

# **Cromford Parish Council**

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

Wednesday 20 September 2023 at 7.30pm

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**Present:** Councillors: Matt Birch (Chair); Marie Szegota; Iain Wakefield, Russ Boyack, Philip Curzon, and Richard Walsh.

Sian Bacon (Clerk), John Mee (Footpath Warden), and 2 members of the public

## **23/9.1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr N Whitehead (DDDC).

## **23/9.2 Co-option of new councillors**

It was **RESOLVED** to co-opt Mrs Pam Ashley to the Council. Cllr Ashley signed the acceptance of office and joined the councillors.

## **23/9.3 Variation to the order of business**

None

## **23/9.4 Declaration of Members Interests**

Cllrs Curzon and Szegota declared an interest in the Barnwell Lane Planning Application 23/00925/FUL.

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

## **23/9.5 Public Speaking**

### **Jane Furniss (Cromford RBL)**

The Remembrance service will be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> November at St Mary's at 2pm. The British Legion has notified the vicar. Unfortunately, there are no cadets at the moment as they have disbanded at Wirksworth. But they will ask the Matlock cadets if they have any spare. There will be a service down at the memorial at the crossroads from 2.45pm then everyone will walk up the hill for a service there. They have not booked the bugler yet as he is on holiday but this will be sorted when he returns. John Wilkson the representative of the Lord Lieutenant will bring his own wreaths. The Parish Council just have two wreaths. It is hoped to get as many as possible at the church though the RBL are aware it is a long way to walk but it is shared between the two churches. There will be wreaths for the local organisations. The playschool and school children will have their service on the 13<sup>th</sup> November as the Head Mistress does the service with the children. It was queried whether the parish council want to provide wreath and it was agreed that they would. The RBL will ask Mr Beckett to sort the PA system out as in previous years and Cllr Birch will do it if Mr Beckett can't. Cllr Birch will also do the reading in church if no one else can. There will be forces representatives from the village there as well.

The RBL is currently looking at taking over the Matlock Bath British Legion.

The risk assessment will be sent to the Clerk. Mrs Taylor-Wilde will check the PA system is working. The Cromford RBL have a new secretary but they are very new to job. The lamppost poppies are going up and permission has been gained from the DCC.

The Clerk will look at a road closure for the event next year.

The Limeyard was raised and Cllr Birch noted that he has cleaned up the area of leaves at the Limeyard but the area needs weeding, the pot holes need fixing and the lighting is still out. The Community Centre is now under new trustees and is looking into the electricity situation.

There will be a DDDC walk around in October with Cllr Birch, Mrs Bowman attending with Cllr Whitehead the DDDC councillor and officers to address issues.

### **23/9.6 Minutes of the previous meetings**

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the previous meetings held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023, as true record of those meetings, proposed by Cllr Szegota and seconded by Cllr Walsh.

### **23/9.7 Matters arising from the previous meeting (non decision making)**

There were no matters arising not on the agenda.

### **23/9.8 Reports**

#### **a. Footpaths**

Mr Mee reported that he has caught up with the strimming. The hedges at 7 & 17 Hawthorn Drive are still causing problems and hedges on Tor View Rise and another on a Bedehouse Lane bungalow. Cllr Curzon will send the Clerk the number of the house. **Action: Cllr Curzon and Clerk.** On the A6 a tree had fallen down at the cross roads with other trees looking very dangerous. The Clerk will chase Cllr Murphy (DCC) about the other dangerous trees on the cross roads. **Action: Clerk.**

It was agreed the MMA grant should be used on the repairs on the steps from Lea-road. Mr Mee will get quotes for the work for the Clerk.

#### **b. Speedwatch**

It was noted that a Speedwatch was held on Monday and 16 cars were identified as speeding over 36mph. Barnwell Lane was mentioned in the newsletter and a van is frequently parked blocking visibility. Bedehouse Lane has the same van problems with poor visibility being created by vans. The Clerk will raise with Cllr Murphy (DCC). **Action: Clerk.**

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

Cllr Boyack reported that the volunteers have been meeting regularly to catch up due to the poor weather conditions recently. The volunteers are going to concentrate on the bee friendly planters unfortunately the previous plants died so Cllr Boyack has purchased more that should stand up to the weather better. The next meeting is next Friday. Bulbs have also been bought. Cllr Boyack is hoping the County Council will give funds but if not, the station funds should cover it.

#### d. Planting

Mrs Bowman and other residents will do the winter planting.

