

CRONTON PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING



Minutes of the **COUNCIL MEETING** held on **29 NOVEMBER 2021** at 7.00 pm at the Parish Council Office, 7 Hampton Drive, Cronton.

Present : Councillors S Cooper (Chair), W Cook, J Foran, R Hayes, G McGann, L Terry, D Rostance and D Thomas

In attendance: Ward Councillor T Byron (Whiston and Cronton)
Ward Councillor R Gaffney (Whiston and Cronton)
Vitti Osborne (The Clerk)
V Dooley (Chair, Cronton Gala)
3 Residents

108. APOLOGIES

All members were present.

109. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was reported that no declarations of Interest were received.

110. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 6 September 2021 as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

111. PLANNING

The Chairman welcome Mr M Cawood, Head of Planning, Knowsley Council, to the meeting to discuss planning matters concerning Cronton.

Mr Cawood gave a brief summary of areas of works covered by him and his team. Regarding local housing need set nationally, it was not a binding requirement. Local authorities could decide on the requirements based on their Local Plans and parties concerned would be consulted. He also pointed out that local authorities were under a duty to cooperate with each other and to act positively. Knowsley Council had submitted their comments on the Halton Local Plan but they were not invited to attend the initial hearing.

The following points were raised by members:

- The Parish Council objected to the housing proposals in the greenbelt at Sandy Lane.
- Lack of support from Knowsley Council – They were not represented at the hearing for the examination of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan 2014-37
- Loss of green belt close to the border with Cronton causing concern over boundary change in the future.
- Seeking Knowsley Council's support for preserving the identity of Cronton.
- Impact of increased traffic congestion on Cronton and Cronton Road caused by the housing developments at Upton Rocks.
- Request for a traffic survey on Cronton Road.

Mr Cawood advised the Parish Council to raise concerns directly with Halton Council.

A copy of the Parish Council's objection to the proposed housing development at Sandy Lane would be sent to Mr Cawood. He was also requested to find out the terms and conditions for

assigning the land to Halton Council for constructing the roundabout at the junction of Cronton Road/Queensbury Way.

The Chairman thanked Mr Cawood for attending the meeting. (Mr Cawood left at 7.30pm).

112. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Cycleway from Cronton to Sandy Lane – reducing the road width of Cronton Road. Whether the narrowed road could cope with the increased in traffic arising from the new housing developments was a concern. It was responded that the width of the road would meet legal requirements.

Penny Lane cycleway – too narrow. A discussion took place on road safety in Penny Lane for a cycle path (Phase 9). Highway works in Phase 9 required no planning permission.

The Chairman reassured that they were listening to public comments and would take action where appropriate.

113. COMMITTEE MINUTES

It was RESOLVED that the unconfirmed minutes of the General Purposes and Environment Committee meeting held on 1/11/21 be noted.

114. WARD COUNCILLOR REPORTS

20 mph signage for the traffic from the junction of Smithy Lane/Hall Lane – Councillor T Bryon would follow this up.

Planning application for the cycleway Phase 8 – To be submitted in 2022.

Fly-tipping collection – The collectors would pick up fly-tipping on their way depending on their schedules. However, they would definitely respond to reported fly-tipping and collect refuse collected on a clean-up day upon advance booking.

115. COUNCILLORS REPORTS

- (a) **Policing** – Police vehicle patrolled through the village. No issues were reported.
- (b) **Transportation in Cronton** – No report.
- (c) **Environment** – Councillor D Rostance would follow-up the big pothole at the bottom of Woburn Drive. Fly-tipping at Hall Lane had been removed. Regarding the new exit at the Holy Family car park, some work was being carried out.

116. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

APP. NO: 21/00633/FUL

LOCATION: Woodlands Lodge Lane Cronton

PROPOSAL: DEMOLITION OF EXISTING DWELLING, GARAGE AND OUTBUILDINGS AND THE ERECTION OF A DETACHED FIVE BEDROOM DWELLING WITH ATTACHED GARAGE INCLUDING THE ERECTION OF A FRONT BOUNDARY 1.91M HIGH WALL WITH ELECTRIC VEHICLE ENTRANCE GATES TO LODGE LANE TOGETHER WITH ASSOCIATED PARKING AND LANDSCAPING

It was resolved that the Council **objects** to the planning application on the following grounds:

- (1) The volume increase is 73% when comparing the new house/garage versus the old house and detached garage (ignoring the other volumes which include such as the “Cold Frame”, garden store etc.).

