

Cromford Parish Council

Cromfordparishcouncil.org.uk

Minutes of a meeting of Cromford Parish Council held in the
Hall at Cromford Church of England School, Cromford.

Wednesday 20 April 2022 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: Barbara Bowman (Chair); Matt Birch; Russ Boyack; Alistair Fraser; Jenny March; Sue Mosley; Kate Wakefield; Mrs Sian Bacon (Clerk); Mr J Mee; & Cllrs G Purdy (DDDC).

22/04.1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from: Cllr D Murphy (DCC); Jeremy Beckett; & Mike Nutting.

22/04.2 Variation to the order of business

None

22/04.3 Declaration of Members Interests

Cllr Bowman declared an interest in agenda item 21.a planning application 22/00127/FUL - Replacement shed and erection of greenhouse - Allotment Land at Rear Of 3 To 13 The Hill Cromford Matlock Derbyshire as her application and agenda item 23.c payments.

Cllr Boyack declared an interest in agenda item 19 holiday homes as a holiday home owner.

22/04.4 Public Speaking

District and County Councillor Reports and Issues:

Report from Cllr Garry Purdy (DDDC)

Cllr Purdy reported on the issue of village cleanliness that he had been speaking to the officer in charge of the clean and green team at DDDC and had recommended that the officer and Mr Laycock the quarry manager hold a meeting to discuss issues. The officer has noted that since the mess was coming out of Dene quarry then Dene quarry should be dealing with cleaning the mess up could not pull a road sweeper off from another area (the DDDC only have two) as it would offset the scheduled work program. The austerity cuts review report ordered by Cllr Purdy and supported by ASPE is expected to be finished soon with the anticipated suggestion that the DDDC should increase scheduled cleaning and increase staff skill which will result in requiring more money to run an increased schedule.

Cllr Purdy reported that enquiries regarding the council adoption of the Marketplace lamppost are still ongoing.

Cllr Purdy reported that Serco are still having difficulties but all bins are mostly being emptied. The green and food waste are now having to be taken to Derby and Buxton for processing due to the closure of the closer plant. Serco as a result of this is attempting to claim more money from the council and the legal battle around this is ongoing. An independent waste review into the previous problems around bin collections and staffing found Serco to blame and the new software installed in the lorry cabs hasn't been being used so missed bins haven't been tracked. Serco have brought back the previous manager who has made progress on fixing the issue.

Cllr Bowman asked what the timetable on the meeting between the District Council and Dene Quarry is as it may take some time after the meeting to see improvements. Cllr Purdy reported that the officer would be back in the office after annual leave on the 25th April and the meeting would be held hopefully within 2 weeks of the officer's return. Cllr Purdy reported that the last time a cleaning of the crossroads was done was at Christmas but only the pavements had been cleaned not the road and the work had not been done for over a year before that. Cllr Bowman noted that the road had not been cleaned for over 2 years.

It was noted that other quarries are partially responsible for the mess but it is mostly Dene Quarry. Dene quarry is still working on sorting some of the cleaning but there have been less complaints recently. Cllr Purdy also reported that the Dene and Slinger quarries were contributing to village through donating money to the Bonsall and Cromford school. Cllr Bowman requested that a Parish Council representative be at the meeting. Cllr Purdy will ask the officer in charge.

Cllr Birch queried whether Dene quarry cleaning the bear pit meant that they had taken responsibility for it and it was reported that they had not taken responsibility but cleaned it as a good will gesture. At present no one is aware of who owns bear pit. Cllr Bowman reported that the Arkwright business records had been destroyed in the 1920's so there was no record of ownership. Historic England have no interest in taking the site. The Peak District Mining Museum did the cleaning of the pit last year. It was noted that the Mining Museum would be moving to the Stone Centre shortly.

Mr Mee reported that the crash barriers round the Hill need cleaning and that the silt in the bear pit was off the road so the Quarries causing most of the mess.

Cllr Purdy reported on the Community Centre toilets that the District Council had paid £8,000 to the Community Centre at the time the toilets were taken over from the District Council so after making enquiries Cllr Purdy has been told there will be no more money from the District Council towards them. Cllr Purdy noted that three public toilets had now gone from his ward. Cllr Purdy will keep trying to get further help but he felt that Public Health England should take responsibility for public conveniences.

The Clerk reported that as of yet she had received no up-to-date accounts from the community centre and so the Council is unable to make any decision to give a grant. Mr Mee reported that he opens them in the morning and the centre staff cleans and closes them each day. The pay entry system had been vandalised so an honesty box is in place now. It was noted that due to the situation the real costs of the toilet maintenance such as wages for cleaning staff were mixed in with expenses of centre making it difficult to know how much funding is required.

