

CROWTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Crowton Parish Council meeting held on
Tuesday 10th March 2026 at Crowton Village Hall

2025-6

Meeting started 7.pm

	<p>Present: Cllr Ralph Oultram, (Chairman) Cllr Richard Thorne (Vice Chair), (RT) Cllr Sue Dolley (SD), Cllr Kathryn Brennan (KB) Cllr Bob Stubbs (BS), Cllr Joel Rutter (JR), Cllr Mark Dickinson (MH)</p> <p>In Attendance: Clerk - T Whitlow (TW),</p>	
25/150	<p>Apologies for Absence were received & accepted from: Ward Councillor Gillian Edwards & Lynn Stocks</p>	
25/151	<p>Declarations of Members' Interests: None.</p>	
25/152	<p>Public Participation: None present</p>	
25/153	<p>Approval of the last Minutes: The minutes of the last Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 10th February 2026 were approved & signed by the Chair, with one amendment.</p>	
25/154	<p>PCSO Update: PCSO not present. He is holding an open session at Norley Village Hall on 14th April.</p>	
25/155	<p>Ward Councillor reports: Nothing to report</p>	
25/156	<p>Matters Arising – from previous minutes (if not an agenda item) Village Hall meeting with Strutt & Parker Parish councillors and Village Trustees attended a meeting with a Strutt & Parker representative, Michael Watney, where previous promises of the Village Hall extension & refurbishment were discussed. Apparently Strutt & Parker did not have any information on file. TW checked archived minutes and the planning application. Evidence of the commitment from the Wilbraham family was sent to Strutt & Parker, who have since responded that, once planning permission has been granted and the land sold, they will stand by their original commitment of extending and refurbishment of the VH and to make the VH freehold not lease hold. New website is now live www.crowton-pc.gov.uk New email addresses are being implemented by the councillors.</p>	
25/157	<p>Accounts/Financial:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Receipt & Payments to meeting date: Reviewed and approved. See appendix 1 2. Bank Reconciliation Bank reconciliation as at 28.02.26 reviewed and approved. 3. Cash book at 28.02.26 reviewed and approved. 	
25/158	<p>Clerks Report: (unless an agenda item) Planning, as Highways have already done, are asking councils now to contact them via a portal and not direct. In principle this is fine, but as this week has shown, the portal has</p>	

	taken seven days for a response, whereas direct email contact took less than one day. TW to follow up with ward councillors.	
25/159	<p>Planning: New Applications since the last meeting: None</p> <p>LPA Decisions & appeals notified since the last meeting: Enforcement Notice 21/00596/EOPDEV -Quarry Brook Farm, Mill Lane – Removal of vehicles, cease residential use, removal of wooden lodge, removal of static & touring caravans. Reinstate land.</p> <p>Enforcement notice 25/00028/EOPDEV – land at Ainsworth Lane, Crowton -Remove all vehicles, remove 3 gateways and hardstanding, reduce fence & access gates to 1m.</p>	
25/160	<p>Highways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several potholes reported by the clerk have been repaired, although this only equates to 20% of those reported. • Mill Lane appears to be sinking where UU dug up the highway for work for the treatment works. TW to report. • Marsh Lane sign remains damaged. TW to report. 	<p>TW TW</p>
25/161	<p>Millenium Green:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Volunteers: Volunteers will be back on April 14th & May 19th. 2. Path drainage – Contractor will carry out the required work for the drainage at a cost of £1K. TW to contact contractor to complete the work. 3. Brook – needs further reinforcing. Volunteers to action 4. Plaque: RT to liaise with MOP regarding the plaque. 	<p>TW</p> <p>TW RT</p>
25/162	<p>Asset Maintenance & Register:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Village Signage, Phone Box – Onston Lane &War Memorial Fence: Work in progress, weather permitting. 2. Memorial Bench – TW has requested a full drawing of the proposed new bench. 3. Further plaque for the War Memorial area. Wording for the plaque discussed with BS. TW to order at a cost of £60.00 	
25/163	<p>Co-Option: No further enquiries received.</p>	
25/164	<p>Community Resilience Group: More information received from JCEP to be actioned. Almost ready to sign off by the council</p>	TW
25/165	<p>Defibrillators: TW has not managed to have a full discussion with MOP. Will continue to follow this up. To order defib if discussions are positive.</p>	TW
25/166	<p>Items for next agenda: Defibs. Memorial Bench, plaque. Notice board. Year-end Finance</p>	
25/167	<p>Date of next meeting: Tuesday 14th April 2026 at Crowton Village Hall.</p>	

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

Signed:

Dated:

Appendix 1

<u>Income Received</u>			
	Field rent	Q1 2026-27	£335.00
	Members Budget	Memorial bench	£1,550.00
			<u>£1,885.00</u>
<u>Payments ratified/for approval</u>			
R	Village hall	Hire March -Nov	£105.00
R	T Whitlow	Expenses Nov-Dec	£82.05
R	JKE Web Design	New website	£405.00
R	Netnerd	Domain name	£24.00
R	Linux	Hosting	£71.86
A	W Clarke	Maintenance	£500.00
A	Dobers Farm	Christmas Tree	£232.01
A	MOP	Tree lighting costs	£50.00
A	T Whitlow	Expenses Jan -Feb	£82.05
A	Village hall	Hire Jan-March	£45.00
			<u>£1,596.97</u>

Appendix 2

<u>BANK RECONCILIATION</u>	
Barclays Current Account	£872.32
Barclays Premium Account	<u>£19,102.09</u>
Total	<u>£19,974.41</u>
<u>CASH BOOK RECONCILIATION</u>	
B/F Barclays Current	£910.66
B/F Barclays Premium	<u>£13,104.37</u>
Total B/F 01.04.25	<u>£14,015.03</u>
Receipts to date	£16,451.17
Expenditure to date	<u>£10,491.79</u>
Balance	<u>£19,974.41</u>