

Cromford Parish Council

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

Wednesday 18 January 2023 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: Barbara Bowman (Chair); Jenny March; Russ Boyack; Kate Wakefield; Iain Wakefield; Marie Szegota; Alister Fraser; Jeremy Beckett and Mike Nutting;
Mrs Sian Bacon (Clerk); Cllr Murphy (DCC) and the Footpath Warden Mr J Mee.

23/1.1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Birch & Cllr G Purdy (DDDC)

23/1.2 Variation to the order of business

It was **RESOLVED** to move the Footpath Report agenda item 8a up the agenda to after agenda item 6 the Minutes of the previous meeting.

23/1.3 Declaration of Members Interests

None

23/1.4 Public Speaking

Cllr Murphy (DCC)

Cllr Murphy raised the County Council budget for next year. He reported that this year the County Council will balance the books but will need to use some reserves to cover the gaps. He noted that inflation has hit various sections of the Council's budget and it is expected that there will be a £35 million deficit. The County Council is currently working on a plan and what charges to set for next year. This information should be available sometime next month.

Cllr Murphy gave an update on the Via Gellia planned road improvements. and it will be the end of February before there will be a consultation and the plans released. He noted that there has been an issue with the budget as the money was granted 2-3 years ago and then plans had been stopped by covid. Since then, the costs of the work have inflated by 20%. The DCC are going back to the Government to re-set the work priorities. It is thought that the average speed cameras, the alteration to Bonsall junction and the tree work will all be done but Cllr Murphy will know for certain by the end of February.

Cllr Murphy reported that he had spoken to Highways about the depression in the road outside the Greyhound and been informed that it will be monitored but that it is not at the point for work to be done yet.

Cllr Murphy has raised the suggestion of the parking space removal on Water Lane and been informed that the Parish Council can request this be done but they will need a road traffic order which is currently a long wait with a couple of years at least before work is done.

It was reported that there has been a rock fall opposite Masson Mill on the A6 and there is possibly a problem with the retaining wall. Engineers have cordoned off the section, the overgrown foliage requires removing and then they will report back on the situation next week.

Cllr Bowman raised the sale of Balleve quarry and Cllr Murphy reported that he had spoken to a planning officer in DCC planning (minerals & quarrying) who noted that they had not yet been approached about the quarry so there is no confirmed information on the new owners at present. He did note that there is still a permission to remove product from the quarry. This permission will have been sold with the quarry but it is not certain if the new owners will utilise this or not.

Cllr Boyack raised the High Peak Junction car park on Lea Road (run by DCC) and reported that cars parked on the road to save car park fees when the road was closed due to the landslip. They are continuing to do so now the road has reopened and since the location is on a corner this is causing safety problems. Cllr Murphy to look into this.

Cllr Bowman reported that the road at Lea Shaw has slipped and she has requested better signage as it is not clear which road is closed or where, as vehicles approach the Cromford crossroads from the B5036 (The Hill / Market Place). There is a meeting being held at 1.30pm on the 26th January at the slip site and two of the Parish Councillors can attend. It was agreed that Cllr Nutting and either Cllr Boyack or Cllr Bowman will attend.

Cllr Beckett reported that the 'No through' road signs on North Street and Intake Lane are still not installed. Cllr Murphy will chase these with Highways.

22/1.5 Minutes of the previous meetings

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 21 December 2022, as a true record of that meeting, proposed by Cllr Szegota and seconded by Cllr March.

Footpaths

Mr Mee the Footpath Warden gave the following report:

Mr Sturt has completed the work on the footpath repairs at Wood End on footpath C40.

The Slinter signage has been improved.

Tarmac have made no move forward on the work to be done at Dene Hollow and removal of the temporary path.

The strimmer has been taken in for service and the invoice will be sent to the Clerk.

Mr Mee needs black bags, strimmer lining and other items and It was agreed that he could spend the budgeted amount of up to £150.

