**CROFT PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

HELD AT 7.30 PM ON TUESDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2017

AT THE CROFT VILLAGE MEMORIAL HALL, MUSTARD LANE, CROFT

**Present:** Councillor Bland MBE (Chair)

Councillors Allen MBE, Cummerson, Partington, Thewsey.

# Part 1

**2018/140 Code of Conduct – Declarations of Interest.**There were no declarations.

**2018/141 Apologies.**Councillors Griffiths.

**2018/142 Cheshire Constabulary.**The Officer reported that, with the exception ofpoaching incidents, there had been no crime reported in the Croft area.
The Officer was prepared to discuss the agenda item referring to traffic matters on Dam Lane but, despite having been an invited to present their concerns, no residents of Dam Lane attended the meeting.

**2108/143 Croft Residents’ Objections to Peel’s Development proposals – Land off Lady Lane.**More than 50 residents attended in support of the above report prepared by two of their fellow residents.
The Chairman advised that Parish Councillors had submitted objections to Warrington Borough Council’s Preferred Development Option. Those objections were supported by a separately submitted critical assessment of the Borough Council’s Option proposal. That assessment had been undertaken by a consultancy firm acting on behalf of the Parish Councils of Croft, Winwick and Culcheth & Glazebury and it too opposed developments within the Green Belt.
The Parish Council restated its complete opposition to developments in the Green Belt. The Chairman explained the Parish Council’s reluctance to partake in a Neighbourhood Plan was because one of the objectives of that exercise is to get communities to identify Green Belt land suitable for development.
The Chairman added that the Parish Council wishes do develop a Parish Plan. That Plan would be devised and owned by residents rather than the Parish Council. In the new year, the Parish Council will be looking for volunteers to progress the Parish Plan.
Residents were appreciative of the Parish Council’s position.
They felt that the Borough Council’s proposal sets communities across the borough against each other. They were very concerned that large developers would be able to use their financial strength to subvert the wishes of residents.
A resident advised that Professor Broomhead endorses Peel Holdings on the latter’s website. The resident thought this might put Professor Broomhead’s impartiality into question.
The Chairman and Councillors agreed with the residents’ request that the Parish Council should write to the Borough Council in support of the residents’ report.

**2018/144 Traffic survey cameras.**Residentsexpressed their continuing concern about the lack of notification over the placement of traffic survey cameras by companies commissioned by Peel Holdings. Serious doubts were raised about the data security and privacy issues arising from the cameras’ usage.
The Chairman agreed that the Clerk would write to the Borough Council expressing the concerns and asking for assurances about the approval process for camera placements.

**2018/145 Minutes of the meeting held on 17th October 2017.
Resolved**Approved.

**2018/146 Weight restriction on Winwick Lane.**The Parish Council had written to Ms Helen Jones MP. The email had set out the background to matter and asked for help in preventing actions that would lead to increased traffic flows through Croft Parish.
Ms Jones had replied expressing her sympathy for residents’ concerns and committing to continue making representations to Warrington Borough Council regarding the matter.
A resident advised that the most recent information coming from Wigan MBC residents was the weight restriction is going to be implemented.
Borough Councillor Grime volunteered to speak personally to Ms Jones with a view to Ms Jones taking a more active role in the issue.
The Clerk was asked to contact Warrington Borough Council to discover what measures the Borough Council could take to restrict access to Croft’s road network by the displaced traffic.

**2018/147 Croft Youth Activity Centre (CYAC).**
There were no CYAC representatives in attendance.
The Chairman asked the Clerk to request a written report from CYAC about their progress in identifying long term funding sources.

**2018/148 Playing Field –** **Quarterly** **Report**.
It was noted that the independent report by HAGS / SMP had categorised the play area as low risk.
The Clerk showed a quotation received from HAGS / SMP for the repair of shrunken soft pore around some of the play equipment.
**Resolved**
that the quote of £925.06 from HAGS / SMP for repairs be accepted.

**2018/149 Right homes in the right place**.
The report, which had been prepared by Blackfryers, Planning and Environmental Consultants, was approved by Members.
Members proposed that at the forthcoming budget setting meeting, they would budget for further work by Blackfryers.

**2018/150 Banking**Members considered the Clerk’s report and **Resolved**the Parish Council to move its banking arrangements to Lloyds Bank.

