

CRONTON PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING



MINUTES OF THE SECOND REMOTE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 27 JULY 2020 AT 7.00 PM.

Present : Councillors W Cook (Chair), D Bray, S Cooper, G McGann, D Rostance and D Thomas

In attendance: Ward Councillor R Gaffney (Whiston and Cronton)
Vitti Osborne (The Clerk)

22. APOLOGIES

It was resolved that for the purposes of Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, the absence of Councillor J Foran for any meeting of the Council from the date of this meeting on the grounds of ill-health be approved.

23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest were received from:

- (a) Councillors S Cooper and D Rostance – Agenda item 8 (Planning application no. 20/00235/FUL) – They knew the applicant.
- (b) Councillor D Thomas – Agenda item 15 (Knowsley Halsnead Garden Village Development Plan – Cycling and walking project) – A resident in the area.

24. MINUTES

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 22 June 2020 as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

25. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

26. COMMITTEE MINUTES

It was resolved that the unconfirmed minutes of undermentioned Committees be noted:

- (a) General Purposes and Environment Committee meeting held on 13/7/20
- (b) Finance and Policy Committee meeting held on 13/7/2020

27. WARD COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor R Gaffney reported on the followings:

- (a) Rat issue – It was a huge borough wide issue. Formal discussion took place between Knowsley Council and United Utilities. Specific officers had been assigned to deal with the problem.
- (b) Alder Lane – Measures would be implemented to improve access to Cronton Road.
- (c) Smiley-face speed indicator device – Councillor R Gaffney to follow-up the return of the device to Cronton.

28. COUNCILLORS REPORTS

- (a) **Policing** – A second major search took place on the Pasture in July 2020.

- (b) **Transportation in Cronton** – No feedback from Merseytravel on the proposed removal of the bus shelter on Cronton Road. There were no reductions in bus services but the future of bus service number 7 between Warrington and Liverpool carried was questionable as there were few passengers. Up-to-date bus timetables were available on-line.
- (c) **Environment** – Councillor D Rostance would remove the graffiti on a chevron sign on Hall Lane.

29. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

APP. NO: 20/00235/FUL

APP. TYPE Full Application

LOCATION: The Cottage Pex Hill Cronton

PROPOSAL: ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION INCORPORATING 2NO ROOF LANTERNS / BI-FOLD DOORS AND ERECTION OF DETACHED DOUBLE GARAGE

APP. NO: 20/00281/CLD

APP. TYPE Certificate of Lawful Use/ Dev. Proposed

LOCATION: Broadview Pex Hill Cronton

PROPOSAL: HIP TO GABLE LOFT CONVERSION INCLUDING REAR DORMER EXTENSION

It was resolved that the Council has no observations to make on these planning applications.

30. BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT

It was resolved that the Budgetary Control Report as at 27 July 2020 shown in Appendix A be received and approved.

31. RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

It was resolved that receipts and payments as listed in the attached Appendix B be noted and approved.

32. BANK RECONCILIATION

It was resolved that the Bank Reconciliation as at 30/6/20 be approved and accepted.

33. PAYMENT METHODS

The Clerk undertook to check with other Town Councils in the Borough their card payment methods.

34. DEVOLUTION WHITE PAPER

The Parish Council was too small to benefit from the proposed transfer of power from central government.

It was resolved that the consultation on Devolution White Paper be noted.

35. NEW WEBSITE

To comply with the accessibility regulations - Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018, the Council has to ensure reasonable adjustments are made to the website so it is accessible to people with various disabilities and to publish an accessibility statement by 23/9/2020 to explain how accessible the website is.

- (a) Councillor D Thomas drafted an accessibility statement including areas of non-compliance identified by a professional company following the government sample statement (for a public sector website). The draft statement had been considered by the Website Working Group and was recommended for adoption by the Council. He presented the draft accessibility statement to the Council for approval (contact information to be inserted).

It was resolved that the draft accessibility statement be approved and adopted by the Council, and the statement be published on the website.

- (b) After consulting a number of recommended website professionals, it was considered more cost effective to build a new website meeting the accessibility requirements than to revamp the current website plus the fact that its design and organisation needed updating. Councillor D Thomas gave a list of companies contacted and their experience in this area of work.

After discussion, **it was resolved** that a new website for the Council be approved and the four recommended companies be invited to submit a quotation.

- (c) A proposed Cronton website organisation was also presented for consideration. This would be given to the bidders.
- (d) A new website had not been budgeted for so consideration would be given to cover the expenses by the General Reserves.

The Chairman thanks Councillor D Thomas and the Website Working Group for their contributions.

36. KNOWSLEY HALSNEAD GARDEN VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Councillors S Cooper, G McGann and D Thomas attended a follow-up briefing held by The Land Trust and Tritax Symmetry (specialist logistics developer) on 22/7/20. It was a good pre-application meeting but no further information on the proposed garden site was provided at that stage. The two access points to the cycle path were located at Fox's Bank Lane/Penny Lane and the north of M62. Traffic speed limits on Cronton Road and Fox's Bank Lane and light pollution were also mentioned.

In view of potential impact of the new development on the traffic of Cronton, the Council would write to Mark Cawood, Head of Planning and Highways to ensure the Council would be fully consulted at all stages of the development including the cycle path.

The letter dated 9/7/20 from BAA Commission for Dark Skies – Possible detrimental effects due to light pollution and night time light spillage from the development would be passed on to the developers.

37. VILLAGE AND COMMUNITY ISSUES

- (a) Permission was given to Cronton Gala Committee to hold the next Gala at the Pasture on Saturday 10 July 2021 and to set it up on Friday 9 July 2021.
- (b) Permission was given to Cronton Gala Committee to hold a Cronton Summer Fest 75th anniversary VJ Day on Saturday 15 August 2020 from 1.00 pm to 2.30 pm (with an ice cream van outside the Pasture). Government covid-19 guidelines had to be observed.
- (c) The Parish Council had not been informed of the public consultation on a Holy Family Church application for the construction of a new vehicular access point from Hall Lane to form a one-way system together with replacement of existing car park hardstanding. This raised concerns about communication between the Borough Council and the Parish Council. It was suggested discussing the matter with Knowsley Council's Head of Planning and Highways.

38. CRONTON NEWS

Suggested topic(s) – How to join a Parish Council remote meeting?

The meeting closed at 8.31 pm.

Signed _____ Date 7 September 2020