

# **Cromford Parish Council**

**Cromfordparishcouncil.org.uk**

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

**Wednesday 19 June 2024 at 7.30pm**

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**Present:** Councillors: M Birch (Chair); R Boyack; P Ashley; A Fraser; C Gould, K Mitchell and R Walsh;  
Sian Bacon (Clerk), and 2 parishioners.

## **24/6.1 Apologies for Absence**

Cllr P Curzon, Cllr I Page and Cllr D Murphy (DCC)

## **24/6.2 Co-option of new councillors**

It was **RESOLVED** to co-opt Mrs Kathleen Mitchell to the Council. Proposed by Cllr Birch, seconded by Cllr Fraser.

## **24/6.3 Variation to the order of business**

It was **RESOLVED** to move agenda items 9a Tourist Map and 10a Cromford Institute to before the public participation section and suspend Standing order 3f to allow the public to speak during these items. Proposed by Cllr Birch, seconded by Cllr Ashley.

## **24/6.4 Declaration of Members Interests**

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

Cllr Fraser declared an interest in planning application 24/00463/LBALT 102 The Hill as a neighbour.

## **24/6.5 Tourist Map**

The Tourist map was raised by an Oakhill representative and it was noted that Oakhill send people round and are not currently advertised on any of the tourist maps in the village. Cllr Fraser noted that he has taken over the project and has done a bit of research. He would like to put an article into the Millpond to ask residents what should be included. The Hall Lees map in Matlock would be a good design. It will take some time but it will be done. The resident will send ideas for the map to Cllr Fraser via the Clerk. Businesses may well be willing to pay for a slot on the map. Cllr Boyack noted that he was working on the map at the beginning and it was an issue where to place the map. A few sites came up but ownership of land was an issue and planning permission could be needed. Cllr Fraser will look into this and Cllr Boyack will assist.

The noticeboard at the bus stop was raised as it is a mess and the resident has offered to clean the noticeboard.

## **24/6.6 Cromford Institute**

The institute had their AGM and things are moving forward with 200 club making profit. There are 60 members of the 200-club and the institute is looking for more. The balance of the bank is £5500. The toilet situation has got worse as it keeps blocking and the committee think the toilet is

disintegrating. The committee have acquired a new toilet to go out there which is being fitted this week so the Institute will temporarily have one. Builders are currently being tendered to bring the toilet inside. Mrs Taylor-Wilde reported that she has resigned as a trustee but will remain a volunteer. She will provide a list of current trustees to the Clerk.

#### **24/6.7 Public Participation**

None

#### **24/6.8 Minutes of the previous meetings**

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the previous meetings held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024, as true record of those meetings, proposed by Cllr Birch and seconded by Cllr Gould.

#### **24/6.9 Matters arising from the previous meeting (non decision making)**

- a. **Water Carrier** – it was reported that building a water carrier is in progress. A quote will be provided to the council. It will be battery powered to pump the water and it'll be on wheels to assist with moving the water. This should assist Mrs Bowman with the watering and planting. Taylor - Wilde will provide the power to charge it.
- b. **Rotten Wooden Pavement Posts** – another post has collapsed. Cllr Whitehead (DDDC) has raised this with the DDDC officers. It was noted that the PC want the posts removing and replacing. It was noted that 3 have collapsed now and there is no progress on replacing the one that went last year. Cllr Page may have information on available bollards. The Clerk will raise this with Cllr Whitehead (DDDC). **Action: Clerk**
- c. **Market Place Lamppost** – Cllr Whitehead (DDDC) has written to the officers to request an update on whether the Parish Council can do work to the lamp post. The Clerk will write asking what action the DDDC will take and if the Council can do the work. **Action: Clerk**
- d. **Potholes** – North Street and Scarthin have been reported and in the marketplace the BT hub has collapsed. This has been fenced off by BT.
- e. **Lighting at the Limeyard** – Cllr Birch will raise this with the Community Centre.

#### **24/6.10 Reports**

##### **a. Footpaths**

Cllr Fraser reported that paths are looking good and litter picked. The tree has been removed from the path on the Goyt.

##### **b. Speedwatch**

Cllr Boyack reported that there has not been a watch recently due to the poor weather.

##### **c. Station Volunteers**

Cllr Boyack reported that the station volunteers have met twice since our last meeting. The Bee Friendly planters have been weeded and the dead plants replaced with more suitable varieties able

to with stand the vagaries of our unpredictable climate. The planters on the station have been tidied up, weeds removed and plants dead headed in readiness for the summer planting. The plants from the tubs and troughs will be transplanted along the banks on the station approach. The remainder of the session was taken up with the never-ending task of weeding the banks but we are starting to see some reward for our perseverance. The Group took part in an EM Railway survey of passengers using Cromford Station consisting of enquiring what type of ticket they purchased and how/ where they purchased it.

