

# CRONTON PARISH COUNCIL

## COUNCIL MEETING



Minutes of the **COUNCIL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL** held on **31 July 2023** at 7.00 pm at the Parish Council Office, 7 Hampton Drive, Cronton.

**Present:** Councillors, R Hayes (Chairman), W Cook, J Foran, D Thomas, R Fielding and V Dooley

**In attendance:** Clerk K Newton  
Ward Cllr's – T Byron, D Allen  
5 Residents

### **43. APOLOGIES**

Cllr's. G McGann and L Terry sent apologies due to Holidays, this was **APPROVED**

### **44. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

### **45. MINUTES**

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26/06/2023 as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

It was **MOVED** by Cllr. W Cook, **SECONDED** by Cllr. V Dooley and all **AGREED**

### **46. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**Cronton Resident 1** – Discussed the Parking on Kerb's around Cronton Village. They have spoken to the schools and have had a report back from the Chief Commissioner of Police in Liverpool after writing to her and Michael Gove (MP). They are awaiting an email with regards to 3 attempts they will make regarding the parking on Kerb's, as soon as she receives it, she will forward it to the Council. A sergeant in the past said they could make it residential parking only but this was refused by Cronton Parish Council. They spoke about Safety concerns around children stepping onto the roads when there are speeding cars in the area and feels that KMBC and Cronton Parish Council are letting the village down with this issue.

They are working with KMBC with regards CO2 Omissions and fumes from cars coming into the village twice a day to pick children up from school. They will be meeting with someone to get records of the this in the near future. They asked what attempts the Council were taking at present with regards this danger to children.

The catchment area is quite wide from Halton, parts of Knowsley, Rainhill area plus other areas. The feeling from the resident was that Children from the Cronton area would miss out on future intakes at the Cronton Schools being overcrowded from elsewhere.

**Julia Pullan** – Replied – Anything that is seen on social media the home watch group put those people in touch with the relevant people to whom it should be reported to with regards to parking on pavements. Each individual car can be reported to the police with a picture.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JP' or similar initials.

**Cllr. D Thomas** commented that the issue has arisen and things are put in place, the police previously advised to put notes on windscreens, he feels this has never actually taken off and asked if we still had some leaflets to which the Cllr Hayes replied that the council do still have some leaflets. The council were not given permission to use these at the time they were passed to the council

**Cllr R Hayes** commented she thinks we were given permission but feels that support is needed from KMBC and the Police and feels the comment about Cronton Parish Council not supporting this is a bit unfair. She has written to Keith Moyles numerous times and has had no reply he is the KMBC contact for parking. Whilst she was away on holiday, she received a reply from him saying that he would get someone down before the schools closed for the summer. This was too late to action before they did close but she will follow this up with him. Cllr Hayes requested that they Cronton resident copy the Council into her emails so that they too can keep on top of the requests and replies.

**Cllr Foran** commented about the parking at the Dandelion public house and how people were going on to a main road to get passed parked vehicles on Pavements.

**Julia Pullan** commented about people putting leaflets on cars and owners of cars getting aggressive and you putting yourself at risk.

**Cllr Fielding** commented about the schools getting complaints regular and people asking for the wardens to attend. The schools do ask that parents not to park on pavements and yellow lines. She commented about parents who are quite local driving to school instead of walking, it would be a lot less stressful trying to find parking spaces. She has also seen to wardens sometimes just leaning on the fence not really doing much, when people are asked to move, they will say to the warden I won't be a minute and the Wardens don't act at that point.

**Cllr Cook** commented he felt that people were making a bigger issue about this than it needs to be as its only for approximately 30 minutes twice a day.

**Cllr Dooley** commented about the wardens including areas around the schools as his access is sometimes difficult with the school parking and when he asked them to go near his home, they commented that they were told to patrol outside the school only.

**Julia Pullan** – Home watch Update – On the 19<sup>th</sup> July Cllr Hayes chaired the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pex Hill ASB meeting, the consensus was that the interventions that had been put into place had reduced incidents. The police will continue their patrols over the summer holidays. The Safer Knowsley Streets team have been interacting with children in the area mainly on and Friday evening and mainly fire officers. When it was raining one week there wasn't as many children out but they had approached a gang of children a week later on Cronton Road which they diverted them away from Pex Hill. They had pointed out the risk to sitting on the edge of the quarry.

**Cllr Hayes** reported that a resident had given her some concise information around timings that children were congregating in the area, which she will relay back to the police.