Mr Mee reported that he had given the Clerk the footpath report with his hours worked. The Clerk will do a better report sheet with more room. **Action: Clerk**

It was reported by Cllr I Wakefield that the lower stretch of Bedehouse Lane that is accessed off The Hill and runs behind Tor View Rise is a restricted byway (RB7) and requires cleaning up as the lane is very overgrown and needs the potholes repairing. The Clerk will contact highways and Cllr Murphy (DCC) to request this work be done. **Action: Clerk**

23/1.5 Matters arising from the previous meeting (non decision making)

1. It was **RESOLVED** to hire the Institute for a public meeting to allow MEMRAP to give their presentation regarding the reintroduction of the railway line to Buxton. The Clerk will organise this. **Action: Clerk**
2. Cllr Bowman reported that Masson Mill has been sold to Derwent Hydro based in Duffield. Derwent Hydro have previously been involved with the mill through the turbines.

23/1.6 Reports

a. Speedwatch

Nothing to report

b. Station Volunteers

The report from Cllr Boyack was noted (Appendix A)

Cllr Boyack reported that the DVCRP quarterly meeting was held by MS teams on Monday 16th January 2023 at 1400hrs.

Comment is made on the topics that affect Cromford station.

EMR has applied to Dept. of Transport to reinstate the train service between Matlock to Nottingham. The time table incorporating this revised time table will be published in May 2023. The application is currently sitting with the DoT. The application is backed by Pauline Latham MP.

DVCRP has appointed a Community Engagement Officer. She was introduced to the meeting. She hopes to visit all Volunteer groups in the near future.

At the National Community Rail awards ceremony held in Manchester, Duffield Station were awarded a 1st place for its new signage at the station. This was a community award for the group of young people who designed, made and erected the signs. These group have secured apprenticeships with local company's.

The DVCRP was awarded a 3rd place for its web site

Two other stations got to the last 6 nominations for awards. There are in excess of 240 stations nationally completing for the awards so it is an achievement to get to the last 6.

Councillor Garry Purdy, Vice Chair of the partnership, and who was part of the original team who set up the DVCRP and Cromford Station Volunteers announced his retirement from the DVCRP as he was not standing for re-election to DDDC in May. Everyone expressed their thanks for his contribution to the partnership over the years.

Station meeting cancelled yesterday (17th January) due to poor weather.

c. Landslip Update

This was covered in the public section.

d. Tourist Map Working Party Update

The report from Cllr I Wakefield was noted (Appendix A)

Cllr I Wakefield reported that the first thing is to establish sponsorship funds from local organisations such as the quarries and Masson Mill. The working party also need to look at positioning and contact BT or Openreach. Site permissions and ownership also needs to be established. It was noted that blocked drains causing water on the area by the crossroads mean it is not an ideal spot for the boards. The Clerk will put together a list of grants that are viable for the project. **Action: Clerk**

23/1.7 Village Enhancement

The Clerk will chase the lamp post adoption with Cllr Purdy. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Bowman reported some residents have commented that the dust situation has improved.

23/1.8 Outside bodies:

- a. **Cromford Institute** – The report from Cllr Szegota was noted (Appendix A)
The Clerk reported that she had spoken to the Chair of the Institute and the Chair is looking at the bookings for the Parish Council and the meetings that start at 6pm. Various discussions are being had by the committee around projects to be put forward for the grant.
- b. **Cromford Community Centre** – Cllr Fraser reported that he had discussed the lease with the Community Centre but there is no progress at the moment despite the Council providing a lease. Parking issues have arisen due to people using the Community Centre car park and the centre manager has been getting upset with the local businesses. The Clerk will write to the Community Centre manager to invite him to the meeting and query when the centre's AGM will be held. Cllr Fraser has pointed out that the Community Centre has lost funds because of the inertia of the manager. Cllr K Wakefield is to look at the charity commission filings and the companies house filings and report back.
- c. **Cromford Meadows Sports Club** – the AGM is going to be held in February. Cllr Boyack reported that Matlock Cricket Club has merged with Cromford Cricket Club and now Matlock Cricket Club want to regularise the committee into something more business-like. They are looking to re-elect a new committee. Cllr Boyack attended the last meeting as a representative of the Parish Council and noted his relationship with the rugby club. The rugby club is not a part of this committee.