- (2) This is a huge increase in volume and in our view is inconsistent with the National Planning Policy Framework 2021 – Proposals affecting the Green Belt:
- c) the extension or alteration of a building provided that it does not result in disproportionate additions over and above the size of the original building;
 - d) the replacement of a building, provided the new building is in the same use and not materially larger than the one it replaces;
- (3) This application is inappropriate in the Green Belt.
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APP. NO: 21/00810/FUL

APP. TYPE Full Application

LOCATION: 25 Wheatfield Road Cronton WA8 5BU

PROPOSAL: ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION TOGETHER WITH ROOF ALTERATIONS TO REAR ELEVATION (DEMOLITION OF EXISTING CONSERVATORY)

APP. NO: 21/00830/FUL

APP. TYPE Full Application

LOCATION: 93 Cronton Road Cronton L35 1QU

PROPOSAL: ERECTION OF A TWO STOREY REAR EXTENSION

APP. NO: 21/00860/FUL

APP. TYPE Full Application

LOCATION: 2 Woburn Drive Cronton Knowsley

PROPOSAL: RETENTION OF SINGLE STOREY SIDE EXTENSION AND PART GARAGE CONVERSION

APP. NO: 21/00845/CLU

APP. TYPE Certificate of Lawful Use/Dev. Existing

LOCATION: 91-92 The White House Cronton Road Cronton

PROPOSAL: CERTIFICATE OF LAWFULNESS FOR USE OF FORMER RESIDENTIAL DWELLING AS A CHILDRENS HOME FOR A MAXIMUM OF 4 NO. CHILDREN (RETROSPECTIVE)

It was RESOLVED that the Council has no observations to make on the above planning applications.

117. BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT

It was RESOLVED that the Budgetary Control Report as at 29/11/21 shown in Appendix A be received and approved.

118. RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

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

119. PRECEPT 2022/23

Precept increases – Clerk’s salary (NJC salary review), Defibrillator pads replacement and electricity. Details to be discussed at the next meeting.

120. ST HELENS BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN MAIN MODIFICATIONS PUBLIC CONSULTATION

It was RESOLVED that the consultation be noted.

121. COUNCIL REVIEW

The Council Review Working Group first meeting was deferred.

122. SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

The following documents were presented to the Council:

- Draft Social Media Policy (*Councillor S Cooper*)
- Evaluation and recommendation for a Facebook page (*Councillor D Thomas*)

The draft Social Media Policy had been looked at by the Working Group (Councillors D Thomas, S Cooper, R Hayes and L Terry). The following recommendations were presented to members for consideration:

- (1) The Draft Social Media Policy is accepted subject to final review for the use of FB and final review at the Annual Meeting of the Council.
- (2) A Parish Council Facebook page is trialed for a 6 month period starting with immediate effect so that a decision can be taken in due course whether to continue with such social media as a standard form of communication with Parishioners.

Whether another channel of communication was needed apart from the website and decision criteria for the future of the Facebook after the 6-month trial were raised. After discussion, the recommendations were put to a vote.

It was RESOLVED that recommendations (1) and (2) were accepted by a vote of 6 to 2.

123. THE PASTURE MASTERPLAN

The summary of the recent survey on the Masterplan would soon be available. It appeared to be very positive, which would be helpful for funding application. 58 responses from social media and 25 paper returns were received. Consultation sessions also took place in the two local schools. The project was making good progress. Councillor D Rostance would contact Philip Hurst for an update.

124. CYCLEWAY PROJECT

There was no updated on the progress of Phase 8 of the cycleway project. The work took place at the junction of Cronton Road/Hall Lane was to ascertain the drainage problem.

125. WEBSITE

A training session would be organised early next year. Regarding advertising, only information on non-profit organisations was allowed to post on the website.

126. VILLAGE AND COMMUNITY ISSUES

- (a) **Speed indicator device (SID)** – The cost based on Halton Council's model would be requested (*Keith Moyles of Knowsley Council*)
- (b) **NO PARKING sign on the Pasture gate for 24-hour emergency access** – Councillor D Rostance would contact Philip Hurst for advice.

127. CRANTON NEWSLETTER

Suggestions for the next issue.

The meeting closed at 8.37 pm.

Signed _____ Date 10 January 2022