#### e. Tourist Map

Cllr I Wakefield reported that the stand has been donated by DVM and they have a series of maps anywhere there is a mill. Cllr Wakefield now has contacts for work to be done. The report in Appendix A was given.

It was agreed that the map won't have any commercial element to it just landmarks around Cromford not businesses.

It was agreed to move ahead with the project and the sites to be viewed will be the old phone box site, on the market place or near the Community Centre by the memorial garden hedge. The land ownership will be established and Cllr Birch will raise the sites with Cllr Whitehead (DDDC). Cllr Wakefield will start to get formal quotes. **Actions: Cllrs Birch and Wakefield.**

#### 23/9.9 Village Matters

- a. Public Toilets – The Community Centre trustees have spoken to DDDC who are undertaking a review into the future of the toilet.
- b. Hedges – Covered in the footpath report. Bench at the traffic lights is in poor state this will be raised by Cllr Birch with Cllr Whitehead (DDDC). **Action: Cllr Birch.**

#### 23/9.10 Outside bodies:

- a. **Cromford Institute** – the report from Cllr Szegota (Appendix A) was noted. It was reported that the committee are looking into whether putting in an inside disabled friendly toilet is feasible. The seed bank is ongoing and the produce is raising a small amount. People are encouraged to bring produce.
- b. **Cromford Community Centre** – Cllr Birch reported that a wedding had been held at the community centre apart from the temperature causing it to finish at 9pm. Otherwise it was a success and the upstairs will hopefully be used more going forward. The trustees are still awaiting some paperwork.
- c. **Cromford Meadows Sports Club** – There is no further update.
- d. **Celebrating Cromford** – it was reported that a meeting has been held and plans for Apple Day are underway.

#### 23/9.11 Communications

- a. **Newsletter** – The August newsletter has been delivered now and Cllr Szegota will liaise on the next deadline with Mr Beckett. **Action: Cllr Szegota.**
- b. **Parish Council website** – the Clerk reported the new website is up and running and she is currently populating it with documents. She also now has a new email address: [clerk@cromfordparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@cromfordparishcouncil.org.uk)

#### 23/9.12 Planning Decisions:

- a. 23/00630/FUL - Change of use of land to 8 no. pitch traveller site with associated new access (Resubmission) - The Woodyard Derby Road Homesford Matlock Derbyshire – Approved by the District Council.

At this point Cllrs Curzon and Szegota left the room.

- b. 23/00925/FUL - Conversion and extension of part of garage and erection of single storey rear extension -28 Barnwell Lane Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3QY

Cllrs Curzon and Szegota returned to the room at this point after the Councillors discussions and decision on the above application were concluded.

- c. 23/00936/FUL - Erection of retaining wall, access and gravel hardstanding - Land To The Rear Of The Hill Cromford DE4 3QU
- d. 23/00954/FUL - Installation of Waterwheel and Francis Turbine within existing Wheel Pit in Mill Yard (re-submission of 23/00581/FUL) - Building 10 Second Floor Cromford Mill Mill Road Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3RQ
- e. 23/00955/LBALT - Installation of Waterwheel and Francis Turbine within existing Wheel Pit in Mill Yard (re-submission of 23/00582/LBALT ) - Building 10 Second Floor Cromford Mill Mill Road Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3RQ
- f. Tree Works Application T/23/00148/TCA, Various works to trees along the canal towpath at Cromford Wharf Mill Road Cromford Derbyshire
- g. 23/00882/FUL - Alterations to detached garage - 18 The Hill Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3QL
- h. 23/00886/FUL - Alterations and erection of single storey rear extension - Clips Head Willersley Lane Cromford Derbyshire DE4 5JG

Cllr Birch raised that at 87 The Hill the owner was supposed to rebuild the wall. The Clerk will report this to enforcement at DDDC.

The Council had no objections for applications b), d), e), f), g), and h).

The Council object to application c) as the parish council have put an application for a footpath modification order that this application would block. The Clerk will raise this issue.

The Clerk will forward these comments to the planning department. **Action: Clerk**

#### **23/9.13 Items for Decision**

- a. **To approve funds for the Tourist Information Map Project.** - It was **RESOLVED** to approve the £4025 expenditure required to complete the project proposed by Cllr Walsh and, seconded by Cllr Curzon.
- b. **To approve funds for station planting** – it was **RESOLVED** to approve expenditure of £132.99 for station planting proposed by Cllr Szegota and, seconded by Cllr Walsh.
- c. **Winter Planting for £150** – it was **RESOLVED** to grant £150 for winter planting proposed by Cllr Birch and, seconded by Cllr Curzon.

