

Cromford Parish Council

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Minutes of a meeting of Cromford Parish Council held at the
Cromford Institute, Cromford

Wednesday 17th November 2021 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: J Beckett (Chair); B Bowman (Vice-Chair); R Boyack; M Birch; A Fraser; J March; K Wakefield and S Mosley. Mrs S Bacon (Clerk)

21/11.1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr G Purdy (DDDC), Cllr M Nutting and Cllr D Murphy (DCC)

21/11.2 Variation to the order of business

There was no variation to the order of business.

21/11.3 Declaration of Members Interests

Cllrs Boyack and Bowman declared an interest in agenda Item 25.e the payments to be made as they were requesting reimbursement for items purchased.

Cllr Fraser also declared an interest in agenda item 22.a and 22.b the planning applications for Oakhill Hotel as an employee of the company involved in the renovations.

21/11.4 Public Speaking

There was no public speaking.

21/11.5 Footpath Officer's Report

Cllr Beckett reported on the Dene Hollow Quarry footpath. The quarry is waiting for the contractor to come back to manager to continue works. There is a temporary path in place, and they are waiting for a new wall and fence.

21/11.6 Minutes of the previous meetings

The Council resolved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 20 October 2021, with a small amendment to pages 1369 and 1370, as a true record of that meeting, proposed by Cllr Bowman and seconded by Cllr Beckett.

21/11.7 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

There were no matters arising.

21/11.8 Community Speed Watch Update

Cllr Bowman reported that on Monday 15th November she sent in another suggested selection of places where a speed watch could be held other than at the top of the hill. However, she has not heard back whether these are acceptable sites yet. The volunteers did a watch for one hour and 262 cars went passed in total up and down the hill of which 13 were over 36mph and had been reported to the police. A 14th vehicle had passed at speed but unfortunately no details had been captured as the car overtook another car and a lorry. There were another 38 cars with speeds between 30-36 mph. a report has gone in the newsletter and a request for more volunteers has been made.

21/11.9 Station Volunteers

Cllr Boyack reported that volunteers had planted the plants bought from the grants supplied by the County Council and East Midlands Railway. The Bee Friendly Society will be coming Friday 19th November at 1pm with bulbs for planting. Cllr Boyack has bought forks and other equipment and Cllr Fraser noted that the area was looking good.

21/11.10 Dust on the roads around Cromford

Cllr Beckett reported that he had forwarded an email from the Dene quarry manager to all the Councillors. The mobile wheel bath has now been dropped off and placed before the whey bridge. The quarry is experimenting with the mobile bath until they decide on the placement of a permanent bath. The quarry manager had found a company that hired out pavement sweepers, but the plan has been found to be not viable for the company. There is currently a manual sweep on the hill alongside the machine sweepers. Cllr Boyack noted that there were too many cars parked on the road and the pavement sweeper won't work with cars parked as it cannot get to the areas. Derbyshire Dales District Council also cannot maintain team a of manual sweepers. There has been no update on the promised spray yet. The Quarry Manager has instructed a clean of the roads inside of the quarry to help with the dust coming out.

It was noted that the Ben Bennett quarry does not have a wheel wash, so their lorries are part of the problem of dirt on roads at Carsington road and the junction around Hopton Quarry. Cllr Murphy has agreed to go and have a look at the area. A Wirksworth resident has complained about the HGV's moving through Wirksworth.

Cllr Murphy has obtained operating times for Dene quarry. The quarry manager has stated that early arrivals are sent to the back of the lorry que however, nothing is stopping them parking nearby until 6am. The earliest leaving time for lorries is 6.20am. The manager has reduced tonnage being moved out of the quarry to enable a clean-up and it was noted that they are trying to improve at Dene quarry.

Cllr Purdy reported that he had ordered a sweep which has apparently been done but not properly as requested it was noted that this needed to be chased. A resident reported that they had seen the sweepers had only gone as far as hawthorn drive but due to the nature of the job the council will have to wait to see if further down is done. Cllr Beckett will ask the Dene quarry manager to organise a clean of the bear pit as silt and dirty water are going into the bear pit when the weepers are emptied on the hill. Cllr Beckett will contact and ask him to come and look although it was noted that by the time, he comes down to look the area has cleared. **Action: Cllr Beckett**

It was reported that a resident can see how many lorries not properly sheeted with gaps left for dirt to be dropped from their house. Cllr Beckett also reported that the Dene quarry were putting in additional rumble strips to loosen the dust before the lorry washes.

