

Cromford Parish Council

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

Wednesday 18 September 2024 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: M Birch (Chair); R Boyack; I Page, K Mitchell and R Walsh;
Wendy Amis (Clerk), Cllr Dermot Murphy (DCC) and 2 parishioners.

24/9.1 Apologies for Absence

Cllr C Gould and Cllr P Ashley gave their apologies.

24/9.2 Co-option of new councillors and Councillor resignations

There were no candidates for Councillor at this time. Alistair Fraser and Philip Curzon have both resigned. The Casual Vacancy notices have been posted.

24/9.3 Election of new Vice Chair

This was deferred to the next meeting

24/9.4 Variation to the order of business

None

24/9.5 Declaration of Members Interests

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

Cllr Boyack declared an interest in Planning application 24/00372/FUL

24/9.6 Public Participation

Mr Fraser spoke stating he was disappointed in Cllr Birch's involvement in the community events and specifically regarding Celebrating Cromford meetings. Council determined that it does have an official rep on the committee and that that was Mr Fraser. Noted that it would need to agenda nominating a replacement. Cllr Birch suggested that Mr Fraser send through the events and meetings to council for consideration of attendance.

Mrs Taylor-Wilde spoke about the poor state of the memorial gardens and asking whether there could be more work done by the village collectively, not just the council. It was noted that that there was going to be a meeting with DDDC. Cllr Murphy did note that Cllr Whitehead was making progress and to give it a chance. It was noted that there had previously been a village working party and why couldn't that be resurrected. Also noted that there used to be annual litter picking organised by Barbara Bowman and why couldn't that be reinstated.

New PCSO introduced himself and he noted he was aware of some thefts in the cemetery and is patrolling on a regular basis. He reinforced the need for incidents to be reported – preferably through 101 for non-urgent so that they would be dealt with in a timely way. If they are sent directly to him, if he is on leave etc then they will not be dealt with until his return. He is happy to be contacted, though. Reporting to include evidence if at all possible.

Mr Woodthorpe – local resident. Reported that he has lived in Cromford for 14yrs on Barnwell Lane. He is very frustrated this year by the noise from Ball Eye Quarry – the pecker noise as it is incessant. Noted it wasn't an issue until this year but that there is an amphitheatre effect. Noted that the conditions of working are dated 1998 and that it is possible to make amendments to the conditions. Asked for working to start at 9 rather than 7.30. Cllr Birch was able to confirm that this change is being effected immediately. He felt that was the minimum offer. He also asked for the location of the pecker to be reviewed – if it is on the highest level then the noise is extreme and carries across the valley. If it was located on the lowest level, it would be much more considerate for residents and work would still be able to continue. Council noted that as per the Liaison meeting, enforcement and monitoring of this pecker is with AVBC. He would like the council to take a position on this matter. He will be writing back to DCC guy.

Cllr Murphy (DCC) reported on the Via Gellia project and surveys are done but he has not seen them yet. Road closures are forthcoming. Scheduling is going to be weather dependent. First steps are siding out – taking out the materials at the side of the road but also works regarding drainage, surfacing and rationalising signs. Cutting back tress will be Jan/Feb. Gulley emptying also scheduled and will continue to have a schedule of maintenance. He noted that the project overall is doing less than originally anticipated due to rising costs, but it will still be a good improvement.

It was noted also that there are still 18 gangs working their way around Derbyshire to fill in potholes.

The DDDC car park charging consultation is coming to a close.

24/9.7 Minutes of the previous meetings

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the previous meetings held on Wednesday 17 July 2024, as true record of those meetings. They were signed by the Chair.

24/9.8 Matters arising from the previous meeting (non decision making)

- a. **Rotten Wooden Pavement Posts** – this was raised in public participation and the council are awaiting a meeting with DDDC Officers.
- b. **Market Place Lamppost** – this was raised in public participation and the council are awaiting a meeting with DDDC Officers.
- c. **Potholes** – All have been reported.
- d. **Lighting at the Limeyard** – this was raised in public participation and the council are awaiting a meeting with DDDC Officers.