**2018/151 Playing Field – wild flower area.**The Women’s Institute have asked the Parish Council if there is any location where a tree may be planted. The tree would be provided free of charge by the Woodlands Trust.The Clerk has spoken to the Woodlands Trust about the type of sapling that is available and to the Grounds Maintenance Contractor about a suitable section within the Playing Field to develop a wild flower garden.
The Parish Council approved this proposal which will be developed.

**2018/152 Lymm Runners.**The Clerk reported that Councillor Griffiths had been in contact with the above organisation about the placement and removal of directional signage for an event taking place in areas of the Parish.The organiser of the event has agreed to remove the signs in a timely manner**.**

**2018/153 Proposed development at Kenyon Nurseries.**The Clerk has posted on the noticeboards a pamphlet advertising a consultation meeting about the proposal. Some residents have had notifications posted through their doors by the applicant.

**2018/154 Financial Reports to end of October 2017.
Resolved**that the financial statements and the creditor schedule totalling £3,063.04 for October be approved**.**

**2018/155 Horse manure on the streets.**Councillor Bland reported on a resident’s complaint about an incident where there was an extremely large amount of horse manure on the street**.**Councillor Bland, having visited the scene advised thatthere was nothing the Parish Council could do about it.

**2018/156 Website**Councillor Partington’s report was considered and it was **Resolved**that the Parish Council engage the services of Netwise to provde their premium service at an initial cost of £599 and on ongoing cost of £300 per annum to provide updates, maintenance and support.

**2018/157 Planning Application 2017/31371 Hey Farm, Cross Lane.**Discharge of condition – proposed discharge of Condition 7 ( Natural England Licence), Condition 8 (Swallow nesting habitat) Condition 9 (Japanese Knotweed) on application 2016/29422.
**Resolved**
No objection.

**2018/158 Planning Application No: 2017/31532 Land at Winwick Lane.**Discharge of condition – proposed discharge of condition 3 (replacement hedgerow planting) on previously approved planning application 2017/30115. **Resolved**
No objection.

**2018/159 Planning Application No: 2017/31477 82, New Lane WA3 7JL.**Householder – Proposed two storey extension to front of dwelling. **Resolved**
No objection.

**2018/160 Planning Application No: 2017/31385 3, Wadeson Way WA3 7JW.**Section 192 certificate – proposed single storey rear extension.
**Resolved**
No objection.

**2018/161 Planning Application No: 2017/31534 Southworth Quarry, Winwick Road WA3 7EW**Variation of Condition – Application to vary Condition 48 (Soil Storage) on planning permission 98/37885 to permit the storage of overburden materials (including topsoils and subsoils) in their current location (to the south of the approved extension area).
**Resolved**
No objection.

To meet the Borough Council’s deadline of 21 days for comments, the following application hd been circulated to Members.

**2018/162 Planning Application No: 2017/31343 36, Dam Lane, Croft, WA3 7HG.**Full Planning - Proposed demolition of existing garage and attached store and construction of replacement garage and store.
**Resolved**
No objection.

**2018/163 Members Referral - Stone Pit Lane**Cllr. Cummerson advised that a resident had noted that bushes on Stone Pit Lane are protruding onto the carriageway.
The Clerk is to seek remedial action.

**2018/164 Members Referral – Lady Lane**Cllr. Cummerson advised that there is ivy growing on to the carriageway.
The Clerk is to seek remedial action.

**2018/165 Members Referral – Broadband.**Cllr. Partington advised that a new cabinet had been installed near to The Plough. This should offer the benefits of faster broadband speeds those in the vicinity.

**2018/166 Members Referral – Roundthorn.**Cllr. Bland advised that despite agreement having been reached on the funding of works to establish parking facilities for residents, Torus were not making progress.
The Clerk was asked to contact Yvonne Ellis at Torus.

**2018/167 Recess – Maythorn Avenue / Browmere Drive.**A resident noted that following recent works in the above location the bollards were no longer in a straight line and one of them is still pushed over.
Topsoil had not been applied to all the reseeded area.
Although the roads had been swept following the work, pavements had not.
The Clerk is to contact Warrington BC about those matters.

**2018/168 Recess – New Lane pavement.**The hedge outside one of the properties has been cut back to the boundary and this has exposed an unpaved area.
The Clerk is to contact Warrington BC about this.

**2018/169 Recess – New Lane lamp post**
An old lamp post has been left in place adjoining the recently installed new lamp post..
The Clerk is to contact Warrington BC about this.

**2018/170 Recess - Lady Lane flooding.**The carriageway has suffered from extremely bad flooding.The Clerk is to contact Warrington BC about this.