21/11.11 Parking Problems

It was reported that there was nothing further to report with any of the parking problems in the village now and Cllr D Murphy (DCC) was still chasing the issues reported.

21/11.12 Cromford Mill Dam/Pond – tree pruning and weeds

Cllr Beckett noted that there was currently nothing further to report and the Ash dieback had still not been dealt with yet. The Swans however have returned to the pond.

21/11.13 Hawthorn Drive & Village enhancement – Wildlife planting

Cllr Bowman has now got permission to plant from DDDC and Platform and both have admitted they both own parts of the land. There has also been an agreement made that the Three penny bit can be planted around. Cllr Bowman is going to arrange a meeting with volunteers. **Action: Cllr Bowman**

21/11.14 Allen's Hill Play Area

Cllr Beckett reported that the lead resident had had discussions with J March and Cllr Purdy (DDDC). The resident has now formed a small committee and is working on plan for renovation of the Play area. It was noted that an area of the ground rented by the school as well as the play area is in the plans for work. Cllr Beckett has informed the organiser about the available county council funds.

21/11.15 Adoption of policies (previously circulated):

- a) **Social Media Policy** – It was resolved to accept the policy as produced by Cllr Bowman. The Standing Orders will be amended to show the acceptance of the Social Media policy. **Action: Clerk**
- b) **Jubilee Beacon Risk Assessment** – It was agreed that the Clerk would visit the proposed area for the beacon and adapt the draft policy accordingly. The safety fencing requires sourcing and the Council need to liaise with the countryside rangers. The policy will be revisited once the Clerk has reviewed the proposed site. **Action: Clerk**

21/11.16 Lea Road Closure Meeting

It was reported that the County Council would be holding a meeting on the 25th of November and Cllr Boyack will attend on behalf of the Council.

21/11.17 Beacon for the Platinum Jubilee

It was reported that the Beacon was ready and safe for use.

21/11.18 Cromford Flag

Cllr Beckett reported that he had collected the flags and all of them were now stored in his garage. Cllr Beckett noted that he wants the guides to look at the range of flags to see if they wish to have some of them.

21/11.19 Police Matters

It was noted that a PCSO had been seen in the village.

21/11.20 Public Order Protection Order Consultation

It was noted that there had been no changes to Cromford and so no comment was needed.

21/11.21 County Council & District Council Matters

Cllr Beckett reported that he had received an update on matters being looked into by Cllr Murphy (DCC).

1. Cllr Murphy has reported the collapsed A6 wall but had no reply yet. He is not sure who owns the wall as it is a boundary between the river and the road. It was noted that the issues were opposite the 40mph sign on the way to Matlock Bath. Two holes were in the wall and the coping stones have been knocked off. There is one hole just before the High Peak junction.

2. The trees that are overgrown and blocking streetlights and the dead tree that is coming down over the verge plus another one that is looking dangerous have all been reported to highways.
3. There is no further progress on the Via Gellia planned improvements. Funding had been applied for in 2018 and £6.5 million had been granted but so far there is further progress. It was noted that the surface was breaking up again.
4. Cllr Bowman reported that outside Arkwrights the carriage way is turning into a sink hole and requires sorting before the new hatch markings are done.

21/11.22 Newsletter

Cllr Beckett reported that newsletter was now printed and due to be collected on Friday morning.

21/11.23 Planning Decisions:

- a) 21/01247/FUL - Erection of events venue building, associated landscaping works and relevant demolition of terrapin building in a conservation area - Oakhill Hotel Intake Lane Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3RH – No objection
- b) 21/01248/LBALT - Erection of events venue building - Oakhill Hotel Intake Lane Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3RH – No objection
- c) T/21/00188/TCA - Fell 6no. Ash trees - Derwent House Mill Road Cromford Derbyshire DE4 5JY – No objection
- d) T/21/00173/TCA - Reduce back overhanging branches from tree group (Sycamore, Laurel trees etc.) by up to 3m to the garden boundary and reduce overall crown of 1no. Apple tree by approx. 1.5 to 2 metres - 154 Derby Road Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3RN – No objection

It was resolved that the Council had no objections to any of the applications. **Action: Clerk**

It was noted that after investigation by the Clerk the Willersley Castle Planning Consultation has not yet been received in full by the Planning department and is not yet ready for consultation.

