

2010/20

Meeting of Crophorne Parish Council held on Monday 7th December 2009 in the Village School 7:30pm.

1. APOLOGIES

Present were	Chair A Hughes	WCC Cllr E Eyre
	Cllr J Segar	WDC Cllr T McDonald
	Cllr M West	Parishioners - 1
	Cllr J King	Clerk R J Coles
	Cllr J Meredith	
	Cllr T Meikle	

Apologies were received from V/chair R Annis.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cllr Meredith proposed, seconded by Cllr West, and the meeting agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 2nd November 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 is known to the landowner who is aware of the urgency and is considering his options to improve road drainage at the corner of Main Street and Brook Lane. Cllr Meikle will contact.

5. POLICING

There have been reports of household windows being broken in Field Barn Lane.

6. CHARITIES

The Walkabout Committee has offered to sponsor new/replacement flower boxes in order to brighten up the village for the event. Replacement sites at Main St/Blacksmiths Lane and Main St/Patty's Farm were identified along with a new site on the village triangle. The Parish Council thanked the committee and asked that new boxes match the existing ones. The Parish Council understood local volunteers would maintain the planting and Mrs Annis offered her support.

7. VILLAGE HALL – including Sheppey Play Project

Three councillors and two villagers have agreed to join the Sheppey mowing rota and the tractor is being checked out. There is still a £32k funding gap for the Village Hall redevelopment but tenders for the work are being sought. The Big Raffle raised £500 and the Quiz night was very well supported and enjoyed.

Cllr Segar's play area proposal was very well received and commended by WDC with only the slight issue that professional designs would put it on a par with other villages' plans. This would cost about £750 (refundable against the project being awarded) for which WDC has offered £250, Village Hall £250, and £150 other funds raised, leaving a shortfall of £100. Cllr Meikle proposed, seconded by Cllr West, and the meeting agreed that if after further consultations, particularly with WCC Cllr Eyre, the professional input was necessary the Parish Council would fund the current £100 shortfall. The whole project may cost in the region of £30k (+ VAT) but it would be broken down into manageable stages subject to the availability of grant funding. Village consultation on the plans would take place in parallel with grant applications.

As there were no parishioners requesting a suspension the meeting continued.

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

WCC Cllr Eyre reported that the travellers at Hill & Moor landfill entrance had moved on over the weekend. Crophorne footways had been inspected but did not qualify in priority for any of the special £2.5m rural footways special scheme for repairs. However regular maintenance may suffice and the clerk was asked to inspect to see if the lengthsman could do this. The WCC is concentrating on finding £45m of savings due to the current financial climate.

WDC Cllr McDonald reiterated the importance of councillors keeping abreast of the South Worcestershire Joint Core Spatial Strategy especially with regards to Category 3 villages (as all his ward villages are) which means any affordable housing would be for local needs only. Category 1 & 2 villages will be allocated extra housing and are subject to their own consultations in the New Year, however categories can be changed, he warned! Discussions are underway to process 200,000 tonnes a year of post recycling waste at a new facility at Hartlebury Trading Estate given landfill will be £40 a tonne rising at £8 per year. This is in addition to the new recycling plant at Norton, Worcester, which should be available for councillor visits in the near future. Revised charges as a response to public opinion at the new leisure centre will effectively be revenue neutral following budget reallocations. WDC are running Energy Advice Surgeries for people experiencing 'fuel poverty' (10% of household income goes on home fuels), everyone is asked to pass on to any known parishioners affected to contact WDC. The Charlton Gypsy site on Canada Bank was refused planning permission after WCC Highways intervention.

9. MATTERS ARISING

- a) Standards Complaints procedure – Cllr Meikle proposed, seconded by Cllr Meredith, and the meeting agreed to adopt WDC's recommended procedures with regards to 'Notification to Parish Councils regarding Standards Complaints'.
- b) Enforcement The Daves – The clerk reported that enforcement had inspected the site and apart from a breach with regards to parking everything else was acceptable.

