



## CRONTON PARISH COUNCIL

### GENERAL PURPOSES & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the **General Purposes and Environment Committee** held on **25 MAY 2021** at 7.30 pm at the Cronton Community Centre, Cronton Road.

**Present:** Councillors D Rostance (Chair), W Cook, R Hayes, G McGann and D Thomas

**In attendance:** Vitti Osborne (The Clerk)  
D & J Pullan (Residents)  
L Flood (Resident)

**Remote attendance:** Ward Councillor T Byron (Cronton & Whiston) -  
Ward Councillor R Gaffney (Cronton & Whiston)  
Mike Kaciubskyj (Project Manager, Knowsley Council)  
Philip McGreal (Knowsley Council)  
V Dooley (Chairman, Cronton Gala Committee)

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the first face-to-face Committee Meeting since 9 March 2020 (current legislation - remote meetings cannot take place after 6/5/21). Remote access to the meeting was also available.

#### 1. APOLOGIES

**It was resolved** that apologies for absent received from Councillor J Foran be accepted.

#### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was reported that no declarations of Interest were received.

#### 3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

**It was resolved** to accept the minutes of the General Purposes and Environment Committee meeting held on 12/4/21 as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 4. PROPOSED CYCLEWAY – FOX'S BANK LANE/PENNY LANE, CRONTON

Mike Kaciubskyj (Project Manager) and Philip McGreal of Knowsley Council were invited to give an update on the proposed cycleway. It covered:

- The agencies/parties involved.
- Design and surveys.
- Phase 8 (Fox's Bank Lane to Penny Lane)
- Phase 9 (Penny Lane to Sandy Lane)
- Ecological survey.
- Signage at crossing.
- Cycleway design.
- Drainage issue in Sandy Lane to be addressed.

Questions raised and response:

- Increase in usage by cyclists and pedestrians - Unsure
- Widening the footpath between the Community Centre and Sandy Lane to upgrade safety facility for users – The width of the carriageway would meet the minimum legal requirements.
- Acquiring a strip of land for widening the footpath – Tried but unsuccessful.
- Timing - An application with updated drawings would be submitted in about a couple of months subject to surveys.

- Species reintroduction – Not part of the habitat improvement and management plan.
- Roads used for the cycleway in Cronton – Penny Lane, Hall Lane, Woburn Drive, Hampton Drive, Kenley Avenue, cross over to the southern side of Cronton Road to Sandy Lane. All roads involved were subject to detailed road audit by different professionals to ensure safety of all users.
- Quality of road surface along the cycleway – Facilities would be improved along the whole route.
- Proposed modification to the route through Cronton – No but would improve signage.
- Further meetings/consultations with residents – Yes to take comments.

The Chairman thanked Mike Kaciubskij and Philip McGreal for a successful meeting and the useful information for the next stage of the process.

## 5. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**Cycleway in Cronton** – the following matters were raised:

- Road safety in Penny Lane to Hall Lane.
- Policing issue on the leased path between Fox's Bank Lane and Penny Lane (not a public right of way).
- Double leased issue on the land concerned.
- Concern about the safety of multi-users.

It was responded that the leased strip of land would be a public right of way. Residents could comment on the planning application when submitted. Meanwhile the Council continued to take residents' views for consideration.

How to facilitate a public meeting with Covid restrictions was also raised.

## 6. **WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS**

Councillor R Gaffney reported that SSE did not allow DIY dog waste bags bottles to be mounted on the lamp posts. Councillor R Hayes would contact B Wright for further investigation.

Councillor T Byron would follow-up the issue relating to the pending completion of the new exit of the Holy Family Church car park (APP. NO. 19/00691/FUL).

## 7. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

### (a) **APP. NO: 21/00267/FUL**

CASE OFFICER: Lee Osborne

LOCATION: 22 Smithy Close Cronton Knowsley

PROPOSAL: ERECTION OF 2 NO. TWO STOREY SEMI-DETACHED DWELLINGS TOGETHER WITH ASSOCIATED WORKS

**It was resolved** that The Parish Council has no observations to make on this planning application but is aware of objections from some neighbouring residents

### (b) **APP. NO: 21/00283/FUL**

CASE OFFICER: Andrew Hunt

APPLICANT: United Utilities Water Limited

LOCATION: Pex Hill Country Park Pex Hill Cronton

PROPOSAL: ERECTION OF SECURITY FENCE AROUND BOOSTER STATION

**It was resolved** that the following observations on this planning application be submitted:

- (1) Regarding the colour of the fence, we feel that black is inappropriate for this location and would suggest a more natural colour for example green which would blend in better with the surrounding of the country park.

- (2) To improve the appearance of the area, appropriate hedgerows along the fence on the west side of the site should be considered.

(c) **APP. NO. 21/00360/OUT**

LOCATION: Holly Farm, Chapel Lane, Cronton

PROPOSAL: OUTLINE APPLICATION FOR THE ERECTION OF 4 NO. SEMI-DETACHED DWELLINGS TOGETHER WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW VEHICULAR ACCESS OFF CHAPEL LANE (ACCESS AND LAYOUT BE CONSIDERED ALL OTHER MATTERS RESERVED FOR FUTURE APPROVAL)

Reasons given in the Supporting Planning Statement had been considered by the Parish Council. **It was resolved that** the proposal is an inappropriate development in the green belt. The Council **objects** to the resubmission of the outline planning application (APP. NO. 19/00596/OUT) and the reasons for objection submitted in respect of APP. NO: 19/00596/OUT still remain valid as given below:

Cronton Parish Council **objects** to this application (APP. NO. 19/00596/OUT) for the following reasons:

1. The applicant acknowledges that the proposed development is within the green belt and is making the application on the basis of special circumstances which are :

(a) The site should be considered as previously developed land.

- The Parish Council does not accept this as the proposal relates to 0.13Ha of land forming part of the residential garden on which was not occupied by a previous permanent structure or any associated fixed surface infrastructure.

(b) The application should be considered as limited infill.

- The proposal goes beyond limited infill. The site borders a sports field on the Southern boundary and does not meet the criteria for infill as there is no gap between buildings to be filled. In this regard the Parish Council uses the Planning Inspector's decision in case DCS 400-019-367.

2. If granted there would be a failure to preserve the openness of the green belt.

## **8. HALTON DELIVERY AND ALLOCATION OF LOCAL PLAN – EXAMINATION HEARINGS**

Councillor D Thomas attended the Examination Hearings for Parcels W4 and W5 down Sandy Lane on 11 May 2021, and presented a report for Council's consideration. It was disappointed that Knowsley Council was not represented at the Hearings. After discussion, it was agreed for Councillor D Thomas to send the report to the Ward Councillors and to liaise with them to stop Halton's new housing development located at the parish border in Sandy Lane.

## **9. VILLAGE AND COMMUNITY ISSUES**

- (a) **Update on village community matters** – A list of update had been circulated to members.
- (b) **Modification at the crossing near Cronton Chippy for wheelchair users** – V Dooley had concern over the revised plan from Richard Thorpe of Knowsley Council. Councillor R Hayes would follow-up the matter.

## **10. CRONTON NEWSLETTER**

Suggested topics for the next issue:

- Task updates
- Cycleway

**The meeting closed at 9.04pm**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date 5 July 2021