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Meeting of Cropthorne Parish Council held on Monday 5th October 2009 in the Village School 7:30pm.

1. APOLOGIES

Present were	Chair Hughes	
	V/chair Annis	WCC Cllr E Eyre
	Cllr J King	Parishioners - 2
	Cllr J Segar	Clerk R J Coles
	Cllr J Meredith	

Apologies were received from Cllrs Meikle, West and WDC Cllr McDonald.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr King – Personal and prejudicial interest as Chair of Village Hall Committee.
Cllr Segar – Personal interest as member of Village Hall Committee.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

V/chair Annis proposed, seconded by Cllr Meredith, and the meeting agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 7th September 2009 be accepted and signed by Chair.

4. FLOODING – JULY 2007 – AFTERMATH

- a) WDC grant of £1,000 is still being considered.
- b) A specific flood alleviation grant of £2,500 may be available to improve road drainage at the corner of Main Street and Brook Lane. Cllr Meikle will approach the new landowner to develop a proposal.

5. POLICING

Parishioners are requested to notify the police of all crimes, however minor, to PC 1458 Stuart Toms 08457 444888. Recent targeting of local churches has led to an arrest in Pershore. Local vandalism such as graffiti on the Sheppey playground should be attended to as soon as it starts.

6. CHARITIES – nothing reported.

7. VILLAGE HALL

The re-development of the Hall is to start in February 2010 and £40-50,000 still needs to be raised.

Cllr Segar presented information confirming local interest in the provision of additional activity equipment at the Sheppey for older children. Police, WCC Cllr Eyre and other representatives of local organisations will join a steering group including the heads of Cropthorne & Charlton First School and Bredon Middle School.

Cllr Segar proposed, seconded by V/chair Annis, and the meeting supported the need and desirability and backed the work to explore and develop proposals to get the necessary grant funding. The Parish Council recognised that some small seed funding may be needed. Members observed that the implications of how to fund longer-term maintenance of such a facility should not be overlooked.

WCC Cllr Eyre advised that the Parish Council and steering group should first gather verifiable statistics and information to show the size and nature of the need and the groups that would benefit. Then the proposal would need a design and feasibility illustration. This need not be professionally produced. Together this information would be the basis of grant applications. There are numerous avenues of finance available due to the large number of initiatives currently targeted at the young and impaired healthiness.

The meeting was closed to allow parishioners to address councillors.

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

WCC Cllr Eyre indicated that the 2009-13 Corporate Strategy was under way with a clear objective of shrinking the budget. She said that constant transferring of Central Government initiatives into Local Government was making this very difficult. WCC has agreed that all its councillors' expenses will be published on the Internet. She announced that H&W Fire and Rescue Service were seeking volunteers for its Community Safety Volunteer Programme, the clerk was asked to pass to Five Alive. The Regional Spatial Strategy continues to cause concerns with recommendations of even more housing.

WDC Cllr McDonald, via an email, reported on items including the lengthsman duties with regards to flood alleviation, the Spatial Strategy as above and the Culture & Art – Vale Arts Trail which began on 3rd October at Pershore High School. This trail covers 38 exhibitions running in Pershore, Cropthorne, Evesham, Broadway and Beckford in traditional galleries, shop windows, artists' studios and cafes.

9. MATTERS ARISING - none**10. SOCIAL HOUSING** – no update.**11. LENGTHSMAN**

The clerk presented the August/July report of activity which was fairly minimal due to the recent dry weather. An issue of the visibility of traffic departing from Field Barn Lane onto the B4084 will require the Lengthsman to approach the land owner to advise of their responsibility which if not carried out can be completed by WCC at the landowner's cost.

12. PARISH PLAN – current priority is the Sheppey Youth Project covered under Village Hall above.**13. PLANNING**

- a) **W/09/01979/CU – Mr W Rafferty, Severn Acres, Evesham Rd – Change of use to equestrian to include retention of stable block and hay/tack store (retrospective)** – An objection to permanent planning permission on a five year temporary site has been filed and a decision is awaited.
- b) **WCC – 09/000053/CM – Severn Trent Water Ltd – Construction of a new raised concrete plinth on an existing platform for placement of existing kiosk and additional landscaping improvement** – A supporting filing has been submitted and a decision is awaited.

14. FINANCE/PRECEPTING

- a) V/chair Annis proposed, seconded by Cllr Meredith, and agreed by the meeting that the Bank/Balance Schedule for 05/10/09 be accepted for signature by Chair.

- b) Payments approved from above

			£
512	13	Clerk Sal, All Sep	148.37
513	14	Lengthsman Aug/Sep	110.19

15. WEBSITE – Cllr Meredith requested the item be carried forward.**16. CORRESPONDENCE - none****17. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION**

- a) WDC's Head of Legal Services letter suggests Parish Councils adopt a process for handling of complaints about councillors. This will be considered in November.
- b) An issue regarding a large amount of soil movement near the B4084 will be investigated and reported to Enforcement for advice.

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- c) Issues regarding conditions of the development of a new property at the Daves have already been forwarded to enforcement for advice. The clerk was asked to progress in two weeks time.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Meeting of Cropthorne Parish Council (including Precept) is on Monday 2nd November 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 25th October 2009.

Chair closed the meeting at 8:45pm.

Signed(Chair)

Date