**Julia Pullan** - was invited to the Knowsley Community Advisory group on the 26<sup>th</sup> July 23 which she attended via Zoom; the invitation was from Merseyside Police. She has given them details for the Parish Council so that they will be able to attend the next meeting. They gave reports on Hub 1 & Hub 2 in Knowsley, ASB reduction, Dog Bite prevention and Child Exploitation. Julia has asked the question around joint working with Cheshire Police and Merseyside Police. The police are telling the Ward Councillors of when they will be in Cronton and Cllr Hayes asked that the information is passed down to Cronton Councillors. They can do prevention events around ASB at the schools. Julia agreed to host a meeting at Cronton, Cllr Dooley will sort out the WI-FI for this event. The next meeting will probably be around October 2023.



Cllr Hayes thanked the residents for their comments and will follow up with Keith Moyles with regards to the parking. She will contact Emily Spurrell to find out the contact for Cheshire Police.

Cllr R Fielding commented that it may be John Dwyer Chief Commissioner of Cheshire Police.

#### **47. WARD COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Cllr T Byron - The Taylor Wimpey planning application was raised at Whiston Town Council they opposed the application. He will also follow up on the pavement parking with Keith Moyles.

Cllr D Allen – Will follow up the 360 speed Camera for Tue Lane.

#### **48. COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

(a) Policing in Cronton – Nothing to report

(b) Transportation in Cronton – Cllr V Dooley - reported that there is a public consultation on the bus route in Knowsley but Cronton isn't mentioned. He will circulate the booklet. The Bus Stop outside the Dandelion is a Mersey Travel issue not a Knowsley Borough Council, Cllr G McGann has emailed them and is awaiting a response.

(c) Environment – Cllr R Fielding - Reports received about a dead tree leaning on other trees near the Brook in Hall Lane, Cllr Fielding had spoken to KMBC who came out to see who the tree belongs to, she had followed this up today and they are not sure who the land belongs to and don't feel that the tree is a danger to anyone. She asked about the brambles over hanging in Chapel Lane in front of the Unicorn to which she was told its private land so is down to the owners of that land.

Cllr J Foran – Had a meeting with KMBC about 2 road signs (Hampton Drive and Horton Croft) both have now been replaced. He has also met up with Paul Christopher who has taken pictures of overhanging trees and bushes, he will contact the residents and if no action is taken within 2 weeks, he will cut them down but the resident will be billed for it. Once this has been actioned, he will then be able to look at the pavements. He has also taken a photograph of the Unicorn car park overhanging bushes and will be doing the same. He has cut down from the Community Centre to Sandy Lane all the overhanging brambles. Cllr Foran thanked Paul Christopher and his team for the great job they had done and the quick response.

Cllr Hayes questioned the other half of the lane and asked if Cllr Foran could request that it was also cut back as people were being forced to walk on the road.

Georges Wood – Cllr D Thomas has written to the land owner and the Clerk had sent the letter Special Delivery but hadn't heard back as of yet. KMBC had telephoned the Clerk to say that they had sent someone out but apart from a couple of skips they couldn't see anything. Cllr Fielding knows the daughter of the land owner and will contact her direct as the land owner is quite elderly.

#### **49. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

There are no new planning applications

Feedback on previous applications – that were objected to were all accepted by KMBC Planning.

Taylor Wimpy – Cllr Thomas talked about the objection that had been forwarded to KMBC and HBC and all the hard work that had been put into this objection by the Halton and Cronton residents and council. 165 objections on the website and the paper ones were delivered approx. 250 to KMBC and HBC. He read from a document Michael Gove MP had written, and explained a land search that had been done on the development exit.



**Action:** Letter to be sent to Marie Rimmer, Derek Twigg MP's, Jo Sheridan and Alan Kilroe and copy the ward Cllrs into the email.

#### **50. BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Budgetary Control Report as at 05/07/2023 be received and approved.

#### **51. RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS**

It was **RESOLVED** that payments as listed be noted, approved and put up onto the website.

#### **52. BANK RECONCILIATION**

It was **RESOLVED** that the bank reconciliation be noted and approved.

#### **53. GRANT BUDGET 23/24**

There is a budget for the Grants of £500 that will require a virement to a different account but will be discussed at the Budget and Precept meeting later in the year and brought to the Full council for approval.

#### **54. COUNCIL REVIEW AND RISK ASSESSMENT**

Cllr D Thomas asked members if they had chance to read the Council Review document that he had circulated, it's a statement of the purpose of the council and if all agree then this can be put on the website, social media and post out with the newsletter. The risk assessment document is now ready for the clerk to read over and put things into place that have been missed or that are due.

