

Cromford Parish Council

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

Wednesday 15 May 2024 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: Matt Birch (Chair); R Boyack; P Curzon; P Ashley; A Fraser; C Gould, I Page, and R Walsh;
Sian Bacon (Clerk), Cllr D Murphy (DCC), J Mee (Footpath Warden) and 1 parishioner.

24/5.1 Apologies for Absence

None

24/5.2 Co-option of new councillors

It was reported that there has been one expression of interest and the Clerk has forwarded the information on being a parish councillor and the application form.

24/5.3 Variation to the order of business

None

24/5.4 Declaration of Members Interests

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

Cllr Walsh declared a personal interest in the tree application T/24/00095/TPO.

Cllr Fraser declared an interest in agenda item 16a S137 grants as a member of Celebrating Cromford.

24/5.5 Public Speaking

Cllr D Murphy - DCC

Cllr Murphy (DCC) reported that it has been 7 years since Slinger quarry put in their application for a quarry extension and it has now come to County and been approved. There are still some concerns around noise from work higher up in the quarry that has affected Bonsall in the past. The owners of the quarry are to minimise the risk of noise disruption as per the planning conditions and the Councillors have been promised by the officers that there will be monitored noise level limits. There will be the statutory 8 weeks of the year where the quarry can work in excess of limits however. Cllr Murph has pushed for permanent monitoring of noise on the site as at other quarries. This will be discussed with the owners by the DCC. He has been promised that if there are any breaches enforcement will deal with them rapidly. Cllr Murphy noted that he hadn't heard the noise but it had been distressing for those in Bonsall. It was queried whether Balleye was a concern and it was noted that not everyone in Bonsall has an issue with either quarry and Balleye seem happy to talk and accommodate. A delay for Slinger's application has been the biodiversity net gains requirements and this has been the first major application that has this applied too. It was clarified that the 8 weeks of

loosened noise restrictions is per year. There are designated sites in Bonsall and Via Gellia where sound will be monitored from. Cllr Murphy been assured they will keep an eye on the sound during those 8 weeks and the rest of the time. It has been reported that calcium carbonate has been found on the Slinter site as well. All the information about the application and conditions is online in the planning decision notice. All consultees had agreed to it. There are time limits as well for noise and work.

It was reported that the next quarry liaison meeting is on June 19th at 6pm

Potholes were raised and Cllr Murphy reported that there are 25 teams out filling. Cllr Murphy will report the recently broken manhole on Cromford Hill and it was reported that there is another broken manhole by the petrol station which will also be reported. The DCC have been promised £179 million from government for roads but the DCC has not seen any money yet.

24/5.6 Minutes of the previous meetings

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the previous meetings held on Wednesday 17th April 2024, as true record of those meetings, proposed by Cllr Fraser and seconded by Cllr Birch.

24/5.7 Matters arising from the previous meeting (non decision making)

- a. **Rotten Wooden Pavement Posts** – the Clerk will contact Cllr Whitehead (DDDC) for an update on the post removal. **Action: Clerk**
- b. **Market Place Lamppost** – the Clerk will contact Cllr Whitehead (DDDC) and the DDDC officers for an update on the lamppost. **Action: Clerk.**
- c. **Potholes** – discussed with Cllr Murphy (DCC) in public participation.
- d. **Lighting at the Limeyard** – The Clerk will send the letter supplied by Cllr Birch and Boyack. Offering a second meter and charging for the electricity used off that meter. **Action: Clerk**
- e. **Tourist Map** – Cllr Fraser will take this on. Cllr Birch will retrieve the stand. **Action: Cllrs Fraser & Birch.**

24/5.8 Reports

a. Footpaths (Footpath Warden)

The Footpath warden has obtained a quote of £550 for repairs to the station footpath where the surfacing has washed away. It was **RESOLVED** to spend the £550 from the MMA grant. proposed by Cllr Fraser and, seconded by Cllr Walsh.

The footpath warden reported that he has started a strimming programme

There is a broken stile which the Clerk will discuss with the footpath warden.

All health and safety equipment is in place and no items are currently required.

b. Speedwatch

The Clerk reported that no watches had been held as there have not been enough volunteers. There are 6 volunteers in total but two of these are in the process of being trained by the police. To

run regular watches 12 volunteers are needed to allow for everyone's schedule as at least 4 people are needed per watch. A watch is in the process of being organised for the last two weeks in May. One of the new volunteers came from the magazine advert which is a good start.

It was agreed that the Clerk will look into Speed Indicator Devices with Cllr Walsh. **Action: Clerk & Cllr Walsh.**

It was noted that the 30mph sign at the top of the Hill is shared with other parishes so is not there 24/7.

Cllr Boyack reported that Speedwatch is difficult and needs 4 people at a minimum to run a watch to take the information. The watches are also limited to certain places agreed with the police.

The Clerk will run the advert for volunteers in the Newsletter again. **Action: Clerk.**

c. Station Volunteers

Cllr Boyack reported that the wooden barrel planters are in a bad state and that EMR will give a grant for plants, barrels and compost which is expensive. Summer planting will take place at the end of this month and the beginning of next month. Companies have approached the volunteers to discuss one off 'away days' for their staff. The volunteers are looking to see if there are any tasks, at the next meeting. There is a travel survey being run as part of EMR's marketing strategy.