Cllr Purdy was asked if he could look into the requirement of a licence to use the promenade for Jubilee events as the licences come from the DDDC. Cllr Purdy agreed to chase this.

22/04.5 Footpath's report:

Cllr Boyack reported the Pennyford footpath alteration application has gone in today.

J Mee reported that Tarmac have done a flight of steps by the wheel wash and it was noted that the south side repairs should be done in 4 weeks.

22/04.6 Minutes of the previous meetings

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 23 March 2022, as a true record of that meeting, with the addition of 'on the Hill' after "bags over the barrier" to the District Council report section 7 in minute number 22/03.4 proposed by Cllr Mosley and seconded by Cllr Fraser.

22/04.7 Matters arising from the previous meeting (non decision making)

The following matters arose from the April meeting:

1. The Great British Spring Clean unfortunately did not take place due to illness of Cllr Bowman who was organising the pick.
2. Cllr Fraser reported that the planned April Jubilee meeting didn't happen.

22/04.8 Community Speedwatch update

Cllr Bowman circulated the following report prior to the meeting:

Not much to report at the moment as the watch haven't been out in the three weeks since the last meeting.

The next outing will be on Wednesday 27th April.

22/04.9 Station volunteers

Cllr Boyack reported that he was in the process of submitting a claim for a grant to renew barrels and planters from the station from East Midlands Railway.

The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday 26th April.

22/04.10 Dust on the roads around Cromford

This item was covered in the public participation section by Cllr G Purdy (DDDC)

It was noted that it is a good step forward with officers moving to identify the issue is a Dene Quarry problem and should be solved by them.

22/04.11 Parking problems

No further updates were available.

22/04.12 Lea Road closure update

No further updates have been received since the work started.

22/04.13 Community Centre – Public Toilets

Cllr Bowman reported that it looks as though the Community Centre were carrying on with maintaining the toilets.

It was agreed that Cllr Birch will ask for the current accounts for the Clerk from the centre's book keeper. **Action: Cllr Birch**

Cllr Fraser raised the idea of holding a meeting with the Community Centre committee to discuss a possible partnership and the toilet costings. It was noted that this would require a written agreement if the Council did decide to go into a partnership. It was agreed to wait for the Clerk to receive the accounts and establish the financial position and then look to arrange a meeting. In the meantime, it was agreed that Cllr March would raise the Bonsall toilets with Bonsall Parish Council and the Clerk will discuss the Youlgrave toilets with Youlgrave Parish Council to gain an idea of costs.

Action: Cllr March and the Clerk

22/04.14 Market Place Lamp Post

Cllr G Purdy (DDDC) will chase this up with the officers at the District Council.

22/04.15 Newsletter

It was reported that April the 29th is the next deadline and Cllr Beckett and Cllr Fraser will liaise regarding the Jubilee event information to go into the newsletter.

22/04.16 Noise Pollution

Cllr Bowman had raised the issue of noise pollution from cars and motorbikes with Matlock Bath Parish Council and received the following information:

Kensington and Chelsea have a camera installed and their fines are currently £100. They are looking to increase this to £400. They have estimated that since last June they have issued 10,000 fines (this is up to March 2022).

The cost of the equipment is around £3,000 per month or £24,500 for 2 years – this includes installation and maintenance. Matlock Bath Parish Council obtained this quote from Intelligent Instruments who have supplied Kensington and Chelsea with their camera.

Kensington and Chelsea Council reported that a PSPO is needed to impose fines (anti-social behaviour). What Matlock Bath PC are unsure about is whether DCC as the Highways Authority has to do this or whether DDDC can.

Matlock bath PC published an update in their last Newsletter and asked that residents send their comments to Cllr Murphy (DCC). He has received quite a few responses. Feedback from residents to Matlock Bath PC has mostly been positive

It was agreed that Cllr Bowman and the Clerk would go back to Matlock Bath PC and ask whether the cameras are static and if Matlock Bath would be willing to partner with Cromford to have them installed. **Action: Cllr Bowman and Clerk**

22/04.17 Jubilee Celebrations

The below report of events currently planned was circulated by Cllr Fraser:

The bunting and flags will be going up Saturday 28th May at Scarthin, the Market Place and North Street and will be coming down on the 11th June.

Thursday 2nd June

Oakhill hotel - BBQ and live Music

Beacon being lit at 9.15 the DCC and countryside informed. Fire brigade has been contacted, to be contacted on the night. The risk assessment has been completed.

Friday 3rd June

Event at Community Centre to be confirmed.

