Meeting of Cropthorne Parish Council held on Monday 1st November 2010 in the Village School 7:30pm.

1. APOLOGIES

Present were Chair A Hughes

V/chair R Annis

Cllr J Segar WDC Cllr T McDonald
Cllr T Meikle Parishioners - 5
Cllr J Meredith Clerk R J Coles

Apologies were received from Cllrs King, West and WCC Cllr Eyre.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Segar – Personal interest as a member of Village Hall Committee and Sheppey Play Project Committee.

Cllr Meikle – Personal interest Sheppey Play Project Committee.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

V/chair Annis proposed, seconded by Cllr Meredith, and the meeting agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 4th October 2010 be accepted and signed by Chair.

4. FLOODING - JULY 2007 - AFTERMATH

- a) WDC grant of £1.000 is still being considered.
- b) Slow progress continues with parties at Patty's Lane corner with regards to flood alleviation grant of £2500 from WDC. The planning application continues to be delayed and the grant is unlikely to be available after WDC year end 31/03/11 and this urgency will be passed on again.
- 5. **POLICING –** contact is PC Stuart Toms (08457 444888/03003 333000)

Issues regarding Sheppey match day parking, inconsiderate driving by known youngsters and motor cycle noise are being investigated.

6. CHARITIES

Cllr West is in contact with Cllr Meredith with regards to ensuring charity availability is accessible through the Parish website.

7. VILLAGE HALL - including Sheppey Play Project

It was noted that the Five Alive carried a flyer announcing the reopening of the Village Hall on 15th January 2011. The meeting registered that there were issues from parishioners' with regards to the colour of the new play equipment requiring further consideration including suitable screening. Chair Hughes indicated that the Parish Council would monitor this matter throughout the project in order to ensure a satisfactory outcome and he understood the Village Hall had agreed to screening vegetation.

It was agreed to discuss Sheppey Play Project grants, funding etc. under finance below.

The meeting closed to allow parishioners present to address councillors.

8. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S / DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

WDC Cllr McDonald told the meeting that they working hard at meeting the Spending Review requests from the new Coalition Government with a multiyear balanced budget. The latest request required 7.1% per annum reduction with the likelihood of it being front end weight thus requiring c£2.4million next year of which c£1.85million had been identified to date. Residents had indicated that street cleaning, litter, flooding and safety should be spared. Arts development, CCTV (already done) and village events could be scaled back. The district council element of the council tax will be held at 0% after many years of 2.5% with the government paying the difference. Staff numbers had already fallen from over 300 to just above 200. Droitwich canal loop should be open next April, 5 energy devices were available for residents to borrow and the youth bus was now up and running (Rob Mace 0777 303 1205).

WCC Cllr Eyre has submitted a report for the circulation pack, again much work is being carried out on the Spending Review which has been heavily publicised in the local press. WCC are setting up a fund of £25,000 to protect residents who want to clear snow sensibly around their properties from the fear of being sued. A review of the planning system turning central targets which alienate people into locally driven plans is underway.

- 9. MATTERS ARISING none
- 10. SOCIAL HOUSING none
- 11. LENGTHSMAN none
- 12. PARISH PLAN priority continues with Sheppey Play Project above.
- 13. PLANNING
 - a) W/10/02157/PN Mr S Martin, Partridges, Lower Haselor, Pershore Rd Portal Frame Agricultural Storage Barn A no objection response has been filed and a decision is awaited.
 - b) W/10/02207/PN Mr M Coe, Wisteria House, 13 Queens Road, Evesham re The Autonomous House, Middle Lane Variation of condition 3 of planning permission W/08/01031/PN to allow erection of photo voltaic panels in configuration shown on accompanying plans A no objection response was filed and permission has been granted.
 - c) W/10/02406/PP Mrs J Haynes, 2 Court Cottage, Neigh Lane New 1500 litre oil fuel tank located above ground to front of property The circulation pack has been returned with no objections.
 - d) W/10/02551/CU Mr D McLeod, The Orchards, Smokey Lane Change of use to equine, formation of riding ménage, personal use only, no drainage or building required. - WDC reply required within 21 days of 28/10/10 (i.e. 18/11/10)

14. FINANCE/PRECEPTING

- a) Cllr Meredith proposed, seconded by V/chair Annis, and the meeting agreed that the Bank/Balance Schedule for 01/11/10 be accepted and signed by Chair.
- b) Payments approved from above £
- 540 15 Clerk sal, all oct 149.84
- c) The meeting consider precepting for 2011/12 and the Finance Group will meet to review before the next meeting.
- d) Sheppey Play Project Extensive discussions regarding an offer to the Parish Council from the EU (&HMG) LEADER match funding grant of fund of £50k (65% match funded rate, £25k in 2010/11 & a possible further £25k in 2011/12) took place. It was proposed by V/chair Annis, seconded by Cllr Meredith, and the meeting agreed that any expense and application under the EU match-funding would be kept within monies specifically identified and already raised for the Sheppey Play Project in order to protect all other Parish Council funds. (see below). It was proposed by V/chair Annis, seconded by Chair Hughes, and the meeting agreed to accept the offer and hence terms and conditions of the LEADER grant subject to the above financial constraints.

Grants received to date = £24841 (Public Health £6341, Safe & Sound £15000, Floss £2500, MTP £1000).

Spent to date prior to the EU match-funding = £6983 (goods £5943 plus VAT £1040 yet to be recovered).

Current remainder is £17858 (which is qualifying spend for EU match-funding of £15198, plus VAT at 17.5% £2660 to be recovered).

Hence 2010/11 EU match-funding would be at 65% = £9879.

WDC Rural Play Initiative Grant awarded of £10000 – clerk to request payment. Of this the qualifying spend is £8511 plus VAT at 17.5% £1489 to be recovered Hence 2010/11 EU match-funding would be at 65% = £5532

Therefore assuming WDC agree to early release of £10k there is potentially £23709 (15198+8511) pre VAT at 17.5% available to spend which will result in a EU match-funding of £15411 (9897+5532) plus VAT refunds of £5189 (1040+2660+1489) giving a total of £20600 (15411+5189) to be carry forward into a similar exercise for 2011/12.

2010/18

15. WEBSITE

Cllr Meredith noted that the BT Infinity campaign link had been added and he would progress the charities link mentioned above. John Cooper, manager of the walkabout website, is moving but has indicated that he is happy to continue to managing it.

- 16. CORRESPONDENCE none
- 17. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION none
- 18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING(s)

The next Meeting of Cropthorne Parish Council is on Monday 6th 2010 7:30pm at the Village School. Any items for inclusion on the agenda and proposed corrections to the minutes must be with the Clerk by Sunday 28th November 2010.

Chair closed the meeting at 09:10pm.	
Signed(Chair)	Date