24/9.9 Reports

a. Footpaths

The work on footpath 60 has been completed.

b. Speedwatch

Mrs Bowman's report was noted (Appendix A)

c. Station Volunteers

Cllr Boyack's report was noted. (Appendix A)

d. Planting

Mrs Bowman's report was noted (Appendix A)

The water carrier will be completed by next year.

24/9.10 Village Matters

- a. **Tourist Map** – It was **RESOLVED** to move forward with the project and Cllr Mitchell will bring options and quotes to the Council for selection.
- b. **Hedges, roads and drains** – All have been reported.
- c. **DDDC Parking Enforcement** - Cllr Boyack queried how often wardens visit Cromford and also who employs them to see if council can have a say in when they visit. No clarity on whether it is DCC or DDDC but definitely that it is a private company that has been contracted to do the work. Cllr Murphy (DCC) will look into this.
- d. **Noise Complaint about Balleye Quarry** - Ball Eye Quarry is to start pecker at 9am as per liaison group meeting. The Council will await further feedback from resident regarding query raised with DCC and conditions of use.
- e. **General State of the Village** - It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Birch and the Clerk would attend the proposed meeting with the DDDC officers to discuss the maintenance issues around the village.
- f. **DDDC Car Park Review** – It was noted that the Council's response and the petition had been submitted.
- g. **Speedwatch** – This was covered in the speedwatch report

24/9.11 Outside bodies:

- a. **Cromford Institute** – it was noted that there will be internet in the Institute in the near future.
- b. **Cromford Community Centre** – it was noted that there is a possible change of operator for the bar area but no further information is available.
- c. **Celebrating Cromford** – it was noted that Apple Day is 5th October. Deferred electing replacement representative onto the Committee to the next meeting.
- d. **Derwent Valley Mills Heritage** – Cllr Walsh reported that DVMWHS have a meeting next month. They will be starting to look at the new management plan.
- e. **Quarry Liaison Meeting Update** - Noted the change in the pecker start time at Ball Eye to 9am.

24/9.12 Communications

- a. **Newsletter** – The Clerk reported that the newsletter will be ready next week.
- b. **Council Facebook Page** – It was reported that the Facebook page was working fine and there were no problems with it.

24/9.13 Planning Decisions:

- a. **24/00783/VCOND - Variation of conditions 3 & 4 of application no. 24/00338/LBALT - Various Internal Alterations - 41 Bedehouse Lane Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3QZ – No Objection**
Cllr Boyack left the room at this point.
- b. **24/00372/FUL - Erection of 1no. dwellinghouse - 1 Beech Walk Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3RB – it was RESOLVED an Objection is to be submitted based on environmental impact for the trees – roots will be impacted, lack of space on the site, poor access and egress.**
Cllr Boyack returned to the room at this point.
- c. **T/24/00165/TCA - Fell 12No Ash trees - Oakhill Hotel Intake Lane Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3RH – No Objection**
- d. **T/24/00163/TCA - TG1 mixed species - Remove all self setts growing under power line - 9 Hillside Scarthin Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3QF – No Objection**
- e. **24/00723/LBALT - Replacement timber framed windows - 102 The Hill Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3QU – No Objection**
- f. **24/00544/LBALT - Various alterations to first floor dwelling including shower room, bedroom and kitchen. - 3 The Hill Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3RF – No Objection**

24/9.14 Training

- a. **Bespoke Training for the Council – This will take place on Wednesday 25th September 6-8.30pm**

24/9.15 Policy Approvals

- a. **Reserves Policy – It was RESOLVED to approve the Reserves Policy. This will be placed on the website. *Action: Clerk***
- b. **Social Media Policy – It was RESOLVED to approve the Social Media Policy. This will be placed on the website. *Action: Clerk***
- c. **New Financial Regulations - It was RESOLVED to approve the New Financial Regulations. This will be placed on the website. *Action: Clerk***

24/9.16 Items for Decision

- a. **To consider s137 grant applications – None**
- b. **To set up a Village Taskforce - This will be discussed at the next meeting.**

24/9.17 Finance & Administration

- a. **Balance in the Bank – It was RESOLVED to accept the presented financial report**
- b. **Items for approval and payment at this meeting - It was RESOLVED to pay all items listed below.**