Saturday 4th June

10am Fell Race and Canter

Boat Inn Scarthin – Funfair and Stalls in the afternoon and live music in the evening

Sunday 5th June

Church service at 9.30am at St Mary's Church

Oakhill hotel - 3-6pm Jazz band and afternoon tea.

It was also reported that the Beacon is currently an issue as obtaining a correctly sized gas bottle is a problem. Cllr Birch will keep looking for a bottle. **Action: Cllr Birch**

There is very little movement on street parties as there seems to be a lack of enthusiasm for them.

22/04.18 Village Caretaker

Cllr Fraser had issued the following report prior to the meeting:

I feel that the village is looking scruffy. A solution could be to employ a village caretaker on a zero hours contract to take on duties such as sweeping, weed control, mowing, cleaning signs and perhaps maintain the toilets?

I know that a counter argument would be don't DDDC and DCC do this. However due to austerity causing a lack of resources this is not taking place.

There would be cost implications, payment etc. PPE, Tools, equipment, storage, waste disposal and training to name a few.

It was agreed to investigate the possibilities of employing someone.

22/04.19 Holiday Homes in Cromford

Cllr Bowman noted that there appear to roughly 40 holiday homes in the centre of the village alone. This number of holiday homes causes problems as they are registered as businesses and therefore are not paying the community charge paid by permanently occupied homes so are not paying into the village.

The Clerk will raise this with Sarah Dines MP and DALC. **Action: Clerk**

22/04.20 Cromford Institute

Another meeting is scheduled for the 6th May at 6.30pm at the Community Centre to discuss the Institutes future.

22/04.21 Planning Decisions:

At this point Cllr Bowman left the room and the meeting was chaired by Cllr March.

- a) 22/00127/FUL - Replacement shed and erection of greenhouse - Allotment Land At Rear Of 3 To 13 The Hill Cromford Matlock Derbyshire

Cllr Bowman returned to the room and resumed her position as the Chair.

- b) Derbyshire and Derby Minerals Local Plan - Proposed Draft Plan
- c) 22/00379/LBALT - Removal of ensuite and creation of new wet room at second floor level and associated works - 3 North Street Cromford Matlock Derbyshire DE4 3RG

The Council had no objection to applications a) or c) and the Clerk will forward this to the planning department. **Action: Clerk**

The Clerk will forward the council's comments on the Derbyshire and Derby Minerals Local Plan to Derbyshire County Council. **Action: Clerk**

The Hydro plans for the upper dam in Cromford was raised. Cllr Fraser reported that he believed the feasibility study had found the plans to be infeasible. Cllr Fraser will investigate. **Action: Cllr Fraser**

22/04.22 Items for Decision

- a) **To select the Insurance for the Financial Year 2022/23** – It was **RESOLVED** to accept a 3-year arrangement from Zurich insurance for £645.82 proposed by Cllr Boyack and, seconded by Cllr Mosley
- b) **Spring Planting Expenditure** – it was **RESOLVED** to authorise expenditure up to £400 for Spring planting proposed by Cllr Fraser and, seconded by Cllr March.

22/04.23 Finance & Administration

- a) **Finance Committee Update** – it was noted that the committee minutes had been previously circulated.
- b) **Balance in the Bank** – It was **RESOLVED** to accept the presented financial report – proposed by Cllr Bowman and, seconded by Cllr Mosley
- c) **Items for approval and payment at this meeting** - It was **RESOLVED** to pay all items listed below proposed Cllr Fraser and, seconded Cllr Mosley

Invoices for payment in April 2022	
Screwfix tarpaulin - (Reimburse BB)	9.99
Grit bin signs - (Reimburse BB)	48.17
Snow Mobile - (Reimburse BB)	30.00
Riverside Bulbs - (Reimburse BB)	9.60
Bus Shelter Cleaning	50.00
Footpath Warden Wages	112.04
Clerk's Wages	409.05
HMRC - PAYE	123.80
DALC Tree Training Course	125.00
Total Payments	£ 917.65

22/04.24 Items for information

1. Cllr Bowman on behalf of the Council issued thanks all those who helped out on the Snow warden scheme.
2. It was noted that the diocese has voted not to replace the previous vicar at St Mary's Church. Services will continue once a fortnight at 9-30 am Sundays with a representative of the diocese conducting the service.
3. There will be a DALC Police liaison meeting on Wednesday 27th April via zoom.
4. It was expressed how much Cllr Mosley will be missed and thanks were given for all her work
5. It was noted that the DDDC had done a superb job of trimming the trees at churchyard.

22/04.25 Correspondence

All correspondence had been passed to Councillors.

22/04.26 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 18 May 2022 at 7.00pm in the School Hall at Cromford Primary School with the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting and an Ordinary Meeting.

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