

Cromford Parish Council

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

Wednesday 18 May 2022 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: Barbara Bowman; Jeremy Beckett; Mike Nutting Matt Birch; Russ Boyack; Alistair Fraser; Jenny March; Kate Wakefield; Mrs Sian Bacon (Clerk) and Cllr D Murphy (DCC)

22/05.1 Apologies for Absence

Cllr G Purdy (DDDC).

22/05.2 Variation to the order of business

None

22/05.3 Declaration of Members Interests

Cllr Boyack declared an interest in agenda item 19 holiday homes as a relative of a holiday home owner and agenda item 30.b Finance

Cllr Fraser also declared an interest in agenda item 30.b Finance

22/05.4 Public Speaking

District and County Councillor Reports and Issues:

Report from Cllr Murphy

Cllr Murphy reported that the pavement outside the Boat inn will be being revisited in the next week. He noted that the Parish Council hadn't been notified of this or the original works but will be notified of the date of works in the next few days. It was also noted that the work will require putting a curb in. Cllr Murphy has spoken to The Boat Inn landlord and reported that he is happy for the work to go ahead. The officer in charge of notification will organise the information coming to the Parish Council with the Highways Department. It was noted by Cllr Bowman that Tuesday's are bin day in that area so the works should be scheduled to avoid Tuesday.

Cllr Murphy raised the issue of noise pollution from motorcycles and cars. The Government is running a trial for acoustic cameras and have asked for MPs to come and suggest appropriate areas for the trials to take place in. Sarah Dines is currently putting forward Matlock Bath and Cromford to take part in the trial. Cllr Murphy noted that he believes the trials will be successful and promote more use of acoustic cameras in problem areas. Cllr Bowman reported that she had been talking to Matlock Bath Parish Council and they are hoping to organise a meeting with Sarah Dines MP and the police. At present the costs to hire the equipment are huge at £3000 per month or £23000 for the entire year. Fines also have to be administered by the police so the police would be required to be on board with the scheme and assign a PCSO. Cllr Murphy noted that the police cannot enforce fines with the current equipment available to them so the cameras are required to tackle the problem. It

is hoped the costs of the cameras will drop as they are mass produced. Cllr Murph will inform the Council on any updates regarding the government run trial. It was noted that there had been complaints from people in Bow Wood across the valley about the noise.

Cllr Murphy reported that on the Via Gellia road improvement plans it is expected to be August before any plans are available to be seen. The plan is at the moment to improve the junction at Bonsall, make road improvements, carry out work on the trees at the side of the road and install average speed cameras.

Cllr Murphy reported that request had been put in to Highways for the proposed no through road signs for North Street and Intake Lane and as nothing has happened at the point of the meeting, he agreed to chase up the work.

Cllr Bowman raised the lack of road cleaning at the cross roads and it was noted that it was cleaner now due to the white line repair men dragging some of the muck off the surface to enable them to paint in lines but it has not been cleaned properly and as it dries the dust blows about. Cllr Murphy has asked Highway Officers about their legal responsibility to clear hazards out of carriage way and it was noted that to do the job properly it requires the closure of the carriageway and cannot be done with a road sweeper but needs doing by hand. Cllr Murphy reported that it was a split responsibility with the County Council doing cleaning for road safety and the District Council doing amenity cleaning this has caused arguments between the two organisations in regards to which type of duty the cleaning is fulfilling. DDDC is paid twice a year by DCC for safety cleans and then DDDC used to clean a few more times for amenity but all of the amenity cleaning has stopped at present. Cllr Beckett reported that Tarmac is still providing a road sweeper and the pavements have been cleaned to Hawthorn Drive with expectations that this month the cleaning will be done from Hawthorn Drive down towards the market place.

Cllr Beckett raised the issue of fly tipping noting that black bin bags had been dumped at the end of his drive twice and he had witnessed a third individual with bags moving to leave them at the end of the drive but they had turned around upon seeing Cllr Beckett. He also reported that there had been further fly tipping outside the school. DDDC had assured Cllr Beckett that the clean and green team would remove the rubbish but it has still not been removed and has been in situ for a week and as it contained food waste the bags have been ripped open and presently are spread all over the pavement. It is believed that it is from a holiday cottage. Some holiday homes are using DDDC domestic collection and they are not supposed to. It was queried whether the DDDC knew which holiday homes were registered as businesses and therefore not paying rates as small businesses not paying any rates are not allowed to use domestic waste.

Cllr Beckett reported that some concerns had been raised with him over the Scarthin benches on the promenade as although the marquee has been removed the barrels are still across parts of the Promenade marking and area of the promenade as part of the Boat Inn. It was reported that a picnic event is being held there. There have been previous issues on the Boat Inn's use of the promenade but it was noted that under the covid rules they are allowed to use the space until September.

