MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD AT 19:30 ON TUESDAY 21st FEBRUARY 2023

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

Cllrs Allen MBE, Farnsworth, & Partington

Helen Buckley (Clerk)

**Apologies:** Cllrs Campbell & Sharpe

Cheshire Police

Cllr Bland opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

**2023/181 Code of Conduct – Declarations of Interest**

None.

**2023/182 Minutes of the Meeting held 17th January 2023**

 **Resolved**

Minutes approved as a true record.

**2023/183 Matters arising from the minutes**

No matters arising.

**2023/184 Cheshire Police January Report**

As there was nobody present from Cheshire Police, Cllr Bland read this out. The report was noted.

**2023/185 King Charles III’s Coronation**

On Sunday 7th May everyone could decorate their homes with bunting and flags. The parish council will host a ‘Picnic on the Park’, similar to the event held last year for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. The event will be advertised on Facebook.

**2023/186 Clerk's Report: Correspondence**

From: Liverpool John Lennon Airport re: Airspace Change Proposal.

From: Gosling Park Management Company re: request for support towards the paths around Gosling Park. The clerk will contact them for more information.

**2023/187 Clerk's Report: CPS Planning Application**

The parish council lodged an objection to this proposed development on Monday 13th February. Cllr Carol Benson is sitting on this application. It is largely objected to on the grounds of the loss of the parking spaces, and the issues that loading nad unloading would encounter due to this loss. There is also a fire risk to the businesses there as a lot of them don’t have a back door.

**2023/188 Clerk's Report: Spring Lane Mast**

Communication from WBC was received on 8th February that MBNL wishes to appeal against WBC’s enforcement notice. The deadline to make any comments about this is 20th March. The parish council will draft a reply.

**2023/189 Clerk's Report: Annual Governance & Accountability Return**

This has now been completed and returned. The required documentation has been published on the website and the noticeboards.

**2023/190 Clerk's Report: Financial Reports**

The financial reports were incomplete at the time of the meeting due to a delay in receipt of the bank statements.

Members were presented with the creditors’ cheque payment list for February totalling £15,072.48.

**Resolved**

That the creditors' cheque payment list for February totalling £15,072.48 be approved.

**2023/191 Planning Applications**

Planning Applications for consideration at this meeting.

**2023/192 Application** **2023/00146/FULH – Annexe, Sirocco, Mustard Lane, Croft, WA3 7BG**

Proposal: Proposed single storey rear extension to existing annexe following removal of existing porch to side elevation.

**Resolved**

Objection on the grounds of being in greenbelt and due to the increase of the footprint of the property.

**2023/193 Application** **2023/00167/FULH –** **32 Browmere Drive, Croft, WA3 7HR**

Proposal: Two storey extension to side of dwelling.

**Resolved**

No objection.

**2023/194 2023/00201/FULM – Heathcroft Stud, 18 Deacons Close, Croft, WA3 7EN**

Proposal: Proposed residential development of 98 dwellings, internal access roads, public open space including play facilities, landscaping, infrastructure works including the erection of a sub-station, together with other associated works.

**Resolved**

The parish council strongly objects to this proposal.

* The Local Plan has not even been ratified yet.
* The applicant/developer is trying to get ahead of the game.
* Cllr Benson said that the Local Plan has been criticised by the Inspectorate.
* They are trying to get away with it by saying that it has been reduced by 103 houses to 98.
* A resident commented that Kelly’s Kennels was objected to on the grounds of greenbelt, so how could this possibly go ahead.
* Cllr Maisey went door knocking and leafletting and said there was not one resident in favour. The leaflets had QR codes on to make it easier to access.
* The deadline for comments is Monday 13th March. We could split the cost with Culcheth & Glazebury Parish Council to use Peter Black’s services.
* Everyone is encouraged to object.
* Parking is already an issue – there are cars parked on the pavement. It’s difficult to get horse boxes through.
* It’s not just Deacons Close affected but all houses in that area.
* The parish council will arrange a drop-in session for residents.

**2023/195 Application 2022/42779 – 23 Gosling Road, Croft, WA3 7LN**

Proposal: Single storey, wrap around extension. Traditional build. Hipped Roof. Materials to match existing.

**Resolved**

No objection.

**2023/196 Borough Councillor's Update**

1. There has been no meeting since the last meeting. There is a planning meeting coming up.
2. The borough council was sorry to hear about Brianna Ghey’s murder.
3. There is a proposal to raise the new council tax by 4.9% which they plan to vote against.
4. There are still travellers on Silver Lane, they have been there a few weeks now. Apparently, some of them are unable to move on due to ill health. Cllr Bland mentioned the kick rails at CYAC that the PCC half-funded. He and Cllr Partington met with him today.

**2023/197 Recess**

1. A resident commented on the state of the car park at CYAC and said it needs resurfacing. Also, where the refuse bin outside goes, it looks overgrown and unkempt.
2. Another resident commented on two neighbourhood groups in Lowton. They have discussed the possible extension to Atherleigh Way. Cllr Allen is to find out if discussions have taken place between Warrington Borough Council and Wigan Borough Council. Andy Burnham is on board with regards to funding. It’s going to cost a lot of money – approx. £20m. Cllr Partington commented that we hope it doesn’t happen but we need to keep an eye on it.
3. Cllr Partington enquired as to whether the council will do anything for the schoolchildren for the coronation.
4. Another resident raised the issue of road repairs that are needed on Birchall Street.

**2023/198 Members' Referrals**

1. Cllr Partington mentioned that a resident had approached him about the kerb drop between Croft Primary School and the cut through on Mustard Lane. Cllr Allen will send the clerk the details of her contact at WBC. The hedge also causes an issue.
2. There was a comment on the field by CYAC in that it’s full of mole hills. There was a query as to whether WBC can do anything.
3. The clerk was approached by a member of the public at the closure of the meeting to enquire as to whether a dog poo bin could be installed at The Plough Inn. The clerk will look into this.

**2023/199 Date of next Parish Council meeting – 21st March 2023 at 19:30**