It was noted that the Station looks fantastic at the moment.

d. Planting

Mrs Bowman and Mrs Mosley have offered to do the summer planting and the Council sent their thanks to Mrs Mosley and Mrs Bowman. It was noted that moving water to the planters is becoming a problem but Taylor Wilde have offered assistance with building a water carrier.

24/5.9 Village Matters

- a. Public Toilets** – Cllr Birch reported that the Community Centre still haven't had any bills for the toilet water and electricity. The last payment plan is being set up this week. The Bar has been prioritised over the toilets to keep the money coming in. Toilets on a separate meter so debts to Community Centre separate and being paid first to keep building running. The AGM should be held in August. It was agreed the Council will assess the situation in September once the AGM has been held and the bar has had time to run. It was **RESOLVED** the Community Centre and Toilets will be discussed again at the September meeting.
- b. Hedges** – the Clerk has contacted platform again and is still awaiting a response. **Action: Clerk**
- c. Work on 3d bit** – the Clerk has contacted platform again and is still awaiting a response. Cllr Page will supply the direct contact to the Clerk. This is being costed by platform. **Action: Clerk & Cllr Page**

24/5.10 Outside bodies:

- a. Cromford Institute** – Nothing to report.
- b. Cromford Community Centre** – this was covered in the public toilet item.

- c. **Celebrating Cromford** – Cllr Fraser gave the following report. Activities are well in place for this year's event, and the programme is completed. There is a lot happening and the printing of the programme has been funded by the generous local business by purchasing advertising space. The committee has worked very hard in putting this event together and should be congratulated. We need assistance with the distribution of the programme, and some marshals for the Tractor Pull and Fell Race. With regard to the Tractor Pull, we cannot locate the rope. Anyone any ideas? The Clerk will put the poster on website.
Action: Clerk.
- d. **Cromford CIC** – No update at this time.

24/5.11 Communications

- a. **Newsletter** – The Clerk reported that all pieces for the magazine must be with her on the following dates for each issue:
10th June for the Summer issue,
28th August for the Autumn issue,
8th November for the Winter issue, and
7th March 2025 for the Spring issue.

The Clerk reported that a volunteer had come forward to find pieces for the magazine.

It was noted that nice comments have been received about the new design.

24/5.12 Planning Decisions:

- a. T/24/00095/TPO, T1 Yew - Remove fragile deadwood and remove epicormic growth to a height of 3m T3 Yew - Remove epicormic growth from garden side to a height of 2m at Cromford Bridge House Willersley Lane Cromford Derbyshire DE4 5JG
- b. 24/00338/LBALT | Various Internal Alterations | 41 Bedehouse Lane Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3QZ

The Council had no objections for application a) and no objection, subject to the materials used being in keeping with the listed status of the building for application b). The Clerk will forward this to the planning department. **Action: Clerk**

24/5.13 Training

New Councillor Training has moved to the 10th June and Cllr Curzon cannot make this though Cllrs Gould and Ashley will attend.

It was agreed that the Clerk will request a quote for bespoke training from DALC to include some Planning training and training on powers and duties for the whole council. All the Councillors will send suggestions to the Clerk for areas that require more support. **Action: All**

24/5.14 Policy Approvals

- a. **Complaints Procedure** – Cllr Walsh has produced a policy which will be circulated for the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**

24/5.15 Purchase of the Toilet Block

It was **RESOLVED** that this is to be discussed at the September meeting.

24/5.16 Items for Decision

Cllr Fraser left the room at this point.

- a. **To consider s137 grant applications** – It was **RESOLVED** to grant Celebrating Cromford £500 towards event costs. The Clerk will write to inform them of the grant and request bank details. proposed by Cllr Walsh and, seconded by Cllr Gould. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Fraser returned to the meeting.

- b. **Replacement of wooden posts around village** – the removal will be done by DDDC then this will be discussed.
- c. **To subcontract a village caretaker** – The Clerk will put together the specification with Cllr Birch to bring back to council. **Action: Clerk & Cllr Birch.**

24/5.17 Finance & Administration

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

Invoices for payment in May 2024	
Clerk's Wages	606.95
Footpath Wardens Wages	188.20
DD Payroll - Jan to March	36.00
Spotless - March bus shelters	60.00
J Marriott - Internal audit fee	100.00
HMRC - PAYE	53.20
Total Payments	£1,044.35

The precept income of £20060.00 was noted.

24/5.18 Items for information

None

24/5.19 Correspondence

1. A resident had raised the DDDC Market Place car park sign which is incorrect – the Clerk will contact Cllr Whitehead (DDDC) to get this removed.
2. There is a workshop for those who wish to be flood wardens to be held on the 13th June.
3. CVS event
4. Cromford Mills - Invite to the launch of Cromford Mills waterpower project – Cllrs Walsh, Ashley and Gould are attending this event.
5. A resident raised the difficulties for resident parking at St Marks Close – The Clerk will raise this with platform housing.
6. A resident reported that a tree across from Institute is over hanging the pavement – The Clerk will report this.

24/5.20 Parish Council Calendar Parish Council Meetings

- Wednesday 19th June 2024 at 6pm in the Cromford institute – Quarry Liaison Meeting
- Wednesday 19th June 2024 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 17th July 2024 at 6.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Finance Committee Meeting
- Wednesday 17th July 2024 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting

24/5.21 Date of next meeting

- The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 19th June 2024 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute.

Signed.....

Dated.....