Cllr Bowman reported on the speed interactive displays meeting held by DALC. It was noted that the signs at the top of the hill do not record data but just flash when someone goes past too fast and sometimes, they are not powered up. It was observed in the meeting that the Police Crime Commissioner grant won't stretch to all the interested councils. There are further issues as the

scheme requires three sites and Parish councils are expected to get a professional to move them around and the batteries are required to be changed regularly by someone from the company they are purchased from. It is a yearlong pilot scheme and the deadline to take part is June which gives very little time. The cost of the scheme is £5000 - £6000 and its introduction in April is unhelpful as council budgeting is done in November. The signs would require dedicated posts but it is possible to place on lamp posts but the council would need to have the lamppost tested. It was noted that the data gathered by the signs still collects even if switched off.

Cllr Murphy noted that there are still Jubilee funds available and Cllr Fraser agreed to enquire if they are needed. **Action: Cllr Fraser**

Cllr Boyack reported that the the churchyard and Scarthin look superb after the works done by the District Council.

22/05.5 Footpath's report

Cllr Beckett reported that he had taken the four quarterly footpath reports and done an appraisal with Mr Mee.

22/05.6 Minutes of the previous meetings

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 20 April 2022, as a true record of that meeting, proposed by Cllr Fraser and seconded by Cllr Bowman.

22/05.7 Matters arising from the previous meeting (non decision making)

There were no matters arising.

22/05.8 Community Speedwatch update

Cllr Bowman reported that she had no update at present.

22/05.9 Station volunteers

Cllr Boyack reported that he and Al Morley had applied for and been granted £3,300 for station planting and planters from East Midlands Railway. Once the money has been received Cllr Boyack will put in orders for the planters.

22/05.10 Dust on the roads around Cromford

Cllr Boyack noted that there has been an improvement in the dust levels and cleaning but noted the council need to keep an eye on the situation and continue to liaise with the quarries for further improvement. There is to be a meeting held at Dene quarry on the 8th June at 12pm and it was agreed that either Cllr Nutting or Cllr Birch will attend. **Action: Cllrs Nutting and Birch.**

22/05.11 Parking problems

It was noted that no further updates were available on this issue at present. The Clerk will contact Cllr Murphy (DDC) to raise the issue of the parking bays on Water Lane. It was noted that the

distance between the junction and the start of the parking bays outside the church requires an extension to alleviate congestion. **Action: Clerk**

22/05.12 Lea Road closure update

It was noted that the most recent update on the works from Eurovia is in the parish newsletter.

22/05.13 Community Centre – Public Toilets

It was reported that the Community Centre accounts have not yet been received so the Parish Council cannot give a grant at present.

Cllr March had spoken to Bonsall Parish Council who have taken over supporting their toilets and are currently paying £50 per week to do two weekly cleanings. This has necessitated a raise in their precept. It was also noted that Youlgrave Parish Council operates 3 toilet blocks with an honesty box which helps pay for them and pays for staff but it was noted that Youlgrave is a regular hiking location with quite a few visitors which may help their situation.

At the Community Centre entrance terminals were being used to fund the toilets before they were vandalised. There is no knowledge at present in the Council on how much funding was raised from the boxes.

22/05.14 Market Place Lamp Post Adoption

Cllr G Purdy (DDDC) is chasing the potential adoption costs up with the officers at the District Council. Clerk will follow up with Cllr Purdy. **Action: Clerk**

22/05.15 Newsletter

It was reported that the newsletter has been printed and will be collected and delivered in the next few days.

22/05.16 Noise Pollution

This was covered in the Public Participation section with Cllr Murphy (DCC).

22/05.17 Jubilee Celebrations

Cllr Fraser gave the following report:

Beacon: Cllr Birch has sourced a gas bottle for the Jubilee beacon and a test will be run next week. the Official organisers have been notified and the paperwork has been received.

A press release going out notifying people.

It was noted that they organisers are in need of a photographer and orange security fencing and O Heap are supplying firefighting equipment.

Cromford Jubilee Magic number trail: this is near completion.

An events licence has been applied for, for Scarthin

Play group: are hosting a street Party and Craft Stall on Saturday on Scarthin

A grant has been obtained for £500 pounds from DDDC.

Bell Inn: are hosting a Boules and Darts competition on Friday and Saturday.

Full Details of events can now be viewed on the Cromford matters Facebook page.

22/05.18 Village Caretaker

Cllr Fraser is looking at this and will organise a formal proposal with Cllr Boyack. **Action: Cllr Fraser & Cllr Boyack.**

22/05.19 Holiday Homes in Cromford

Cllr Bowman noted that there are approximately 50 holiday homes in the centre of Cromford and some are causing rubbish collection problems with holiday homes wrongly using the domestic waste services despite being businesses and requiring business waste removal. As no rates are paid by holiday homes this means not only are there significantly less people living permanently in the centre of Cromford the local councils do not receive funding from these properties whilst still using the local services in some cases. These issues have been reported to Cllr Murphy but it was noted that there was no current regulating legislation and no change of use required to use the properties as businesses and it was a national problem requiring assistance from the MP. It was agreed the Clerk will write to Sarah Dines the area MP. **Action: Clerk**

22/05.20 Cromford Institute

It was reported that there will be another meeting regarding the potential closure and sale of the institute on the 10th June. Cllr Boyack raised the concern over what would occur with the allocation of funds after sale. It was queried whether the funds could go to the parish council. Cllr Bowman reported that some new committee members are being sought but members are required very soon if there is to be a chance of keeping the institute open and noted that it no longer appears to have a use as a village hall and there is a large amount of work required to the building to achieve a usable space. The idea of the council tiding the institute over until a decision is made or a new committee is formed. It was agreed that the Clerk will call the treasurer to ask for the institutes current monthly running costs. **Action: Clerk**

It was at this point RESOLVED to extend the meeting by 30 minutes as per standing order 3X.

