

CRONTON PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING



Minutes of the **COUNCIL MEETING** held on **25 JULY 2022** at 7.00 pm at the Parish Council Office, 7 Hampton Drive, Cronton.

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

In attendance: Emily Spurrell (Merseyside Police & Crime Commissioner)
Mike Berry (PCC Hate Crime Lead and covering Knowsley & St Helens)
Insp Mark Berry (Merseyside Police – Knowsley)
Sgt Pete Martland (Merseyside Police – Knowsley)
Ward Councillor T Byron (Whiston and Cronton)
Ward Councillor Ron Gaffney (Whiston and Cronton)
Vitti Osborne (The Clerk)
V Dooley (Chair, Cronton Gala)
6 Residents

55. APOLOGIES

All members were present.

56. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A declaration of interest was received from Councillor L Terry in respect of agenda item 9 (planning application no. 22/0357/FUL).

57. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20/6/22 as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

58. COMMITTEE MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the unconfirmed minutes of the General Purposes and Environment Committee meeting held on 11/7/22 be noted.

59. CLERK'S RETIREMENT

The Chairman thanked the Clerk Mrs V Osborne for her dedicated, professional and high standard of service for the Council and community during her 25 years of service. She received a good round of applause.

60. POLICING

The Chairman welcomed Emily Spurrell (Merseyside Police and Crime Commissioner), Mike Berry (PCC Hate Crime Lead and covering Knowsley & St Helens), and Insp Mark Berry and Sgt Pete Martland of Merseyside Police – Knowsley to the meeting to discuss policing matters in Cronton.

The Commissioner gave a brief of her duties and responsibilities. The followings were discussed:

- Better co-operation between Merseyside and Cheshire Police Forces to deal with large numbers of youths being dispersed from the neighbouring Borough of Halton by Cheshire Police because of their anti-social behaviour at Upton Rock, Halton. Due to the location of

Cronton on the extremity of both Knowsley's border and Merseyside Police jurisdiction getting a response at peak times could be difficult, while the Cheshire Police was only a mile away from Cronton. The Commissioner would raise this issue with the PCC of Cheshire Police.

- Cronton had a Widnes Cheshire address, a WA8 postcode and a Widnes telephone landline number so 101 calls from a landline in Cronton would be transferred to Cheshire Police. This had created considerable confusion over the years when reporting incidents and emergencies. Insp Berry would look into this matter.

The following policing issues were also raised:

- Intimating cases on the Pasture at night reported via Police Facebook. Information collected would be used to form policing policies.
- Optimizing patrol time in Cronton by joint Forces.

Issues raised by members of the public:

- Drug incidents on the Pasture – Knowsley Police would step up patrol by PCSO.
- Pavement parking throughout the village was a concern. Warning notice was useful
- Vehicle parked on the pavement outside the newsagent obstructing access for the disabled. A passing by Police vehicle took no action.
- Parking on double yellow lines needed to be monitored.

The Chairman thanked the Commissioner and the Officers for attending the meeting and hope Cronton would get a fair share of attention from all the emergency services as other parts of the Borough.

61. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Covered in agenda item 5.

62. WARD COUNCILLOR REPORTS

- The new exit of the Holy Family car park in Hall Lane now opened for use after a long delay.
- More information on the £150,000 drainage scheme on Cronton Road would be provided.
- Parking on double yellow lines needed enforcement. It was commented that illegal parking happened all the time not just the school hours. Traffic wardens were requested to attend for the first week when the schools were reopened.

63. COUNCILLORS REPORTS

- (a) Policing – Covered.
- (b) Transportation in Cronton – No report.
- (c) Environment – The new exit of the Holy Family car park in Hall Lane opened for traffic.

64. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

APP. NO: 22/00357/FUL

LOCATION: 8 Iver Close Cronton Knowsley

PROPOSAL: ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION

It was RESOLVED that the Council has no observations to make on the planning application but would request that comments from residents be considered by the Planning Office.

65. BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT

It was RESOLVED that the Budgetary Control Report as at 25/7/22 shown in Appendix A be received and approved.

66. RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

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

67. BANK RECONCILIATION

It was **RESOLVED** that the bank reconciliation as at 30/6/22 be approved and accepted.

68. CLERK'S VACANCY

It was **RESOLVED** to approve advertising the Clerk vacancy on Knowsley Council jobs website at a fee of £100 funded by the General Reserve.

69. CO-OPTION

Knowsley Council received no request to call an election. It was **RESOLVED** that the casual vacancy be filled by co-option. A co-option notice would be displayed.

70. ST HELENS LOCAL PLAN ADOPTION NOTICE

It was **RESOLVED** that St Helens Local Plan Adoption notice be noted.

71. THE PASTURE MASTER PLAN – VIRIDOR CREDITS GRANT

- (a) The Cronton Pasture Access Improvement Project had successfully obtain a grant of £50,000 from Viridor Credits subject to paying a Third Party Contribution of £5,000 by the Parish Council. A meeting had been held with Philip Hurst of Knowsley Council attended by Councillors D Rostance and R Hayes, and the Clerk to consider the Third Party Contribution required by the Grant.
- (b) **The Pasture was an important community asset of the Parish. Improving access to the field was top priority. The project included upgrading some facilities on the Pasture. It was considered worth giving a contribution of £5,000 to secure the grant. After careful consideration, it was RESOLVED by a majority vote that a Third Party Contribution of £3,500 from General Reserve be given by the Parish Council. Councillor W Cook, the sole Trustee of the T Windle Charity Trust AGREED to donate £1,500 to the Third Party Contribution making a total of £5,000.**

72. VILLAGE AND COMMUNITY MATTERS

- (a) Homewatch/Neighbourhood Watch update – Vetting of participants took time. Councillor R Hayes reported on the progress of the scheme and she continued to co-ordinate the scheme and to recruit more people.
- (b) ASB in Cronton – It was on the increase.
- (c) Poppy wreaths in Coronation Gardens – Councillor D Rostance undertook to remove them.

73. CRONTON NEWSLETTER

The summer newsletter would be ready by the end of August.

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

Signed _____ Date 5 September 2022