

# Cromford Parish Council

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

Wednesday 21 December 2022 at 7.30pm

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**Present:** Councillors: Barbara Bowman (Chair); Jenny March; Russ Boyack; Kate Wakefield; Iain Wakefield; Marie Szegota; Mrs Sian Bacon (Clerk); and 2 Parishioners.

## **22/12.1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Birch, Fraser, Beckett and Nutting, Cllr Murphy (DCC) & Cllr G Purdy (DDDC).

## **22/12.2 Variation to the order of business**

None

## **22/12.3 Declaration of Members Interests**

Cllrs Bowman, K Wakefield and I Wakefield declared interests in agenda item 10 planning.

## **22/12.4 Public Speaking**

None

It was noted that Mr Chaytow from Memrap could be invited to do a public meeting rather than a presentation at the Parish Council meeting as the presentation is quite lengthy. The Clerk will raise this with him.

## **22/10.5 Minutes of the previous meetings**

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 16 November 2022, with a small amendment to page 1428 changing that Cllr Slack is from Middleton Parish Council not Bonsall Parish Council, as a true record of that meeting, proposed by Cllr Boyack and seconded by Cllr I Wakefield.

## **22/12.5 Matters arising from the previous meeting (non decision making)**

1. It was queried whether the footpath adjustments at Wood End had been accepted. The Clerk will look back at the minutes and discuss it with Cllr Beckett. **Action: Clerk**
2. Cllr Bowman will give a report in January on the DALC basic council assurance scheme. **Action: Cllr Bowman**
3. The Clerk will contact Mr Gill for more information on the Community Interest Company. **Action: Clerk**

## **22/12.6 Reports**

### **a. Footpaths**

There was no update to be received.

### **b. Speedwatch**

The report from Cllr Bowman was noted (Appendix A)

**c. Station Volunteers**

. The report from Cllr Boyack was noted (Appendix A)

**d. Snow Wardens**

The report from Cllr Bowman was noted (Appendix A)

**e. Christmas Community Lunch**

The report from Cllr Bowman was noted (Appendix A)

**f. Lea Road Closure**

It was reported that the repair work on Lea Road is now completed and the road reopened. However, there has been a landslip on Lea Shaw Road, and a second one near Holloway.

**22/12.7 Village Enhancement**

**Planting** – The report from Cllr Bowman was noted (Appendix A)

**Tourist Map for the Market Place** – Cllr I Wakefield suggested that the village should, given its historical sites have a map similar to the one in Matlock Bath to show all of the historical sites that are in Cromford. Cllr Bowman noted that previously the DCC conservation officer wasn't keen on the boards so it hadn't been allowed before. Cllr I Wakefield had contacted Matlock Bath PC who had sent a costings breakdown of their board and based on that it was thought that for two it would be £1500. It was noted that the Parish Council doesn't own the land at the Market Place. It was noted that ideal spots would be by the lamp post in the Market Place and a secondary location, could be opposite the BT phone box which could be owned BT. Cllr March mentioned that Bonsall had done something similar through the history group. It was agreed that everyone was happy to move forward in principle. It was observed that there were soon to be elections so grant funding from DDDC Councillors would be unavailable until June. Cllr Bowman noted that it would probably require planning permission. Cllr Boyack stated that he thought there was a central body that deals with utility inquiries. It was also noted that Tarmac and Slinger also give grant funding to projects occasionally.

It was **RESOLVED** to put together a working party consisting of Cllrs Boyack, March and Cllr I Wakefield as it's Chair.

**22/12.8 Outside bodies:**

- a. **Cromford Institute** – The report from Cllr Szegota was noted (Appendix A) – It was agreed that the Clerk will discuss the points raised with the Committee.
- b. **Cromford Community Centre** – It was noted that the parking for the Community Centre not obvious and the donation box isn't well signed. It was noted that some people have been told off for using the parking and that it used to be ok during the day but at night the Community Centre used it for events. It was agreed to invite the centre manager to next meeting to discuss the lease of the storage space.

## 22/12.9 Communications

- a. **Newsletter** – Cllr Beckett will report a deadline date for articles by the end of January.
- b. **Parish Council website** – it was noted that the Clerk felt that Wish would be the best supplier due to price, their locality and the assistance they give in updating the website.

