**CROFT PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

HELD AT 7.30 PM ON TUESDAY 20th NOVEMBER 2018

AT THE CROFT VILLAGE MEMORIAL HALL, MUSTARD LANE, CROFT

**Present:** Councillor Cummerson (Chair)

Councillors Allen MBE, Bland MBE, Griffiths, Partington, Thewsey,

**Apologies:** None

**2019/176 Code of Conduct – Declarations of Interest.**

None.

**2019/177 Minutes of the meeting held on 16th October.  
Resolved.**Approved.

**2019/178 Mr Robert Heywood, Highways England.**

Mr Heywood was asked to attend to provide Members with an update on the Parkside development proposals. He advised that as Parkside is an active planning application he was unable to provide much detail on the application, other than that Highways England would only provide comment on the aspects of the application that would directly affect the motorway systems nearby.

**2019/179 HS2 Update from Mr F. Allen, CADRAG.**

Mr. Allen explained to Members that the section of HS2 that will impact on Croft Parish is known as “Phase 2b” which is currently under consultation with the public before being put through Parliament.

Mr. Allen expressed that the more feedback HS2 received about the impact that Phase 2b would have on Croft Parish the better and that to assist members of the local area with their feedback, CADRAG had created a crib sheet of the way to optimise responses. It was suggested that these crib sheets could be included with the Parish Plan booklets that were going to be circulated to the residents. Mr. Allen agreed to liaise with members of the Parish Plan Committee to arrange this.

Cllr. Allen proposed that the Parish Council send in their feedback to HS2 to support local objections to the planned route.

**2019/180 Parish Plan - update, Mr. R. Lamming.**

Mr. Lamming attended the meeting to present to Members the final version of the Parish Plan. The plan details the results of the parish-wide survey held earlier in the year and interprets the results into a number of objectives for the development of Croft. Mr. Lamming extended his thanks to the members of the Parish Plan Committee and also to the residents of Croft who had taken the time to respond to the survey. The published booklet is to now be distributed to every household in Croft Parish.

Members commended the Parish Plan Committee for their excellent work on producing the plan and also for doing so within the time and budget constraints and thanked them for all of their efforts.

**2019/181 Matters arising from minutes 1, Minute Ref 2019/130 Sirocco.**

Cllr. Partington reported that the Planning Department are unable to advise him any further on the Sirocco entrance on Heath Lane as it is now a criminal matter.

**2019/182 Matters arising 2, Minute ref 2019/124 Cross Lane Bench.**

A picture has been sent to the engineering department showing the preferred location for the bench.

**2019/183 Matters arising 3, Minute ref 2019/169 Parking on Roundthorn.**

The Clerk contacted Mr. Mark Tune from WBC, who advised that the survey of residents was undertaken by Torus/GGH and appears to have only been partially completed. He said that there have been no applications received for any works to be done to create additional parking in the area.

**2019/184 Matters arising 4, Minute ref 2019/140, Boundary fence issue.**

The Clerk was contacted by Mr. Duncan Brindle from WBC on 8th November who advised that following the correspondence from the Clerk, he would be visiting the resident to assess the boundary fence issue and would then update with his findings. No update has been received by the resident concerned nor the Clerk.

**2019/185 Matters arising 5, Minute ref 2019/174, Kenyon in Parish of Croft**.

A request was sent to WBC to amend the signage when entering Kenyon to indicate arrival to Kenyon in the Parish of Croft. A confirmation of receipt is the only response received so far.

**2019/186 Police Report.**

There were no reported incidents of crime in Croft.

**2019/187 Letter from Great Sankey Parish Council.**

It was requested by Great Sankey Parish Council that their letter be included in the meeting pack. The letter was a request for support for the Warrington Food Bank.

**Resolved.**

Councillors will discuss further at the budget meeting in December.

**2019/188 Bus stop nettles.**

Following correspondence from the Clerk, WBC have removed the nettles that were encroaching on to the bus stops used by school children in the mornings.

**2019/189 Housing Consultation.**

Culcheth Parish Council have asked if Croft Parish Council would consider using the services of Mr. Peter Black as a consultant on the upcoming consultation on new housing within the area. Councillors agreed with this suggestion.

**Resolved.**

Councillors agreed to fund Mr. Black’s work if he is willing to undertake the task. The Clerk will liaise with Culcheth Parish Council to determine Mr. Black’s availability.

**2019/190 Temporary road works.**

Notifications were circulated to Councillors stating that road works would be taking place within the Parish.

Clerk to post the updates on to the website.