#### **23/9.14 Finance & Administration**

- a. **Balance in the Bank** – It was **RESOLVED** to accept the presented financial report – proposed by Cllr PC and, seconded by Cllr MB.
- b. **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 Ashley.

<b>Invoices for payment in August and September 2023</b>	
Cromford Institute - Hall Hire	37.50
Footpath Warden Wages - August	123.12
Clerk's Wages - August	544.05
DD Payroll	105.00
Wish Cloud - Website set up and hosting	804.00
R Boyack - Station Bulbs	32.99
R Boyack - Station plants	100.00
Highland Print - Newsletter	509.00
Spotless - Bus shelter cleaning July & August	100.00
Footpath Warden Wages - September	123.12
Footpath Warden - Petrol	14.49
Clerk's Wages - September	544.05
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£3,037.32</b>

**23/9.15 Items for information**

None

**23/9.16 Correspondence**

1. Road Closed - A6 Derwent Way and A6 Dale Road Matlock for Carriageway Resurfacing 26th Sept to 29th Sept Night Works between 20:00 and 06:00 each night
2. Road Closed - Scarthin Cromford for Fibre Cabling Works 27th Sept to 29th Sept 2023
3. Road Closed - B5035 between Wirksworth and Whatstandwell for retaining wall repairs 25th Sept to 13th Oct 2023
4. Road Close - A5012 Market Place Cromford for Carriageway Resurfacing 19th October to 3rd November 2023 Night Closures between 18:00 and 05:00 each night – the Clerk will ask if the start time for works can be moved back by 2 hours. **Action: Clerk**
5. Snow Wardens – Cllr Birch will take on the role and liaise with the other wardens. **Action: Cllr Birch**

**23/9.17 Parish Council Calendar**

**Parish Council Meetings**

- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 6pm in the Cromford Institute - Finance committee
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting

**23/9.18 Date of next meeting**

- The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute.

Signed.....

Dated.....

## **Appendix A**

### **CPC Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> September Reports**

#### **Cromford Institute - Cllr Szegota**

Report from Institute Meeting 23rd August

Bank Account of £4000 plus and 200 club doing well. Plan to apply once more for The Parish Council Grant.

No more new regular bookings so feel the need to diversify. Jamie has looked into the organisation Connex.....to be approached to suggest the Institute as a potential venue, maybe for one to one meetings?

Several events coming up..In Oct Ann and Martin will be doing lollipop and choc apple making and there is to be a fashion show. In Nov there will be a craft fair.

There was the usual discussion about updating the toilet facilities, vital, these days if they are to encourage more usage. The question of using the Institute for polling was raised and the questions asked..." why did the voting move from the Institute " and "Is the Greyhound a suitable venue?".

#### **Tourist Map – Cllr Wakefield**

The following information has been provided by my contact at Derwent Valley Mills and provides an update regarding the village visitor information panel.

Once everyone's happy to proceed with the estimates shown below I'll start to gather firm prices along with the information that will appear on the map. We also need to find a suitable site for the display, which may of course be subject to planning permission.

#### **CROMFORD VISITOR MAP UPDATE**

We now in possession of the bespoke stand for the visitor information map and here is the information from Derwent Valley Mills (DVM) on how to progress with the production of the interpretation map. Highly recommended contacts used by DVM for the interpretation project are as follows:

Alex Wall from Design Wall did all the artwork for the panels – DVM had a number of panels to design and estimate one would cost approximately £2,000. Email [alex@designwall.co.uk](mailto:alex@designwall.co.uk) or 01283 585420 for more details.

Jason Grundy at AllSigns produced the interpretation panels for DVM (using Duralite so will last for many years) and also installed the panel onto the structure. DVM had one which is overall 861mm x 614mm with 30mm returns (visual area 841mm x 594mm), so an A1 panel cost around £525 plus VAT plus a charge to fit it.

The installation of the panel on the stand is more difficult to break down as some of DVM's displays were on posts, so needed to be dug into the ground like our will be, some on walls. An estimate to mount the board on the donated stand would be around £200-£300. Email [jk.grundy@btinternet.com](mailto:jk.grundy@btinternet.com) or 07971 613851 for more details.

Alan Wheatley at Atlow Contracting was the person who installed the structure for DVM– cost around £1200 plus VAT. Email is [info@atlowcontracting.co.uk](mailto:info@atlowcontracting.co.uk) or 01332 410059

Information boards have already been installed at Darley Abbey, Milford and Belper, so all these contacts understand the style to replicate. Finally, the value of the structure gifted to us by DVM is around £4,500.