

## **Cromford Parish Council**

### **Minutes of a meeting of Cromford Parish Council held remotely on**

**Wednesday 19 August 2020 at 7.30pm**

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**Present:** Councillors: Beckett (Chair); Bowman (Vice-Chair); Birch; Boyack; Mosley; and Wakefield. Mrs B Kirkham (Locum Clerk)

#### **20/8.1 Apologies**

Cllr Beckett welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Councillors: March and Nutting; District Councillor Purdy and County Councillor Ratcliffe.

#### **20/8.2 Variation to the order of business**

There was no variation to the order of business.

#### **20/8.3 Declaration of Members Interests**

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

#### **20/8.4 Public Speaking**

There were no members of the public present.

#### **20/8.5 Minutes of the previous meeting**

The Council resolved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 15 July with the following amendment, change of the word 'will' to 'may' in item 19 paragraph 4 on page 1313, after this amended the Council resolved that the minutes be a true record of that meeting.

#### **20/8.6 Minutes of sub-committees and partnerships**

There had been no sub-committee or partnership meetings held since the last Parish Council meeting.

#### **20/8.7 Review of Contracts of Employment for the Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer and Parish Footpaths Officer**

The Council resolved that the Job description of the Clerk, Responsible Financial Officer and Footpaths Officer all needed to be reviewed. The Council resolved to go ahead and review these items for the Footpaths Officer, these would then be brought to the next full meeting of the Council for ratification. Action: Cllrs Mosley and Boyack

The Council resolved to take HR advice. Cllr Beckett to bring an estimate of costs to the next meeting. Action: Cllr Beckett

The Council resolved that the remainder of this item be recorded as a confidential item.

#### **20/8.8 Licence for the erection of a Christmas Tree**

The cost for the licence from the County Council was £153, Cllr Boyack to clarify whether the cost was for 1 or 5 years. The Council resolved to review this item next month. Action: Cllr Boyack

#### **20/8.9 Christmas Tree Lights**

The Council resolved to review this item next month.

#### **20/8.10 BT Phone Box**

The Council resolved to ask BT to remove the phone box. County Highways Department to be asked about the erection of a bus shelter in the same location and what the likely costs would be. Action: Clerk

#### **20/8.11 Community Speed Watch**

All volunteers need to be retrained, training involves 60/90 minutes virtual training and 20 minutes at the roadside. Action: Cllrs Wakefield, March, Boyack, Beckett, Mosley and Bowman.

#### **20/8.12 Footpath Minor Maintenance Claims**

Clerk to put together information for previous years Minor Maintenance Claims. The stiles need replacing on footpath 49, Cllr Beckett to supply map and Clerk to submit request to the County Council. Action: Cllr Beckett & Clerk

#### **20/8.13 Police Matters**

Complaints about speeding cars in the area, particularly late at night and the early hours of the morning some vehicles perhaps having a speeding circuit which may impact on other villages; Middleton by Wirksworth and Bonsall Parish Councils to be contacted to see if they were experiencing problems. Cllr Bowman to email the police and pass on the Council's concerns. Action: Cllr Bowman and Clerk.

The Police & Crime Commissioner was holding a Virtual Event on August 24 at 6pm questions need to be pre-booked.

Local PCSO may try to attend future meetings.

#### **20/8.14 County Council & District Council Matters**

The Council discussed the possibility of wildflower planting at the junction of Hawthorn Drive. Cultivation licence application had been received. Council resolved that this matter needed further consideration and an estimate of costs involved.

No response had been received from the Platform Housing letters, Clerk to send follow up letters. Action: Clerk

Concern about parked cars at the end of Bede House Lane, Cllrs Boyack and Wakefield to meet on site to discuss possible areas for yellow lines. Action: Cllrs Boyack and Wakefield.

Following a request for consultation from the District Council; the Parish Council resolved to ask the District Council to continue weed spraying on residential roads.

A new footpaths sign for the bottom of Bede House Lane to be requested from the County Footpaths officer, Cllr Wakefield to send photo of existing sign. Action: Cllr Wakefield and Clerk

#### **20/8.15 Station Volunteers**

Volunteers meeting twice monthly, hopefully hours will be extended in the near future.

#### **20/8.16 Newsletter**

Cllrs Wakefield and Boyack agreed to proofread the newsletter.

### **20/8.17 a) Planning Training**

The Chair asked Councillors to share their notes from training which they undertake, so the knowledge is shared with everyone.