21/11.24 Trello - Casework/Complaints Procedure

No new items had been added to Trello.

21/11.25 Items for Decision:

- a) **s137 grant donation to the Cromford Play School Christmas Party** – it was resolved to grant £100 subject to a formal request being received.
- b) **Expenditure of £40 for Councillor Bowman to attend a DALC report writing course** – It was resolved to make a £40 expenditure for Cllr Bowman to attend the course
- c) **Expenditure of £125 for Councillor Fraser to attend a DALC tree survey course** – It was resolved to make a £125 expenditure for Cllr Fraser to attend the course

21/11.26 Finance & Administration

a) Report from the Finance Committee

Cllr Beckett reported that the Finance Committee Minutes had been circulated for everyone's information.

b) Budget for the financial year 2022/23

It was resolved to set the budget below as proposed by Cllr Bowman and seconded by Cllr March.

Budget for 22/23				
		Expenditure from Budget	Expenditure from Reserves	Notes
	Salaries			
Salaries	Clerk	7,170		
Salaries	Footpath Officer	1,960		
	Administration			
	Defib	200		
Admin & Website Expenses	Expenses	200		Printing, Postage etc
Newsletter Expenses	Publicity/Newsletter	2,200		
	Newsletter Delivery	400		
	Chairs Expenses			Will be taken from reserve if needed
Audit	Internal Audit	100		
Audit	External Audit	0		Taken from reserves if needed
	Election	0	0	Taken from reserves if needed
Admin & Website Expenses	Website	175		
	Bank Charges	72		
Training	Training	500	1,000	Up to £1,000 from reserves if needed
	General			
Footpath Maintenance	Footpath Maintenance	1,200		Total expenditure would be £1,700 with MMA
Trees, Plants & Snow	Filling Grit Bins	250		
Bus Shelter Expenses	Bus Shelter Cleaning	600		
Insurance	Insurance	700		
	Room Rental	500		
Bus Shelter Expenses	Bus Shelter Repairs	0		From reserves if needed
	Subscriptions			
DALC	DALC	400		
Donations/s137	Donations/s137	500		Plus £500 extra from reserves if needed (from 20/21)
Trees, Plants & Snow	Xmas Trees & Lights	400		
Trees, Plants & Snow	Planters & Baskets	300		
Trees, Plants & Snow	Beacon	200		
Trees, Plants & Snow	Snow Warden Scheme	100		
Sundry		873		
		19,000		

c) Precept for the financial year 2022/23

It was resolved to request a precept of £19,000 from the Derbyshire Dales District Council as proposed by Cllr Bowman and seconded by Cllr Mosley.

d) Balance in the Bank

The balance in the Unity Trust accounts was £37,675.21

e) Items for approval and payment at this meeting:

The Council resolved to approve the following payments, proposed by Cllr Walker seconded by Cllr Fraser. Cllrs Boyack and Bowman did not vote.

Invoices for payment in November 2021	
KL Communications (website 2020/21)	144.00
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DD Payroll Services (July-Sept)	60.00
Footpath Warden Wages	110.70
Clerk wages	376.81
HMRC	122.00
Station Equipment (Reimbursement RB)	29.00
Plants for flower towers (Reimbursement BB)	7.00
Total Payments	£ 993.51

f) Delegated approval to Cllrs Beckett and Bowman for November salary payments

This delegation was not required as the payroll services had submitted the wages to the Clerk prior to the meeting and these had been circulated.

21/11.27 Items for Information

- An email regarding a new £100 charge for Derbyshire County Council to process objects licences for objects to be placed on the highway had been received by the Clerk and circulated.

21/11.28 Correspondence

There was no correspondence

21/11.29 Date of next meeting:

The next meeting was arranged for Wednesday 15 December 2021 at 7.30pm at the Cromford Institute.

Signed

Dated