23/1.9 Communications

- a. **Newsletter** – Cllr Beckett sent a report on the newsletter deadlines for 2023. Cllr Beckett also reported that the printer is having an issue and a new printer is needed for the next issue.
- b. **Parish Council website** – Clerk will sit down with Wish and Cllr Beckett and design the new website. The website will contain links to the local groups. Emails from the website for individual councillors will be looked at as issues have been had. **Action: Clerk & Cllr Beckett**

23/1.10 Planning Decisions:

- a. 22/01317/FUL - Alterations to swimming pool building to provide additional accommodation and installation of solar panels and air source heat pump - Willersley Castle Hotel Mill Road Cromford Matlock Derbyshire DE4 5JH
- b. CM3/0817/40 - Development of a lateral extension to the south west of the existing permitted operations to provide the winning and working of minerals, associated ancillary operations and amended restoration scheme through landfill at Slinger Top Quarry - Slinger Top Quarry, Cromford, Matlock, DE4 3QS
- c. Tree Works Application T/23/00013/TCA, Fell 3no. Leylandii trees (G1) and grind root balls to 300mm below ground level at 3 Water Lane Cromford Matlock Derbyshire DE4 3QH

The Council had no objection to applications a), but regretted the irreparable loss of what had once been a local facility. There were no objections to applications b) and c) and the Clerk will forward this to the planning department. **Action: Clerk**

23/1.11 Items for Decision

- a. **To approve £550 for footpath repair work** – It was **RESOLVED** to pay £550 for footpath repair work, proposed by Cllr Nutting and, seconded by Cllr Beckett.

23/1.12 Finance & Administration

- a. **Balance in the Bank** – It was **RESOLVED** to accept the presented financial report – proposed by Cllr Beckett and, seconded by Cllr K Wakefield.
- b. **Items for approval and payment at this meeting** - It was **RESOLVED** to pay all items listed below proposed by Cllr Beckett and, seconded by Cllr K Wakefield.

Invoices for payments in January 2023	
Cromford Playgroup - Christmas Lunch Grant	70.34
Clerk's Wages	529.65
Footpath Warden Wages	123.20
Mr O Sturt	550.00
DD Payroll	71.00
Total Payments	£1,344.19

23/1.13 Items for information

None

23/1.14 Correspondence

1. Road Closed - B5035 Knockerdown, Kniveton for New Electrical supply weekend of 18th and 19th Feb 2023
2. Matlock Town Council - Civic Services Save The Date - 12th March 2023 at 12.30pm
3. Parish & Town Council Liaison Forum – Monday 13th March at 5-8pm
4. DALC - Election Costs for Derbyshire Dales
5. DDDC – Rural Cost of Living Survey

23/1.15 Parish Council Calendar

Cllr Bowman noted that the Council need a calendar on the website and the minutes with all the scheduled Parish Council Meetings and Committee Meetings on to make it clear what is occurring to all Councillors and the public. It was agreed to do this. **Action: Clerk**

23/1.16 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 15th February 2023 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute.

Signed..... Dated.....

Parish Council Meetings

- Wednesday 25th January 2023 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Finance Committee Meeting
- Wednesday 15th February 2023 at 6pm in the Cromford Institute – Quarry Liaison Committee Meeting

- Wednesday 15th February 2023 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Full Council Meeting
- Wednesday 15th March 2023 at 6pm in the Cromford Institute – Staffing Committee Meeting
- Wednesday 15th March 2023 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Full Council Meeting
- Wednesday 19th April 2023 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Full Council Meeting

CPC Meeting 18th January 2023 Reports – Agenda Items 8 & 10

Station Volunteers – Cllr Boyack

Due to inclement weather and the festive break the volunteers have not met in December

The next scheduled meeting is 17th January

Cromford Institute – Cllr Szegota

Attended the Institute meeting last night. I read out my report submitted to the Parish Council which they agreed with but were disappointed they had no response.. I did point out that it was only just before Xmas and there was a lot of illness about.....including I have to say, myself, since just after the last meeting.

When pressed I did say the extra meetings might have to be held elsewhere and if that was the case then it may be that it would be necessary / more convenient for the following full meeting to be held at that venue too.

They (some) were not keen for this to happen, then followed a discussion as to who agreed to this extra fitness booking to go ahead!.....It transpires that the Weds evening session is from 6.30-7, not the hour I was told. Anne was up for telling the fitness instructor she could not have the room on the Weds of the 2 meetings.....(I feel this is a bit harsh as someone had booked it) I said not to do that until they had heard from the PC.

At least two that were there, were very anxious not to lose the Parish Council booking and therefore it's endorsement of the Institute.