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Meeting of Crophorne Parish Council held on Monday 2nd March 2009 in the Village School 7:30pm.

1. APOLOGIES

Present were	Chair Whittington	WDC Cllr T McDonald
	V/chair Annis	
	Cllr T Meikle	Parishioners - 1
	Cllr M West	Clerk R J Coles
	Cllr J Meredith	
	Cllr J King	
	Cllr A Hughes	

Apologies were received WCC Cllr Eyre.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - none

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Whittington proposed, seconded by V/chair Annis, and the meeting agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 2nd February 2009 be accepted and signed by chair.

4. FLOODING – JULY 2007 – AFTERMATH

- a) WDC grants of £1,050 are still being considered covering about three potential possibilities.
- b) It was noted via WDC Cllr McDonald that a further £5000 per parish was being made available in order to help initiate flooding schemes if required. After discussions indicating difficulties in how this new grant could be used it was agreed that Cllr Meikle would contact Steve Jorden of WDC to explore and clarify the situation.

5. POLICING – nothing

6. CHARITIES - nothing

7. VILLAGE HALL – Cllr King indicated that early estimates for repairing the old swings of £500 were now more likely to be £1500. The Village Hall is contacting everybody in the two villages to see the likely support and demand for such a considerable sum.

The meeting continued, as there was no request to address the council.

8. MATTERS ARISING

- a) WDC 2009 litter pick up – Following the cancellation of this grant for 2009 the item was dropped.
- b) Clerk's Contract – (Clerk left the meeting for the discussion) V/chair Annis will update the clerk on progress.
- c) Parish Newsletter prior to Annual Parish Meeting – The meeting expressed its thanks to Cllr Hughes for all his efforts in collating and editing the newsletter. It was proposed by Cllr Meikle, seconded by Cllr King, that the Chair's Review of 2009 be rewritten. Cllr Hughes proposed, seconded by Cllr Meredith, and agreed by the meeting that the article be called 'review of 2009 and personal views of the chair'. The original proposal of withdrawing the article as written was placed before council again and was defeated. Cllr Hughes will provide the clerk with a 6/8-page pdf document for double sided printing of about 300 copies for all councillors to deliver up to 50 each.

9. AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Following the Parish Council/WDC walkabout, 14 sites have been indicated for initial study although one of them is already actively being pursued by a housing association as the most likely to date. It was agreed to invite Mr Potter (Rural Enabler Comm 1st), Kate Stephenson (Affordable Housing WDC) and Jonathan Edwards (Planning Officer WDC) to the Annual Parish Meeting as the most likely useful sources of information to help any debate on the subject.

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10. **LENGTHSMAN** – the clerk indicated that two inspections had taken place in February with no specific items to note apart from the general state of all surfaces due to frost damage.

11. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S / DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS**

WCC Cllr Eyre reported (via the clerk) that the new budget covered Adult & Community £142m, Children's Services £86m, Environmental Services/Trading Standards/Waste £26m, Integrated Transport £34m, Corporate Services £5m, Planning/Economy/Performance £4.5m and Financial Services £0.8m for a net total of approximately £300m requiring use of reserves of £2.9m. Council tax for WCC will rise by 2.94%. An extra £5m (estate footways £2.5m, rural footways £0.5m and floodwork £2m) is going into footways and flooding schemes. It was noted that 'social services in its broadest context' represented nearly 80% of the total.

WDC Cllr McDonald noted that his March Round-up had been delivered to all parishioners.

12. **PARISH PLAN** – Cllr Meikle report that the electronic copy of the Pplan was being prepared for adding to the village website.

13. **PLANNING**

- a) **W/09/00083/LB & W/09/00073/PP – Mr M Robinson, Brook Farm Cottage, Brook Lane Reconstruction of existing roof structure, leaning timber frame rear wall and first floor structure.** – A no objection response had been filed and a decision is awaited.

The clerk's invite to VVASP re Wind Farm to attend the meeting was acknowledged but no further response was forthcoming. WDC Cllr McDonald indicated that it was early days in the widespread response taking place.

14. **FINANCE/PRECEPTING**

- a) Cllr Whittington proposed, seconded by Cllr Meikle, and agreed by the meeting that the Bank/Balance Schedules for 02/03/09 be accepted together with the best year-end information available to date for signature by chair.

- b) Payments approved from above

			£
498	31	Clerk Sal/Int/All/ Feb/Mar	287.68
499	32	Lengthsman Feb/Mar	84.00

15. **CORRESPONDENCE**

2nd February 2009

1	Communities	Communities in Control: Real people, real power
2	whub	empty gritting bin middle lane
3	Police	local report
4	WCC	Millbank closure est 16/02/09
5	C&C	Direct magazine – jan 09
6	C&C	2009 suppliers guide and yearbook
7	WCC	Children and young people's strategic partnership
8	TMcD	District cllr report 05/01/09
9	SWJCS	Preferref options to pre-submission
10	whub	dangerous footway into lower croft (re lengthsman)
11	whub	pot hole middle lane (re lengthsman)
12	WMPAS	Winter 2008/09

16. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION**

- a) Crothorne Parish Council web site strategy was discussed in detail and it was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded by Chair Whittington, and agreed by the meeting that the Parish Council would continue financial support for the existing web site (www.crothorne.org.uk owned and operated by Chris Hall) and low cost improvements as being the umbrella for the whole of the village in general with each organisation being invited to participate either directly or through suitable web links.

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17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Cropthorne Annual Parish Meeting is on Monday 6th April 2009 7:30pm at the Village Hall. Any items for inclusion on the agenda and proposed corrections to the minutes must be with the Clerk by Sunday 29th March 2009.

The next Annual Meeting of Cropthorne Parish Council is on Monday 11th May 2009 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 3rd May 2009.

Meeting chair closed the meeting at 09:45pm.

Signed(Chair)

Date