## 22/12.10 Planning Decisions:

- a. DERBYSHIRE DALES LOCAL PLAN REVIEW – CONSULTATION ON GROWTH OPTIONS – Cllr Bowman had sent out the response formulated by herself, Cllr Nutting and Cllr I Wakefield and it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would send the response to DDDC.

At this point Cllrs I & K Wakefield and Bowman left the meeting and Cllr March was nominated as temporary Chair.

- b. Tree Works Application T/22/00195/TCA, Crown reduction by approximately 50%, removal of dead wood and thinning of 1No. Cherry tree at 41 The Hill Cromford Matlock Derbyshire DE4 3RF – no objection
- c. 22/01331/LBALT - Proposed replacement of front door - 54 - 56 The Hill Cromford Matlock Derbyshire DE4 3QU – No objection
- d. Tree Works Application T/22/00189/TCA, Fell to ground level 1No. T1 Five Needle Pine tree and 2No. G2 Buddleia trees at Thornberry Cottage 2 Bedehouse Lane Cromford Matlock Derbyshire – No objection
- e. 22/01289/FUL - Retention of interactive sculpture trail and associated outdoor seating - Cromford Mill Mill Road Cromford Derbyshire – No objection

At this point Cllrs I & K Wakefield and Bowman re-entered the meeting and Cllr Bowman resumed the Chair.

- f. Appeal by Mr Andy Sykes - 34 Castle View Drive, Cromford - 22/00893/FUL - 22/00031/HOUSE - APP/3310059 -

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

The Council noted the appeal.

## 22/12.11 Items for Decision

- a. **To approve a new website provider** – it was **RESOLVED** to accept the quote from Wish. The Clerk and Cllr Beckett will discuss the content and format with Wish. **Action: Clerk & Cllr Beckett.**

## 22/12.12 Finance & Administration

- a. **Balance in the Bank** – It was **RESOLVED** to accept the presented financial report – proposed by Cllr I Wakefield and, seconded by Cllr M Szegota.
- b. **Budget 2023/24** – It was **RESOLVED** to accept the below budget for 2023/24 – proposed by Cllr M Szegota and, seconded by Cllr March.

Budget for 23/24				
		Expenditure from Budget	Expenditure from Reserves	Notes
	<b>Salaries</b>			
Salaries	Clerk	7,000		
Salaries	Footpath Officer	2,100		
	<b>Administration</b>			
	Defib	200		every 2years pads 4 years battery in reserves
Admin & Website Expenses	Expenses	200		Printing, Postage etc
Newsletter Expenses	Publicity/Newsletter	2,400		
	Newsletter Delivery	400		
	Chairs Expenses	40		More will be taken from reserve if needed
Audit	Internal Audit	110		
Audit	External Audit	0		Taken from reserves if needed
	Election	1,000	0	Anymore taken from reserves if needed
Admin & Website Expenses	Website	900		Based upon new website
	Bank Charges	0		Paid for by interest
Training	Training	500	1,000	Up to £1,000 from reserves if needed
	<b>General</b>			
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		
	Storage Space	300		
	Lamp post	600		
Bus Shelter Expenses	Bus Shelter Repairs	0		From reserves if needed
	<b>Subscriptions</b>			
DALC	DALC	400		
Donations/s137	Donations/s137	500		
Trees, Plants & Snow	Xmas Trees & Lights	400		
Trees, Plants & Snow	Planters & Baskets	300		
Trees, Plants & Snow	Coronation	200		
Trees, Plants & Snow	Snow Warden Scheme	100		
Sundry		416		
		<b>21,316</b>		

- c. **Precept 2023/24** – It was **RESOLVED** to request a precept of £21,316.00 from Derbyshire Dales for 2023/24 – proposed by Cllr M Szegota and, seconded by Cllr March. The Clerk will forward this to the DDDC. **Action: Clerk.**
- d. **Items for approval and payment at this meeting** - It was **RESOLVED** to pay all items listed below proposed Cllr Boyack and, seconded Cllr March.