Invoices for payment in August and September 2024	
Clerk's Wages (Aug)	606.75
Footpath Wardens Wages (Aug)	188.40
Cromford Institute - Hire June & July	100.00
DD Payroll Services - Payroll	60.00
Spotless - Bus shelter Cleaning June & July	120.00
Clerk's Wages (Sept)	606.55
Footpath Wardens Wages (Sept)	188.40
HMRC - PAYE (Sept)	53.40
HMRC - PAYE (Aug)	53.40
Total Payments	£1,976.90

24/9.18 Items for information

None

24/9.19 Correspondence

- a. Parish and Town council Liaison Forum – Cllr Mitchell will attend.
- b. Darley Dale Town Council is hosting a Workshop on 21st September at 10.30am at The Whitworth in Darley Dale on 'How to effectively insulate a house or other building, particularly older houses'.

24/9.20 Parish Council Calendar

Parish Council Meetings

- Wednesday 16th October 2024 at 6pm in the Cromford Institute – Staffing Meeting
- Wednesday 16th October 2024 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 20th November 2024 at 6.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Finance Committee Meeting
- Wednesday 20th November 2024 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 18th December 2024 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 15th January 2025 at 6.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Finance Committee Meeting
- Wednesday 15th January 2025 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 19th February 2025 at 6pm in the Cromford Institute – Quarry Liaison
- Wednesday 19th February 2025 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 19th March 2025 at 6.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Staffing Meeting
- Wednesday 19th March 2025 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 16th April 2025 at 6.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Finance Committee Meeting
- Wednesday 16th April 2025 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 21st May 2025 at 6pm in the Cromford Institute – Annual Parish Meeting
- Wednesday 21st May 2025 at 6.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Annual Parish Council Meeting
- Wednesday 21st May 2025 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting

24/9.21 Date of next meeting

- The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 16th October 2024 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Appendix A

CPC Meeting September 2024 Reports

Station Volunteers Report – Cllr R Boyack

Cromford station volunteers activities in July , August and September

The post of Community Rail Station Volunteer co-Ordinator for the Derwent valley Line has not been filled by Derbyshire County Council to date.. The Current holder *Alastair Morley* leaves at the end of September. This post is a jointly funded by DCC and East Midlands Trains. and applies to all Station Volunteer groups Working on Community rail line Stations in Derbyshire.

Cromford Station volunteers have had a new member join us and will receive d their H and S induction at our October meeting. Welcome Margaret McCall We all hope you enjoy your time with us.

The Cromford Station volunteers have continued to meet during July August and September. At the July meet The Community Rail Co-Ordinator - Alastair Morley was thanked for his work and contribution to the success of the station volunteers group at a farewell buffet contributed to by the volunteers.

The weather has hampered work at the station and activities have largely centred around keeping the station tidy. Some pruning of the bushes and plants has been carried out.

The next project discussed is the provision of a larger building to house the tools and equipment , the volume of which has increased since the original building was erected some years ago. This new building will incorporate rainwater collection for use in watering the plants on the station platform. This project is in its infancy with many hoops and hurdles to overcome.

The Annual Station Volunteers conference will be held in Nottingham in October and Cromford will be represented at this event, This event gathers Station Volunteers from across all stations served by East Midlands Trains.

SpeedWatch – Barbara Bowman

Nothing on Speedwatch- I organised one but the police did not get back to me in time to confirm it was ok so we had to cancel at the last moment.

August and start of September bad for people being available due to holidays so hoping for one late September.

Planting – Barbara Bowman

Flower towers, Scarthin war memorial, Hawthorn Drive junction - have lasted better than some years because it has been so cool & wet.

Looking towards planting for the autumn / winter / spring now. I would hope to do it early October.

I was hoping to have had the water carrier by now - but still waiting - fortunately haven't needed huge amounts of watering, but definitely won't be able to do next year without it. As it is I stagger up from my allotment midway on the footpath from Market Place to North Street with two full cans (so 17litres or near 40lbs) which almost does me in.