It was **RESOLVED:** The documents are now finalised and can be published on the website social media and post out with the newsletter.

It was **MOVED** by Cllr. J Foran, **SECONDED** by Cllr. V Dooley and all **AGREED**

#### **55. ROYAL MAIL DELIVERY IN CRONTON**

Cllr R Hayes reported that conversations regarding the lack of postal deliveries in Cronton were seen on social media so asked Cllr McGann to follow this up.

Cllr V Dooley reported back in Cllr G McGann's absence, the staff at the post office has dropped from 80 to 62 which means there is a backlog on deliveries and if anyone is off sick or on leave then that round will be left until they return.

**Action:** Ask Cllr G McGann to write to the Post office on his return from holiday to get a formal response from them.

#### **56. TAYLOR WIMPY**

This was discussed earlier on the agenda under planning.



## **57. WEBSITE**

Cllr D Thomas reminded members that if they wanted anything putting on the website it needs to be in PDF format.

Cllr V Dooley requested to sit with Cllr D Thomas to go over how the website works.

## **58. ACTION LIST**

Cllr Hayes has been on holiday so will update the action list for the September 2023 meeting.

## **59. VILLAGE AND COMMUNITY MATTERS**

### **(a) Defibrillators**

Cllr R Hayes reported that we had borrowed defibrillator pads from Aidens defibrillator charity in Widnes and asked the clerk to chase up our delivery so that we could take some back to him. The office defibrillator is the only one working in Cronton

Cllr D Thomas asked about the training, the quotes will be brought back to September's meeting.

Cllr J Foran has asked at the shops and most are willing to take up the training.

### **(b) Pasture foot path**

Cllr Foran reported that he had been at the Pasture and half the pathway is tarmacked and the other is sand.

Cllr Hayes explained that this was always the case she to also had wondered how this would be in different weathers as it didn't seem to be drying. Philip Hirst had said it takes a while to dry but the rain helps it to set. The rubber that is further down is because it needs to be more durable on that part of the pathway. She has questioned James Towers about when the weather is frosty and icy and how slippery is it going to be. He's replied to say if it's a light frost then it should thaw quite quickly but if it heavy it would need to be salted. Cllr Hayes raised concerns about dogs being walked on the pathway when it's been salted. If more funding becomes available, they may replace the sand with the rubber surface. A few areas need to be discussed with Steve Jones at KMBC on his return.

Cllr Fielding has noticed mud running across the path in the last couple of weeks due to the heavy rain. She will pass the photo she has taken onto Cllr Hayes.

Cllr Hayes has phoned Rebecca Pennington over the play area but has not had her call returned.

Cllr Foran asked about painting the signs and new signs for the pasture. It was agreed for the council to have a think about the wording on the signs and what it needs to say then move forward with this.

### **(c) Bowling Green and Surrounding Area**

Cllr Fielding attended the Bowling Club meeting; they are looking at getting a committee together so that they can get funding. They have a query as to who owns the land that the Bowling Green is on, they believe a 3<sup>rd</sup> of it belongs to the diocese but there are 2/3 that they are unsure of who this belongs to. There is a Playground and Tennis courts that they



are wanting to take over as a development for the community. They need this information before they start developing this land. Cllr Fielding has suggested that the parish council write to the diocese to find out who it belongs to and to get a guarantee that a 3<sup>rd</sup> of the land that belongs to the diocese will welcome this new development. The Community centre have set them a 12-month deadline which they are already 3 months into trying to get the green fit for purpose. Cllr Fielding will draft a letter to the diocese and the parish Council are in full support of this development. It was agreed to put a flyer inside the newsletter for distribution.

**(d) Well Living Bus**

Cllr R Hayes has managed to get the well living bus to visit Cronton and will be parked outside the council office on the 9<sup>th</sup> August 2023 at 10am. It was agreed that a flyer would be put inside the newsletter for distribution and one in the Council Office.


**(e) Black Rock Fund**

Cllr Hayes commented that we should leave the account at the moment because there are also shares as well as cash and because of the interest rates and loosing funds if this was to be withdrawn at the moment. It was **AGREED** to add Cllr Hayes and Cllr Foran as trustees of the account.

**60. NEWSLETTER**

The Newsletter Summer 2023 has now been printed and will be distributed this week with all agreed statements and flyers.

The meeting closed at 9.02 pm.

Signed  Date 04/09/2023