Invoices for payments in December 2022	
Spotless	50.00
Footpath Warden Wages	123.12
Clerk's Wages	529.45
HMRC - PAYE	45.40
K Wakefield - Xmas lights	59.96
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£ 807.93</b>

### 22/12.13 Items for information

1. It was agreed that the Clerk will ask Ms Scott the CEO of the Arkwright Society to the January Council meeting. **Action: Clerk**
2. Cllr Bowman reported that the Balleye quarry has been sold and Cllr Murphy (DCC) is getting further information.
3. It was reported that Masson Mill has been sold.
4. Cllr K Wakefield had bought thank you gifts for those who assist with the village Christmas Tree.
5. Cllr Boyack reported that at the High Peak County Council Car Park there are people parking on the road and causing problems – the Clerk will report this to Cllr Murphy (DCC). **Action: Clerk**

6. It was reported that the Mining Museum is moving to the stone quarry and the plans for the refurbishment are up.

**22/12.14 Correspondence**

1. DALC – a briefing from NALC reporting that Parish Councils are not capped with their precepts.

**22/12.15 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7.30pm in the Cromford Institute.

Signed.....

Dated.....

## **CPC Meeting 21 December 2022 Reports – Agenda Item 8**

### **Speedwatch – Cllr Bowman**

For the 2<sup>nd</sup> month running a Speedwatch session had to be cancelled in late November at almost the last minute; this time because I saw the DCC roadworks planner site with a late notification by BT(?) that there were to be temporary traffic lights on The Hill, near Barnwell Lane that day.

Bearing in mind weather and Xmas coming on I haven't organised any further sessions, but will do so in the New Year, though probably not until February. One of the problems is the weather – not just our team freezing, but that the radar (and us) can't see clearly if it is foggy – and we have to prebook with the police on a longer time scale than moderately accurate and detailed weather forecasts.

Organisationally there has been new personnel at the police team CSW. They sent out to every team co-ordinator (Not BCC'd !!) asking for us to send in details of our volunteers again – of course they have these from the initial training, but presumably lost in the usual police admin muddle.

The lack of BCC – which I pointed out – did at least allow a few of us to make views known to each other about some aspects of the scheme we were not happy about. There may be developments!

### **Planting – Cllr Bowman**

I think all we can do is hope that at least some of the planting will survive the very harsh freezing weather. I don't think we have spent all our budget, but would look at that and any replanting needed in the New Year (if the weather doesn't deteriorate again)

### **Snow Wardens scheme – Cllr Bowman**

As I write this (Friday) we have done some salting and sweeping of the very light snow we had at the beginning of the month. I have signed up around 15-16 people (some are weekenders only because of work) and I think we have the main pavements covered.

### **Christmas Community Lunch – Cllr Bowman**

I attended this on behalf of the Parish Council on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December. It was a buffet lunch followed by entertainment from some of the preschool (dressed as Xmas puddings!) and bingo. The invite was RSVP, but there were some gaps at tables; presumably some of the elderly invited did not attend because of the ferociously cold day. I understand that there was going to be another "do" specifically for parents / grandparents on the following Wednesday.

### **Cromford Institute Meeting - 7th December 2022 – Cllr Szegota**

I attended, as a representative of Cromford Parish Council, the above meeting, present were The Secretary and two Trustees. They were keen for me to raise the following issues with The P.C.

a) While grateful for the amount granted to them, they felt they were in a catch 22. situation with regard to providing receipts, ie having to pay upfront for any possibly large projects, when they don't have the funds. Also it may not be possible to complete any outside remedial work before the deadline. So as they had received adverse comments about the carpet, they were considering replacing it with laminate flooring...would this meet the criteria set for the use of the grant, as this could be done in Winter. Presumably they feel they have sufficient funds for this outlay.

b) Would it be possible for Parish Council to pay rental monthly or in advance.

c) They have lost one of their regular bookings to another venue (Yoga has dropped a session) but have a replacement lined up which they feel they cannot afford to refuse. Unfortunately, this is 6.30-7.30 each Wednesday. This will impact on the extra meetings added onto the Full Council Meetings. I was unsure when and how many of these took place but I did state that regardless of that, the room would have to be cleared and ready for our use by 7.30 which they agreed with.

### **Station Volunteers – Cllr Boyack**

The station volunteers continue to meet twice a month.

The planters and baskets on the station have been planted up with spring flowers. These flowers were funded by grants from Cllr Garry Purdy's Community Fund, East Midland Railways and Derbyshire Rural Action

Derbyshire County Council provided some spring flowering plants which have been planted on the station approach

At each meeting the volunteers continue with the never ending task of tidying up the banks on the station approach