CROMFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 18th March 2026 at 7:30pm

Present at the Meeting: Cllr R Walsh (Chair), Cllr J Richards, Cllr R Boyack, Cllr D Brown, Cllr K Mitchell, Cllr A Fraser, Cllr I Page, Cllr Birch

Minutes prepared by the Locum Clerk: Katherine Furby

26/03/01 **Apologies Received and Accepted by Councillors:** Cllr P Ashley

26/03/02 **Variation of Order of Business:** No variation - **Resolved**

26/03/03 **Declaration of Members Interests: The following Councillors declared interest on a point on the agenda:**

No items to declare - **Resolved**

26/03/04 **Public Speaking:**
Two members of public present. One member of public enquired about an update on the lighting issues at the Lime Yard and cleaning, there is currently no update on this item and the Parish Council will contact DDDC.

Member of public enquired about the cleaning of the bear pit, the cleaning has recently been carried out. A request was made for a grant from the Parish Council to the mine research group for future cleaning to be carried out twice a year, it was suggested and agreed to provide a grant of £200 towards the works. The Parish Council will discuss this with the Arkwright Society at the next meeting.

Cllr Boyack received a complaint from a resident regarding rubbish at the entrance to Boat Inn. This is a matter for DDDC Clean and Green team, Clerk to report by email.

Cllr Page received a complaint from residents regarding the Church yard. The gate does not open/close properly, there is a missing bin which requires replacement and there is no water supply. The steps to a higher level are in a poor state and slates are falling off the roof. There is a graffiti on the timber. Parish Council to contact DDDC with the issues and put as an agenda item for the next meeting.

(a) Police Liaison Officer was not in attendance.
County Councillor A Hunter was not in attendance.
Councillor N Whitehead was not in attendance.
(b) Members declaring a prejudicial interest – None to declare

26/03/05 **To confirm the minutes of the following meeting**
18th February 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting (attached) **Resolved**

Items for Information

26/03/06 **To receive an update on:-**

(a) Footpaths – Mr Mee was in attendance, it was noted this is a quiet time of the year. The trees that were blown over in the winter have now been removed. There are road signs

and cones that have not been removed after works have been completed. A quarterly report has been provided.

(b) Station Volunteers – The awards for the photograph competition is 19th March 2026, Cllr Boyack will report back at the next meeting. New tools have been purchased using the grant money, everything is now planted, now awaiting DCC, Community Rail and EMR to purchase summer plants.
(c) Speedwatch – Carried out two weeks ago, verbal report provided.
(d) Planting – There is no update on this item.
(e) Hedges, roads, grit bins, potholes and drains to be reported – Grit bin to be delivered to St Marks Close, Cllr Richards has reported pot holes and some have been repaired.
(f) Millpond Newsletter – The latest edition has been delivered, possible issues with some properties not receiving a copy, to be discussed with Cllr Ashley on return. The deadline for the next edition is 24th April 2026. Cllr Richards and Cllr Ashley to discuss an article for gathering public opinion on what is important to them in the Parish.
(g) Repainting of Milepost – Cllr Boyack reported no success with obtaining further quotes, Cllr Boyack to provide Cllr Birch with the specification for quotes. Clerk to check with DDDC and Cllr Whitehead regarding any permissions required to carry out the works.
(h) Methodology for storing Council Records – Item to be discussed with item 15.
(i) Speed Indicator Device – Cllr Richards gave an update on this item, currently awaiting installation.
(j) North Street Event – Item to be discussed at the next meeting.

26/03/07 Outside Bodies

(a) Cromford Institute Update – No update on this item.
(b) Celebrating Cromford Update – Cllr Fraser provided a report on this item. The meeting was well represented, items belonging to Celebrating Cromford and the Parish Council have now been removed from the Community Store. A new storage facility is required. The Parish Council will look into providing a container to be placed near where the recycling bins were, Cllr Boyack to send details. To be discussed as an agenda item next month.
(c) Derwent Valley Mills Heritage Update – Cllr Walsh provided attended a zoom meeting and gave an update.

26/03/08 Finance & Administration

(a) Balance in the Bank – Circulated to all Councillors – **Resolved**
(b) Budget Variance – Circulated to all Councillors – **Resolved**
(c) Bank Reconciliation – Circulated to all Councillors - **Resolved**
(d) Items for approval and payment at this meeting – All payments approved – **Resolved**
(e) Budget 2026/27 – The budget was discussed and approved – **Resolved**

Items for Decision –

26/03/09 Planning Matters

1. 18 The Hill, Cromford, Derbyshire, DE4 3QL
Installation of replacement slate roof tiles and installation of 3 rooflights to the rear elevation.

The Parish Council makes no objection on this application.

2. Mill Pond Cottage, Scarthin, Cromford
Removal of 1no. buddleia bush

The Parish Council makes no objection on this application.

A further planning application for alterations to the Greyhound Hotel signage was discussed, the Parish Council makes no objection subject to seeing the final design.

26/03/10 **To consider appointing Hub3 of Crich as the Council's payroll services provider**
Item agreed - Resolved

26/03/11 **To consider the purchase of a defibrillator to be located at Cromford Institute and approval to spend up to £2,500 to include defibrillator, cabinet and installation**
Item agreed – Resolved. It was discussed that a second defibrillator should be purchased at another location.

26/03/12 **Biodiversity Enhancement St. Mark's Close – Approval for Councillors to work alongside Platform Housing and residents on a wildflower seeding project**
Cllr Richards has spoken with Platform Housing regarding the two banks that are not cut as they are too steep, Cllr Richards will meet with Platform Housing next week, residents will be consulted before a decision is made. An update to be given at the next meeting.

26/03/13 **Market Place Notice Board – Approval to spend up to £200 to apply to DDDC Planning to replace and install new notice board**
It was agreed to spend up to £200 on planning - **Resolved**

26/03/14 **Playing Field Goal Posts – To consider installing new posts and approval to spend up to £2,500**
This item is being dealt with by Cllr Whitehead, no further action at this time.

26/03/15 **Parish Council Website and Councillor Email Adresses – Discussion of new website and quotes received, approval to spend up to £1,400**
It was discussed and agreed to remain with the existing website provider, update the website, provide Councillors with a .gov.uk email address and have a members only section on the website to store documents.

26/03/16 **Policies – Approval to adopt the following policies:**
(a) IT Policy – It was resolved to adopt this policy
(b) Standing Orders – To be further discussed
(c) Financial Regulations – It was resolved to adopt this policy
(d) GDPR Subject Access Request Procedure Policy – It was resolved to adopt this policy
(e) Freedom of Information Model Publications Scheme – It was resolved to adopt this policy
(f) GDPR Records Retention Schedule – It was resolved to adopt this policy
(g) GDPR Records Retention Policy – It was resolved to adopt this policy
(h) GDPR Privacy Policy – It was resolved to adopt this policy
(i) GDPR Data Breach Assessment Checklist – It was resolved to adopt this policy
(j) Equal Opportunities Policy – It was resolved to adopt this policy

26/03/17 **Business Continuity**
Proposed for Closed Session In accordance with the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s.1(2) and the Local Government Act 1972 s100 (2) the following agenda items to be considered with members of the public and press excluded from the meeting for the reason that the matter is commercially sensitive - **Resolved**

To receive a report (verbal) on the ongoing absence of the Clerk
Confidential item.

There being no further action the meeting closed at 9.00pm

Next Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday 15th April 2026 at 7.30pm