



CRANTON PARISH COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSES & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the **General Purposes and Environment Committee** held on **16 September 2019** at the Parish Council Office, 7 Hampton Drive, Cranton, commencing at 7.00 pm.

Present: Councillors D Rostance (Chairman), W Cook, S Cooper, J Foran, G McGann, G Pentin and D Thomas

In attendance: Ward Councillor Ron Gaffney
Vitti Osborne (The Clerk)
3 members of the public

20. APOLOGIES

It was resolved that apologies for absence received from Councillor D Bray be accepted.

21. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was reported that no declarations of Interest were received.

22. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the General Purposes and Environment Committee meeting held on 8 July 2019 as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

23. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The following issues were raised for consideration:

- (a) Parking on the pavements in Smithy Close endangered and obstructed pedestrians and other users. Vehicles parked on both sides of the road block access for emergency vehicles.
- (b) Pavements on both sides of Smithy Close were on an incline making them dangerous to walk on especially for the elderly and infirmed in icy conditions.
- (c) 3 KHT properties on Smithy Close - Overgrowth in the front garden, rubbish in garden, rat and inappropriate exterior signs issues were raised.
- (d) The signage of Forge Close cue-de-sac was too low to be seen by drivers.
- (e) It was a long-standing issue that vehicles were parked on the wrong side of the road and closely at the junction of The Roundabout and Hall Lane obstructing traffic and blocking visibility.

It was responded that rat was a borough wide issue. Residents could seek assistance from Knowsley Council. Regarding the parking issue at The Roundabout, it could be reported to the Police if the vehicle was parked illegally. A village walk round was suggested to highlight issues for follow-up action. The Council would also write to First Ark (KHT) for information on tenancy enforcement and assistance for elderly and disabled tenants in respect of garden maintenance. The Ward Councillor would also raise the issues at the Borough Liaison Meeting on behalf of Cranton.

24. WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

- (a) Road condition at the roundabout outside Cronton Garden Centre – Supported by accident statistics, some remedial measures were needed to improve the road condition.
- (b) Smiley face speed detecting device set at 20mph for Cronton was in progress.
- (c) Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan Proposed Submission Consultation – Knowsley Council Planning Office was in communication with Halton Council regarding the proposed housing developments at the border of Cronton and Halton.
- (d) Knowsley Council had plans to resolve rat problems in the borough but it did not receive much support from local businesses.

25. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) **APP. NO: 19/00496/FUL**

APPLICANT: United Utilities Water Limited

APP. TYPE Full Application

LOCATION: Cronton Water Booster Station Alder Lane Cronton

PROPOSAL: CONSTRUCTION OF NEW ACCESS JUNCTION TO ALDER LANE INCLUDING VEHICULAR TURNING POINT TOGETHER WITH THE ERECTION OF FENCING, PEDESTRIAN ACCESS GATE AND VEHICULAR ACCESS GATE TO SITE PERIMETER

After discussion **it was resolved** that the Council has no observations to make on the above planning application.

(b) **APP. NO: 19/00122/FUL**

LOCATION: 56 Hall Lane Cronton Knowsley

PROPOSAL: ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION, TOGETHER WITH DEMOLITION OF EXISTING GARAGE AND ERECTION OF NEW DETACHED GARAGE

DECISION Granted

It was resolved that the planning decision be noted.

26. HALTON DELIVERY AND ALLOCATIONS LOCAL PLAN PROPOSED SUBMISSION CONSULTATION

Members **objected most strongly** to the proposed developments of two parcels of Halton's Green Belt Land which abut Knowsley and the Parish of Cronton itself an historic village with a large conservation area.

The two parcels of land in question are:

1. W4 - Chapel Lane to Old Upton Lane - Greenbelt proposed for 299 dwellings
2. W5 - Sandy Lane to Queensbury Way - Greenbelt proposed for 133 dwellings

Reasons for objection:

- Cronton does not want to be subsumed by unrestricted sprawl and a massive reduction in the greenbelt which currently prevents Cronton from being merged into Widnes. The pleasure that is given to local residents by the walk along Sandy Lane is of great importance too as is the impact on access and traffic issues associated with any development.
- It is quite clear that the proposals contravene the purposes of the Green Belt as stated in the consultation document and therefore the proposal is an inappropriate development on Green Belt Land and should be eliminated from the proposals.

Councillor D Thomas undertook to draft a formal objection to be submitted to Halton Council.

27. MANCHESTER AIRPORT FUTURE AIRSPACE

It was suggested inviting a representative from Manchester Airport to provide more information on the subject matter.

28. CONSULTATION ON 5G MOBILE COVERAGE

It was resolved that the consultation be noted.

29. VILLAGE AND COMMUNITY ISSUES

(a) Feedback on a meeting with Merseyside Police and Crime Commissioner – Councillors D Rostance and D Thomas attended the meeting with the Commissioner and a Police Inspector. Matters considered:

- ASB on the Pasture.
- Liaison with Cheshire Police to extend their patrol to Cronton for a period of time.
- Merseyside Police Special Officer for ASB issues.
- Advice for improving the site to defer ASB.

It was relatively peaceful for the month of August since the meeting. A site meeting would also be held with Knowsley Council to see what improvements could be made to the Pasture to prevent ASB.

Members thanked the Councillors for attending the meeting.

(b) A village walk round would be organised to look at environmental and parking issues, and problems relating to the First Ark (KHT) properties in the village.

(c) Overgrowth on the footpath from Mill Lane to Pex Hill had been cut back. Arrangement had also been made to clear the overgrowth in the area near Cronton Hall later in the week.

30. CRANTON NEWSLETTER

Proposed topics:

- Defibrillator project update
- Gala
- Summer flower display
- Remembrance Sunday Service
- Ecumenical Carol Service

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm

Signed _____ Date 28 October 2019