**2019/191 Superstars school holidays proposal.**

The owner of the ‘Superstars’ school activity scheme contacted the Parish Council to establish if there would be an interest in ‘Superstars’ running a play scheme over the summer holidays. This scheme would be open to everyone in the area, not just children local to Croft and would require the Parish Council to fund the scheme and hire the venue and there would be a cost to children attending.

**Resolved.**

To decline to proposal as local schools already run holidays clubs and the Parish Council are unable to provide funding for schemes that are run for profit and are not predominantly for the children of the village.

**2019/192 Number 19 Bus.**

Correspondence has been sent to the bus company requesting an investigation to the frequent delays endured by residents hoping to use the number 19 bus service. A further enquiry has also been made through the Network Warrington website. No response has been received as yet.

**2019/193 Financial Report**

The financial report shows that the Parish Council have overspent by £5,887.93 compared to budget. It is expected that this figure will begin to drop as there is no large expenditure planned. The bank reconciliation figures were shown as being balanced

**Resolved.**

Financial report, bank statement, bank reconciliation and creditor payments in the sum of £4892.85 were all agreed and approved

**2019/194 Budget Setting.**

The annual Parish Council budget and precept setting meeting will take place Tuesday, 18th December at 7pm in private. The meeting will then be opened to the public for non-Part 2 matters. The Clerk requested that any proposals for new expenditure be sent in prior to the meeting.

**2019/195 Christmas Lights switch on.**

The Croft Christmas Tree lights are to be switched on 6pm Friday, 30th November.   
The Playing Field car park will be closed on the day that the tree and lights are erected and also on the afternoon of the lights ceremony. The Clerk asked for the backing of Members that if anyone is parked on the car park prior to the ceremony and tries to leave when the crowd has gathered then they should be prohibited from doing so until the event has finished.

**Resolved**

Members approved the closure of the car park to facilitate the erection of the tree and to enable the lighting ceremony to proceed safely. Members further approved that any vehicle parked on the car park be prohibited from moving during the ceremony. Notices of the car park closure to be displayed on car park and on social media platforms.

**Planning Applications.**

**2019/196 2018/33859 104, Kenyon Lane.**

Householder – proposed demolition of existing single storey side extension and construction of new single storey side extension.

**Resolved.**

No objection

**2019/197 2018/33818 A574 Birchwood Way.**

Lawful Development Certificate – Proposed widening of the A574 Birchwood Way between Moss Gate Junction and Junction 11 of M62.

There was no opportunity for comment on this application.

This application was circulated to members prior to the meeting in order to allow comments within the 21 day statutory comment period. There were no objections.

**2019/198 2018/33720 & 2018/33719 618A/618B, Warrington Road.**

Householder – proposed double garage in the attached paddock at the back of the home to link in with garage proposed at the adjacent property. Resubmission of 2018/32568.

**Recess.**

**2019/199 Warrington Borough Council local plan.**

It was noted that consultation on WBC’s draft local plan will begin in in March 2019.

**2019/200 Flooding.**

A resident noted that the drain clearing truck had been around the village. A few days later the drains were flooded again. The Clerk advised that the Council will not attend to flooding issues unless the flooding extends over half of the road. The Clerk requested that if it is spotted that flooding is over half of the road pictures are taken and sent in so that the issue can be raised again with the borough council.

**2019/201 Playing Field lighting.**

A resident requested that lighting for the playing field be investigated as the bootcamp class is taking place in darkness during winter months.

**Resolved.**

Clerk to investigate potential lighting options.

**2019/202 Lord Street & Smithy Lane junction.**

It was noted that the road sign that was previously on the house is now positioned in the front window of the property.

**Resolved.**

Clerk to approach owners to remind them to return the sign to its original location.

**Members Referrals.**

**2019/203 Lady Lane parking.**

Cllr. Cummerson has received 3 complaints about the parking on Lady Lane of people visiting the kennels. Road users were unable to see around the corner due to the volume of vehicles parked on the roadside.

**Resolved.**

Clerk to contact Warrington Borough Council.

**2019/204 Birchwood Train Station.**

Cllr. Cummerson noted that despite protestations by Croft Parish Council and Culcheth & Glazebury Parish Council, Birchwood Rail Station lifts are not accessible when there are no members of station staff working.

**2019/205 Relocation of Clerk Office.**

Cllr. Bland has spoken to Ms. Barbara Parrot of WBC about the proposal to relocate the Clerk’s office to CYAC. This proposal was received keenly by Ms Parrot, who will speak with the WBC finance department to confirm the rent that would be expected.

**2019/206 Street Lighting.**

Cllr. Partington noted that the LED streetlights provide a poor level of lighting, this issue is further exacerbated by trees surrounding some lamp post blocking the light.

**Resolved.**

Clerk to request maintenance on trees to ensure light emissions are maximised.