The coordinator for EMR is leaving at the end of August and there is no word on his replacement.

The Clerk will send a letter to the coordinator thanking him for all his work. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Fraser noted that the volunteers should be commended for how nice the station is looking.

It was noted that weed killer can't be used by the volunteers but can be used in certain places by EMR and it would need to be specific weedkillers.

#### **d. Planting**

Mrs Bowman has done the summer planting at the Market Place flower towers, Scarthin war memorial and at Hawthorn Drive / The Hill junction is complete – although the battle with the slugs has just begun! Many thanks to Sue Mosley for the war memorial planting and upkeep.

The Clerk will write to thank Mrs Bowman for all her work and she will be retiring from the job after the autumn planting. **Action: Clerk**

#### **e. Quarry Liaison Meeting**

Cllr Birch reported there has been only one complaint from Bonsall about pecker noise. Slinter and Dene quarries will not start their pecker work until after 9am. One type of sheeting is causing rubble to come off lorries on corners such as Tor Café on the A6. Tractors and trailers are also contributing to the problem as they are unsheeted and the volmix lorries are open so these also cause issues on the corners.

### **24/6.11 Village Matters**

- a. Hedges, roads and drains** – the drain near the memorial is all covered with mud again and needs clearing. Cllr Birch will give this a clean. The Memorial gardens hedges need cutting. The A6 on the left hand side is over grown over the footpath and pushing people off the pavement. The Clerk will report these issues. **Action: Clerk**
- b. Work on 3d bit** – The tarmac is being costed by platform for repair. The Clerk will raise the planters with them again. **Action: Clerk**
- c. Turnpike Stone on the A6** - Cllr Gould reported that this is getting quite overgrown and is ready to be tidied and repainted. The area has been strimmed. Cllr Boyack recommended asking for a volunteer to repaint the turnstone. Groundwork Derbyshire did the work last time and the Clerk will look into this. **Action: Clerk**
- d. Bus Shelter on the A6** – this needs a tidy up and possible replacement of the perspex. The Clerk will get quotes for the work. **Action Clerk**
- e. Road signs on Scarthin** – these have been abandoned by the Highways department and the Clerk has requested they be removed.

- f. **Damaged bench on Scarthin** - this has been repaired by Cllr Mitchells husband.

**24/6.12 Outside bodies:**

- a. **Cromford Institute** – Nothing to report.
- b. **Cromford Community Centre** – The Community Centre has purchased with their own fund's new benches and tents.
- c. **Celebrating Cromford** – Cllr Fraser reported that he will be holding a meeting next week and will do a full report to the next meeting. It was a good event with lots on and some funds have been raised and it was successful in spite of the weather. Bunting will be left up until after the Open Gardens Cllr Boyack reported that everyone he has spoken to thought it was a great event. Cllr Fraser noted the volunteers were very hard working and done an excellent event.
- d. **Derwent Valley Mills Heritage** – Cllr Walsh reported that the DVMH want a meeting with himself and the Clerk. The Parish Council need to give an account as to what we have done to promote the DVMHS objectives. Cllr Walsh will put together a submission and send it all to the Councillors for approval. **Action: Cllr Walsh and Clerk**

**24/6.13 Communications**

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

The Clerk reported that the new issue was going to print in the next few days and volunteers were needed to deliver it. Cllr Ashley will run through the draft with the Clerk. Cllrs Mitchell, Birch, Fraser and Ashley will deliver. It was noted a bigger team is needed for delivery.

- b. **Council Facebook Page** – it was agreed to set up a facebook page administrated by the Clerk and Cllr Gould. The page will be open for 6 months to try it out and then report back. **Action: Clerk and Cllr Gould**

**24/6.14 Planning Decisions:**

- a. 24/00463/LBALT - Replacement of Front Windows, removal and replacement of stone sill on ground floor window, reinstatement of stone mullions to ground floor, first floor and top floor windows and replacement of old double glazed windows and frames with wood and single pane windows. - 102 The Hill Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3QU
- b. Tree Works Application T/24/00110/TCA, Non-native conifer - T1 - felling and stump grinding Cherry tree - T2 - trimming and pruning at 73 Derby Road Cromford Derbyshire DE4
- c. 24/00420/LBALT - Single storey rear extension and associated landscaping works - 41 Bedehouse Lane Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3QZ and 24/00419/FUL - Single storey rear extension and associated landscaping works - 41 Bedehouse Lane Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3QZ
- d. Local Plan – No comment required.
- e. 24/00432/FUL - Erect first floor front extension, two storey side extension, new dormers to front, side and rear elevations, form new balcony including balustrading, replace roof

tiles, insert new roof window to side elevation, erect new greenhouse and log store, form new parking bays - 73 Derby Road Cromford Derbyshire DE4 3RP – The Councillors will look into this application further before making comment.

