports Club** – There is no further update.
- d. **Celebrating Cromford** – Cllr Fraser reported that Apple Day had taken place thanks to the hard-working volunteers. Plans are being put forward for the three-day festival in June. Other events such as the lantern parade are being contributed too.

### 23/11.11 Communications

- a. **Newsletter** – It was reported that Mr Beckett has begun work on another edition of the newsletter and Cllr Birch has been assisting with content. It was agreed to look at publication dates for the 2024 year. Cllr Birch will discuss the printing of the next edition with Mr Beckett.
- b. **Parish Council website** – the Clerk reported the new website is up and running and she is currently populating it with documents.

### 23/11.12 Planning Decisions:

- a. 23/01178/FUL - Erection of a detached garage - 227 The Hill Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3QL – The Council objects to this application on the grounds of overdevelopment and inappropriate materials.
- b. 23/00685/LBALT - Replacement windows and doors and re-opening of previously block up window openings - 36-38 Bedehouse Lane Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3QZ – No objection
- c. 23/01173/FUL - Alterations and single storey rear extension - Clips Head Willersley Lane Cromford Derbyshire DE4 5JG – No objection
- d. CW3/1123/36 at Matlock Sewage Treatment Works, Lea Road, Lea Bridge, Matlock, DE4 5AE -Construction of a Bailey Type Vehicular Access Bridge to replace existing bridge and associated works (DCC) – No objection
- e. Dene Quarry - Review of Mineral Planning Permission (ROMP)

- f. 23/01189/CM - Proposed construction of a bailey type vehicular access bridge to replace existing bridge and associated works (CW3/1123/36) at Severn Trent Water Plc Sewage Treatment Works Lea Road Lea Bridge Derbyshire – Courtesy only no comments to be made

The Council had no objections for applications a), b), c) and d). The Clerk will forward these comments to the planning department. **Action: Clerk**

### 23/11.13 Items for Decision

- a. **To consider the Cromford Institute Grant Application** – The Clerk has not yet received an updated project proposal from the Institute.

### 23/11.14 Finance & Administration

- a. **Balance in the Bank** – It was **RESOLVED** to accept the presented financial report – proposed by Cllr Birch and, seconded by Cllr Walsh.
- b. **Budget 2024/25** - It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget below – proposed by Cllr Curzon and, seconded by Cllr Ashley.

		Budget for 24/25		
		Expenditure from Budget	Expenditure from Reserves	Notes
	<b>Salaries</b>			
Salaries	Clerk	7,000		
Salaries	Footpath Officer	2,100		
	<b>Administration</b>			
	Defib	200		every 2years pads 4 years battery in reserves
Admin & Website Expenses	Expenses	200		Printing, Postage etc
Newsletter Expenses	Publicity/Newsletter	3,000		
	Newsletter Delivery	400		
	Chairs Expenses	40		More will be taken from reserve if needed
Audit	Internal Audit	150		
Audit	External Audit	0		Taken from reserves if needed
	Election	0	0	Anymore taken from reserves if needed
Admin & Website Expenses	Website	120		Based upon new website
	Bank Charges	0		Paid for by interest
Training	Training	500	1,000	Up to £1,000 from reserves if needed
	<b>General</b>			
Footpath Maintenance	Footpath Maintenance	1,200		Total expenditure would be £1,700 with MMA
Trees, Plants & Snow	Filling Grit Bins	250		
Bus Shelter Expenses	Bus Shelter Cleaning	600		
Insurance	Insurance	700		
	Room Rental	500		
	Storage Space	300		
Bus Shelter Expenses	Bus Shelter Repairs	0		From reserves if needed
	<b>Subscriptions</b>			
DALC	DALC	400		
Donations/s137	Donations/s137	1,000		
Trees, Plants & Snow	Xmas Trees & Lights	400		
Trees, Plants & Snow	Planters & Baskets	500		
Trees, Plants & Snow	Snow Warden Scheme	100		
Sundry		400		
		<b>20,060</b>		

- c. **Precept 2024/25** – It was **RESOLVED** to request a precept of £20,060.00 from Derbyshire County Council proposed by Cllr Walsh and, seconded by Cllr Ashley.
- d. **Items for approval and payment at this meeting** - It was **RESOLVED** to pay all items listed below proposed by Cllr Birch and, seconded by Cllr Curzon.

<b>Invoices for payment in November 2023</b>	
Footpath Warden Wages	206.32
Clerk's Wages	781.05
B Bowman - plants	47.16
Spotless - Bus Shelter Cleaning	100.00
S Mosley - planting	24.00
RBL - 2 Wreaths	39.97
DDPayroll	36.00
HMRC	121.92
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£1,356.42</b>

**23/11.15 Items for information**

- a. The Derbyshire County Council (Footpath from Barnwell Lane to Public Footpath No. 8 – Parish of Cromford) Modification Order 2023 – Approved 24 August 2023.
- b. DALC Pay Award 2023/24

**23/11.16 Correspondence**

1. Proposal for SID user group(s) in Derbyshire
2. The County Council propose to make a new Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984: - The Derbyshire County Council (A5012 Cromford to Newhaven and adjacent Road) (30mph, 40mph and 50mph Speed Limit) Order (Z3409) Consultation. – Cllr Walsh to do response for the council.
3. Road Close B5035 Longway Bank Whatstandwell for retaining wall repairs 4th Dec to 10th Dec 2023

**23/11.17 Parish Council Calendar**

**Parish Council Meetings**

- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 6.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Finance Meeting
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting

**23/11.18 Date of next meeting**

- The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute.

Signed.....

Dated.....

## **Appendix A**

### **CPC Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> November Reports**

#### **Speedwatch – Mrs Bowman**

We have had one session since the last meeting – but once again the weather and roadworks notifications have meant it has been difficult to arrange more. Hope to do a session later this month.

#### **Winter planting – Mrs Bowman**

This has all been done and receipts sent in by myself and Sue Mosley.

#### **Station volunteers – Cllr Boyack**

Barbara Bowman and myself represented Cromford station volunteer group on East Midland Railways Routes of Remembrance ceremony where we laid a wreath at the war memorial at Derby Railway Station

East Midland Railway are funding the winter planting at the station. The plants have been ordered.

A quantity of spring bulbs have been ordered. These have been funded from the grant from better Derbyshire Dales.