

2010/08

**Meeting of Cropthorne Parish Council held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009 in the Village School 7:30pm.**

**0. APOLOGIES**

Present were	Chair Hughes (1-7)	WDC Cllr T McDonald
	V/chair Annis (8-17)	
	Cllr J King	Parishioners - 0
	Cllr M West	Clerk R J Coles
	Cllr J Meredith	
	Cllr J Segar (see 1 below)	

Apologies were received from WCC Cllr Eyre and Cllr T Meikle.

**1. CO-OPTION OF A NEW COUNCILLOR**

Chair Hughes proposed, seconded by V/chair Annis, and the meeting agreed to the co-option of Jane Hannah Segar of The Sling, Middle Lane who duly signed the declaration and joined the rest of the meeting.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr King – Personal and prejudicial interest as Chair of Village Hall Committee.  
Cllr West – Personal and prejudicial interest in W/09/01371/PP.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

V/chair Annis proposed, seconded by Cllr King, and the meeting agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009 be accepted and signed by V/chair.

**4. FLOODING – JULY 2007 – AFTERMATH**

- a) WDC grant of £1,000 is still being considered covering about three potential possibilities. The clerk was asked to contact WCC Cllr Eyre and David Lavender on progress.
- b) The latest Cropthorne Flood Plans from WDC have been circulated to councillors.
- c) WDC have accepted in principle Cllr Meikle's proposal for a grant of £2500 for alleviating floodwaters at Patty's Farm corner. It was agreed that Chair Hughes would approach the new owners in conjunction with Cllr Meikle.

**5. POLICING**

A vehicle theft from The Chantry, Fladbury and subsequent burning on Mill Bank, Fladbury together with a van stolen from Stroud had been reported. Concerns over telephone campaigns covering house alarm systems using misleading information have been circulated.

**6. CHARITIES**

"A group of 17 parishioners who are over 60 boarded a coach at Holland House and journeyed to Stratford-on Avon to the Butterfly Farm for this year's outing. After being delighted by the many large and small, wonderfully marked and coloured butterflies in a hot house, with ponds and tropical flowers, there were also spiders and beetles to see. The party returned to the village hall for a splendid tea prepared by committee and friends of the Widow Lye Trust. Many thanks are due to all who contributed to a wonderful afternoon" – Cllr M West

**7. VILLAGE HALL**

Cllr King reported that two senior football teams would be playing next season, the pitch having survived the walkabout activity well. It is still intended to refurbish the old swings and investigations are underway for wide age related activities to be supported at the Sheppey. Grants are being sought to cover the current £53k shortfall in the total refurbishment project with tendering expected to start when this shortfall is halved. A

200 Club, Barn Dance (5<sup>th</sup> Sept), Xmas raffle and December Quiz Night are all planned.

Chair had sought advice from Brian Browne, chair of local standards committee and Charlton PC, with regards to declarations of interest of councillors on both the Parish Council and the Village Hall Management Committee. This is a common problem. The test of what might constitute a conflict of interest is how a member of the public would view the actions of the councillor. The councillor must always be clear to themselves and to others which 'hat' they were wearing – meaning in whose interests they were acting. Thus a CPC member at a CPC meeting must always be representing the interests of parishioners, not the village hall, in this case.

In practice this means that someone who is both a councillor on the parish council and a trustee of the village hall must declare a personal interest at CPC meetings and must not vote on village hall matters. It was advised that a councillor who was also chair of the village hall trustees was clearly in a more difficult position in this regard and should declare a 'prejudicial interest' at CPC meetings and not vote. The situation must always be made clear during any discussions.

**The meeting continued, as there were no parishioners present.**

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

WDC Cllr McDonald noted that a meeting was due in August at the Heath works regarding all the recent development activities following a search of the records, a site visit and investigation of aerial photographs. Swine flu planning continues apace within WDC and the NHS. In general WDC area came out well with regards to health and happiness statistics compared to the nation as a whole. Safety and resident satisfaction indicators were positive.

#### **9. MATTERS ARISING**

- a) Clerk's Contract – V/chair Annis reported that a new contract covering holidays within existing hours and a revised allowance had been agreed with the clerk.
- b) Baldwin's Bank – Severn Trent lawyers had recommended that they continue to register this parcel of land due to reasoning for its disposal in the 1930's to Pershore Rural District Council and no overriding claim from the Parish Council. Severn Trent will be inspecting the land and may approach the Parish Council in due course.

#### **10. SOCIAL HOUSING**

The clerk was asked to report when WDC had received comments on all the parcels of land identified hopefully in time for the next meeting.

#### **11. LENGTHSMAN**

The clerk was asked to look at the hedge between the bus shelter and the Sheppey entrance to see if this is County Highways or Landowner's responsibility.

#### **12. PARISH PLAN** – Action list attached will be considered at the next meeting.

#### **13. PLANNING**

- a) **W/09/00849/PP** – **Mr Carver, Silver Rill House, Overbury, Tewkesbury for Southern Court, Main St – Provide two car garage extension and a detached two car garage** – A no objection response was filed and permission has been granted.
- b) **W/09/01324/PN** – **Mr T Deacon, Willow Bank, Main Rd – Install a field gate and access from B4084** – An objection has been raised to see if restricting any new entrance to agricultural use only could be applied and a decision is awaited.
- c) **W/09/01371/PP** – **Mrs West, Torview, Middle Lane – Extension of existing porch** – The pack has been returned with no objections and the clerk will file a response with WDC. WDC reply required within 21 days from 18/06/09 (i.e. 09/07/09)

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**14. FINANCE/PRECEPTING**

a) Cllr Meredith proposed, seconded by Cllr King, and the meeting agreed to approve the Bank/Balance Schedule for 06/07/09 for signature by V/chair.

b) Payment approved from above

507	8	Clerk Sal,All,Exp Jun	£ 145.08
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**15. WEBSITE** – Cllr Meredith requested this item be carried forward.

**16. CORRESPONDENCE**

**26<sup>th</sup> May 2009**

1	Eq & Hum Rights	Public Sector Equality Duties
2	Vhall	AGM Agenda, 15/04/08 minutes, finance
3	Queensbury	Shelters
4	WDC	Flood Scheme application re Cllr Meikle
5	Whub	B4084 drain covers re v/chair Annis
6	WDC	Temporary site problems Main Rd
7	WCC	Worcestershire Warden
8	C&C	Direct May 2009
9	WDC	Flood Action Plans – way forward
10	WCC	Environmental Services Information Bulletin April
11	WDC	Planning Enforcement training notes
12	Pershore Volunteer	V project
13	CAB	Donation circular
14	CALC	Minutes 04/03/08
15	WDC	Village facilities update
16	Sustainable	Rural communities seminar 26/06/09
17	WDC Cllr McDonald	Report for 11/05/09
18	PHS	Newsletter May
19	WM	Planning Aid Service AGM 24/06/09/newsletter
20	CPRE	Newsletter May – (nb membership dropped)
21	Comm 1 <sup>st</sup>	Grassroots Grants Programme
22	WDC – SHLAA	re WDC/developers land identification
23	WCC	Lengthsman invoicing information

**17. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION**

a) The Parish Council requested that its thanks to WCC for the repair of the ‘line of sight’ fence at Patty’s Farm corner be noted for the public record

**18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Meeting of Crophorne Parish Council is on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 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 30<sup>th</sup> August 2009.

Chair closed the meeting at 08:25pm.

**Signed .....**(Chair)

**Date .....**