

Cromford Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Cromford Parish Council held remotely on Wednesday 20 January 2021 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: Beckett (Chair); Bowman (Vice-Chair); Birch; Boyack; Fraser; March; Mosley, Nutting and Wakefield. Cllr I Ratcliffe (DCC) and Cllr G Purdy (DDDC). Mrs B Kirkham (Locum Clerk)

21/1.1 Welcome and Apologies

Cllr Beckett welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr J Pawley (DDDC).

21/1.2 Variation to the order of business

There was no variation to the order of business.

21/1.3 Declaration of Members Interests

There were no declarations of interest in any items on the agenda.

21/1.4 Public Speaking

- a) There were no members of the public present at this meeting.
- b) Cllr Ratcliffe updated the Council on several issues including emergency flooding information; Active Travel were available to transport people for their vaccinations; Staffing changes at County Hall; work on Lea Road. Cllr Fraser suggested that when the Lea Road work was completed then the Council should consider closing the road for 1 Sunday per month during the summer so the road could be enjoyed by walkers and cyclists.
Cllr Purdy reported that Matlock and the Derwent Valley were on flood alert and emergency services were on standby. The local vaccination programme was going well. Covid infection rates had risen by 15% in the last week in the Derbyshire Dales. A letter of thanks had been sent to the local NHS. The District Council had a climate change initiative and would be looking to appoint a Climate Change Officer for the Derbyshire Dales.
- c) There was no representation from members at this meeting.

21/1.5 Minutes of the previous meeting

The Council resolved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 16 December 2020 as a true record of that meeting, proposed by Cllr Bowman and seconded by Cllr Boyack.

21/1/6 Minutes of the Finance Sub-Committee

The Council acknowledged receipt of the Finance Committee Minutes held on the 12 January 2021, the contents of which were noted.

21/1.7 Review of Contracts of Employment for the Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer and Parish Footpaths Officer

The Clerk had notified the Council that she wished to resign from her post as Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, the Council accepted this with regret. Cllr Beckett to take advice from DALC on further action. *Action: Cllr Beckett*

21/1.8 Approval of Conditions of Contract for the Footpaths Officer

Members had made comment on the draft conditions of contract, Cllr Boyack agreed to amend the copy and recirculate. *Action: Cllr Boyack*

21/1.9 Trees around Mill Pond

A request for work to the trees around Mill Pond had been submitted to the District Council.

21/1/10 Public Space Protection Orders

Cllr Bowman had been contacted by the District Council regarding this matter and would follow up in due course. *Action: Cllr Bowman*

21/1.11 Arkwright Society & Village Hydro Project

There had been some interest in forming a Community Interest Company, but there had been no further progress at present due to the current lockdown.

21/1.12 Community Speed Watch Update & Purchase/Storage of Equipment

Cllr Bowman was collating the forms from the volunteers. The theory training was now being re-arranged through Microsoft Teams.

21/1.13 Friends of Cromford Station

Volunteer work was continuing with a maximum of 6 people taking part at any one time.

21/1.14 Spillage of Lorries onto the Highway

A heavy spillage at the A6 junction had been reported by Cllr Beckett. To accurately report incidents, it was necessary to record the date, time and registration number of the vehicle concerned. Members agreed that it was often difficult to record all the information. This matter would be raised at the Quarry Liaison meeting in February.

21/1.15 Police Matters

It was proving to be difficult for the Council to organise a meeting with representatives from Environmental Health and the Police regarding noise issues. Cllr Bowman agreed to follow up on this matter. *Action: Cllr Bowman*

21/1.16 County Council & District Council Matters

The fence at Mill Pond was now in the hands of the planning officers and an enforcement notice had been issued.

21/1.17 Parish Council Asset Register

A draft asset register had been circulated. Clerk to update the register as follows: change 4 grit bins to 5, remove 1 strimmer from the list (there were 2 recorded on the register).

Action: Clerk

21/1.18 Street Name Plates – Willersley Lane and Mount Pleasant

The District Council had 2 missing name plates for Cromford, the Willersley Lane name plate was to be erected at the top end of Willersley Lane (near the 'Welcome to Matlock' sign) where the road changes to Starkholmes. The Parish Council agreed that they would contact a property owner regarding the erection of the Mount Pleasant sign. *Action: Clerk*

21/1.19 Newsletter

A list of newsletter deadlines had been circulated.

21/1.20 Bedehouse Lane Signs

Clerk to try to ascertain when the signs are likely to be erected. *Action: Clerk*

21/1.21 Planning Decisions:

- a) **20/01216/FUL - Balcony to front - 32 Castle View Drive, Cromford**
The Parish Council had no objection to this application. *Action: Clerk*
- b) **20/01180/FUL – single storey extension to rear and recladding of existing dormers – 39 Barnwell Lane, Cromford**
The Parish Council had no objection to this application. *Action: Clerk*
- c) **20/01293/LBALT - Replacement windows - Weavers Cottage, North Street, Cromford**
The Parish Council had no objection to this application. *Action: Clerk*
- d) **20/01275/FUL – Erection of 1.9m high fence – 158 Derby Road, Cromford**
The Council objected to this application, they felt that the fence would be too high and would impair visibility. *Action: Clerk*
- e) **Planning Enforcement**
It was not clear at present what was happening with a planning enforcement on Derby Road, Councillors were concerned about visibility at the junction and the bend on Intake Lane.

21/1.22 Trello - Casework/Complaints Procedure

Several members had trialled Trello and felt that it might be suitable for recording complaints/village issues. The annual cost was £88. This matter was to be carried forward to the next meeting.

21/1.23 Items for Decision: Expenditure of £450 for Community Speed Watch Equipment

The Council resolved to go ahead with the purchase when it was clear that Community Speed Watches could go ahead, proposed by Cllr Bowman seconded by Cllr Mosley.

21/1.24 Finance

- a) **To approve the move to Unity Trust Bank as proposed by the Finance Committee**
The Council resolved to approve the move to Unity Trust Bank at an annual cost of £72. *Action: Clerk*
- b) **To approve the budget as proposed by the Finance Committee**
The Council resolved to accept the budget as presented with the addition of £100 towards snow warden costs, proposed by Cllr March seconded by Cllr Fraser.

- c) **To set the precept at £19,000 as proposed by the Finance Committee**
The Council resolved to set the precept at £19,000 proposed by Cllr March and seconded by Cllr Fraser. *Action: Clerk*
- d) **To approve the transfer of £4,000 from the Reserve to the Current Account**
The Council resolved to approve the transfer of £4,000 from the Reserve to the Current account if required.
- e) **Balance in the Bank/Budget Appraisal/Approval of Financial Statements**
There was a balance in the current account of £4,140.74 and a balance in the reserve account of £31,188.29.
- f) **Items for approval and payment at this meeting**
The Council resolved to approve the following items for payment, proposed by Cllr Mosley seconded by Cllr Boyack:

Defibrillator	282.00
Community Rail Network	30.00
Spotless (Dec)	50.00
Clerk's Salary	288.38
Footpaths Officer	138.46
Locum Clerk - B Kirkham	360.00

21/1.25 Items for Information

Cllr Beckett had obtained several quotes for a Council laptop. Cllr Beckett had an emergency phone number for anyone requiring urgent assistance during the current heavy rain and flooding.

21/1.26 Correspondence

All correspondence had been sent out by email.

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 17 February 2021 at 7.30 pm