### **20/8.17 b) Planning Decisions:**

T/20/00107/TCA Dismantle and Fell 2no. Ash trees infected by ash dieback and Raise Crown of 1no. Sycamore tree over road to 5m and clear of street furniture by 1m at 1 Water Lane, Cromford.

The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

20/000610/FUL Reapplication for a dwelling in the grounds of Rock House

The Parish Council resolved to comment as follows: "The ancillary "service" buildings to Rock House (The Mews, The Stable Grange and the Coach House) are carefully arranged around the head of the carriage drive to Rock House and all face S/E with a view across the open space to the local landscape of the Derwent Valley, designed as an integral part of the original development. Although the proposed site area was later used a tennis court it retains its open character and allows sweeping views of Rock House and its surroundings. The mid-20th century development although not in keeping with the original, stops short of a line running from S/W of The Coach House, the N/W gable of 75 Derby Road and the S/W edge of the tennis court. The only exception to this is a modern development Elmcroft. This is a single storey dwelling set at a lower level than the tennis court area (probably by around 0.4 - 0.5m,) in the old sunken rose garden. Although prominent from the parkland landscape to the S/E & N/E, it is shielded from view by a high yew hedge. This is approx 3m in height measured from the tennis court side. In principle any new building which protrudes into the overall site of Rock House and its environs will inevitably upset the balance of the composition of Rock House itself and its ancillary buildings, gardens and wider landscape. Cromford Parish Council wish to object to this application as the proposals will destroy the authenticity of the area and are not suitable development in the grounds of a listed building in a world heritage status of the area. The proposal involves siting faux "Victorian style" glass houses. But in Victorian times glass houses would never have been situated in this location in relation to the main house."

20/00686/CLPUD for a rear extension at Hillside View, Scarthin

The Council noted the receipt of this application which was for information only and not consultation.

20/00728/FUL - Extension to (detached) outhouse and use as ancillary accommodation at 39 Barnwell Lane

The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

20/00517/FUL - Replacement of shop window & door at Scarthin Books

The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

Cllr Bowman reported briefly on the new planning white paper.

### **20/8.18 Policy Reviews**

Financial Risk Assessment

The Council resolved to adopt the Financial Risk Assessment, the finance committee to suggest amendments to be ratified by the full Council.

Data Privacy Policy

The Council resolved to adopt the Data Privacy Policy as circulated.

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

The Council resolved to adopt the Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Policy as circulated.

#### Update on Casework/Complaints Procedure

Discussion took place regarding progress with the Casework/Complaints procedure.

#### Update on Website Accessibility Review

Cllr Beckett reported that following his assessment the website is generally fairly accessible for keyboard users. The Council resolved that to make the website fully accessible would be a disproportionate burden on the Parish Council. A brief website accessibility statement has been added to the website.

### **20/8.19 Items for Decision**

The Council resolved to donate £50 to the British Red Cross.

The Council resolved to donate £100 to the Royal British Legion Cromford Branch for wreaths.

### **20/8.20 Finance**

#### Balance in the Bank/Budget Appraisal/Risk Assessment/Approval of Financial Statements

The balance in the current account as at the 29 July 2020 was £11,351.80 and the balance in the ISA account was £31,186.42 as at the 9 July 2020. The Council approved the financial statements as presented.

The Council resolved to make the following payments:

DALC Risk Assessment Training	20.00
DALC Essential Councillor Training	100.00
DALC Planning Training	50.00
DALC Good Recruitment Practice	30.00
DALC Planning Training x 2	100.00
Spotless (for July)	50.00
Clerk's Salary	578.27
Zoom subscription	14.99
Footpaths Officer	138.66
Brenda Kirkham	735.90
Highland Print	97.00

### **20/8.21 Items for Information**

Cllr Beckett has completed a County Council request for information regarding how information is dissemination to the residents of Cromford.

The Council resolved to try to hold a litter pick in Cromford. Cllr Bowman to do risk assessment. Action: Cllr Bowman.

Cllr Bowman agreed to be the Cromford Parish Council representative on the DALC Climate Change initiative. Action: Clerk and Cllr Bowman.

Favourable comments had been received about the planting on the 3p Bit land.

### **20/8.22 Correspondence**

All items had been circulated by email.

The meeting closed at 10.05 pm.

**Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 16 September 2020 at 7.30 pm**