The Council had no objections for application a), b), c). The Clerk will forward this to the planning department. **Action: Clerk**

#### **24/6.15 Training**

- a. **New Councillor Training Update** – Cllr Ashley and Gould attended and found the training beneficial
- b. **Chair Training Update** – Cllr Birch attended and found the training very useful.
- c. **Bespoke Training for the Council** – it was **RESOLVED** that the Council would undertake bespoke training with DALC for a cost of £295. Proposed by Cllr Birch, seconded by Cllr Walsh. The Clerk will contact DALC to arrange the training for September. **Action: Clerk**

#### **24/6.16 Policy Approvals**

- a. **Complaints Procedure** – it was **RESOLVED** to adopt the Complaints Procedure as presented. Proposed by Cllr Birch, seconded by Cllr Gould.
- b. **Business Continuity Plan** – it was **RESOLVED** to adopt the Business Continuity Plan as presented. Proposed by Cllr Walsh, seconded by Cllr Ashley.

#### **24/6.17 Items for Decision**

- a. **To consider s137 grant applications** – The Clerk will write to the institute and inform them that the application they have submitted in its current form is refused but they are welcome to reapply in accordance with the policy previously provided to them. **Action: Clerk**

At this point it was **RESOLVED** to extend the meeting by 15 minutes as per standing order 3X. Proposed by Cllr Walsh, seconded by Cllr Fraser.

- b. **To set up a Village Taskforce** - This will be looked at in the December meeting to be set up for April
- c. **To subcontract a village caretaker** – it was **RESOLVED** to remove this from the agenda and look at volunteers for the work.

#### **24/6.18 Finance & Administration**

- a. **Bank Signatory for Business Continuity** – it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Birch will become a signatory to set up payments in the Clerk's absence. **Action: Clerk**
- b. **Asset Register Disposals** – it was **RESOLVED** to dispose of the filing cabinet and photocopier. Proposed by Cllr Boyack, seconded by Cllr Fraser.
- c. **Balance in the Bank** – It was **RESOLVED** to accept the presented financial report – proposed by Cllr Ashley and, seconded by Cllr Boyack.
- d. **Items for approval and payment at this meeting** - It was **RESOLVED** to pay all items listed below proposed by Cllr Gould and, seconded by Cllr Birch

<b>Invoices for payment in June 2024</b>	
Clerk's Wages	606.55
Footpath Wardens Wages	188.40
Celebrating Cromford s147 grant	500.00
Spotless - bus shelters	60.00
Zurich - Insurance 24/25	691.41
Cromford Institute - October to May Hall Hire	387.50
DALC - Chair Training	50.00
Clerk - Printer Ink	67.89
Wish Cloud - Website Calendar	48.00
B Bowman - Summer Plants	136.70
HMRC - PAYE	53.40
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£2,789.85</b>
<b>Income</b>	
VAT Refund	893.71
DCC - Footpath grant	495.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1388.71</b>

#### 24/6.19 Items for information

None

#### 24/6.20 Correspondence

1. Playgroup email – the Clerk reported that she had received an email regarding the meeting with the Playgroup and she and Cllr Gould would organise a time. **Action: Clerk and Cllr Gould**
2. Request to nominate the Aqueduct Cottage volunteers for a King's Award for Voluntary Service. Cllr Ashley will look in to this. **Action: Cllr Ashley**

#### 24/6.21 Parish Council Calendar

##### Parish Council Meetings

- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 6.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Finance Committee Meeting
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 6pm in the Cromford Institute – Quarry Liaison
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 6pm in the Cromford Institute – Staffing Meeting
- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 6.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Finance Committee Meeting
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 6.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Finance Committee Meeting
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 6pm in the Cromford Institute – Quarry Liaison
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 6.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Staffing Meeting

- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 6.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Finance Committee Meeting
- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025 at 6pm in the Cromford Institute – Annual Parish Meeting
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025 at 6.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Annual Parish Council Meeting
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute – Ordinary Meeting

**24/6.22      Date of next meeting**

- The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute.

Signed.....

Dated.....