22/05.21 Parish Council Email Address

Cllr Birch noted that the Parish Council Email Address does not seem to go to all councillors. It was reported that all emails go to the Clerk who disseminates correspondence to the Councillors as required.

22/05.22 Training offered by DALC

The training list received from DALC was noted and it was requested that all councillors report all the training they have received in the past 2 years so the Clerk can organise sessions for all councillors where required. **Action: All**

22/05.23 Audit – to note the Internal Audit for 2021/22

The internal audit report was noted by the council and will be published on the website. It was noted that all employees including locums should be placed on the payroll even if only working for one day as per the internal auditor's comments.

22/05.24 Audit – Annual Governance Statement 2021/22

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Annual Governance Statement 2021/22, proposed by Cllr Beckett and seconded by Cllr Nutting.

22/05.25 Audit – Annual Accounting Statement 2021/22

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Annual Accounting Statement 2021/22, proposed by Cllr Beckett and seconded by Cllr Nutting.

22/05.26 Audit - The Certificate of Exemption for 2021/22

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Certificate of Exemption 2021/22, proposed by Cllr Beckett and seconded by Cllr Nutting.

22/05.27 Asset Register 2022

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Asset Register 2022 with the addition of the filing cabinet disposal, proposed by Cllr March and seconded by Cllr Birch.

22/05.28 Planning Decisions:

- a) Tree Works Application T/22/00065/TCA, Felling to ground level 1no. Leylandii (T1) and felling to ground level 1no. Portuguese Laurel (T2) at 46 The Hill Cromford Matlock Derbyshire DE4 3QR – russ interest
- b) Tree Works Application T/22/00064/TCA, Cut back limb and dead branches of 1no. T1 Oak tree, 2no. T2 and T3 Sycamore trees, and die back of 1no. T4 Ash tree at Woodland East Of Derby Road High Peak Junction Cromford Derbyshire
- c) Tree Works Application T/22/00059/TPO, Works to TPO/070 - Remove epicormic growth to 4m and remove deadwood throughout crown of 1no. T1 Yew, remove epicormic growth to 4m of 1no. T2 Yew, remove epicormic growth to 4m (retaining formal yew hedge), Crown lift to clear 5m over road and Prune to clear telecoms lines of 1no. T3 Yew at Cromford Bridge House Willersley Lane Cromford Matlock Derbyshire
- d) 22/00182/FUL - Change of use of land to 8 no. pitch traveller site with associated new access - The Woodyard Derby Road Homesford Matlock Derbyshire – Access issues, site too small, made up ground from quarry dumping, services too far away.

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

The Clerk will forward the council's comments of objection on the change of use of land to 8 no. pitch traveller site with associated new access once Cllr Bowman sends them to her. **Action: Clerk and Cllr Bowman.**

22/05.29 Items for Decision

- a) **To approve expenditure of £194 + VAT for the A6 crossroads bus shelter repair -**
It was **RESOLVED** to make expenditure of £194+vat for the bus shelter repair, proposed by Cllr Beckett and, seconded by Cllr March.

22/05.30 Finance & Administration

- a) **Balance in the Bank –** It was **RESOLVED** to accept the presented financial report – proposed by Cllr Bowman and, seconded by Cllr Mosley

b) Items for approval and payment at this meeting - It was **RESOLVED** to pay all items listed below proposed Cllr Birch and, seconded Cllr Wakefield.

Invoices for payment in May 2022	
Station Tools - (Reimbursement RB)	40.00
DD Payroll (Jan - March)	24.00
J Marriott - Internal Audit 2021/22	100.00
Clerk's Wages	409.05
Footpath Warden Wage's	111.84
HMRC - PAYE	124.00
Highland Print Services	483.00
Jubilee Stickers (Reinbursement AF)	10.36
Zurich insurance	645.82
Total Payments	£1,948.07

22/05.31 Items for information

There were no items for information

22/05.32 Correspondence

1. Thank you card from the Rainbows – thanking the Parish Council for their s137 grant of £100
2. An email from DDDC regarding a grant of £2000 for projects promoting wellbeing in the community – The Clerk will forward this to Cllrs Wakefield and Fraser to pass on. **Action: Clerk**

22/05.33 Date of next meeting

It was **RESOLVED** to continue holding meetings for 2022/23 on the third Wednesday of each month apart from August.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 15 June 2022 at 7.30pm in the School Hall at Cromford Primary School.

Signed.....

Dated.....