10. **SOCIAL HOUSING** – nothing to report.

11. LENGTHSMAN

The clerk presented the report for October/November. A request was made to inspect footways with particular respect to moss build-ups and a problem in Middle Lane. The clerk was asked to publish a list of the lengthsman's duties to clarify that he is responsible to County Highways for safety and not to the village for general tidiness, which is covered by District and therefore not funded under the County Lengthsman scheme.

12. **PARISH PLAN** – The Sheppey play area proposal is being progressed.

13. PLANNING

- a) **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 WCC has approved.
- b) **W/09/02500/PP – Mr C Davies, Phoenix Cottage, Main St – Erection of a garden wall to side of gate.** – A no objection response was filed and permission has been granted.
- c) **W/09/02545/PP – Mr M Powell, Drumearn, Blacksmiths Lane – Single storey rear extension. Roof conversion.** – A no objection response was filed and a decision is awaited.
- d) **W/09/02615/AB – Mr S Smythe, Staddle Stones, Blacksmiths Lane – Extension of existing pool.** – A no objection response with the request that Environmental Services be aware of any water management issues following 2007 floods. Permission has been granted.
- e) **W/09/02683/PP – Mr & Mrs Carroll, The Crophorne Stud, Field Barn Lane – First floor extension to bedroom 1** – A no objection response was filed and a decision is awaited.

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- f) **AB/09/02454/AB** – Crop Vale Farm, Smokey Lane – Standard steel portal frame with lean-to - WDC advised that Parish Council input was not required after issuing and subsequently approving this application.
- g) **W/09/02727/PP – Mr & Mrs Zu Weld, Crophorne House, Main Street – New double garage incorporating bike shed and log store** - WDC reply required within 21 days from 03/12/09 (i.e. 24/12/09).

14. FINANCE/PRECEPTING

- a) Cllr Meredith proposed, seconded by Cllr Meikle, and the meeting agreed to accept the Bank/Balance Schedule for 07/12/09 for approval and signature by Chair.

- b) Payments approved from above

			£
515	16	Clerk Sal, All Oct	149.84
516	17	Lengthsman	91.38

- c) Cllr Meredith proposed, seconded by Cllr Meikle, and the meeting agreed to set the precept for 2010/11 at £3720 with reserves being as follows: General Reserves £5000 (day-to day £500, election £1000, legals etc £3500), Village Hall £3500, Church Wall £1000, WDC Flood £1050, Comm 1st Pplan £473, WDC dog bins £310, Sheppy Play Area £900, and Sheppy mowing £750.
The above should keep free balances to an absolute minimum.

15. WEBSITE

Cllr Meredith reported that Sheppy Swifts and via Cllr Segar, Junior Sports, would like to use the Parish Council website. As a majority of village organisations had now responded he would meet with Chris Hall in order to ensure that preferred participation could take place (i.e. simple link or a page as needed).

16. CORRESPONDENCE

7th November 2009

1	Worcs Part	Partnership Matter – Summer 09
2	PHS	Newsletter Aug/Sep 09
3	WDC Cllr McD	October notes
4	WCC Cllr Eyre	October notes
5	WoW	WCC Autumn notes
6	SW – RSS	Information Gathering
7	WCC	Community Environmental project help?
8	C&CVHMC	Minutes 14/09/09
9	WDC	Annual Report – 2009
10	WDC	Parish Matters Oct 09
11	WDC	Standards Committee meeting 11/11/09
12	PHS	International Dimension

17. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION

- a) The clerk presented the schedule of meetings for 2010, which was accepted.
- b) An invite to WDC on 09/12/09 6-7pm regarding village sustainability, site allocations and policy plans was offered to all on the recommendation of WDC Cllr McDonald.
- c) Chair/clerk will repair the recent vandalism to the bus shelter yet again.
- d) Cllr King provided details of a lorry in Middle Lane causing damage to verges and grass and requested that the clerk report a complaint formally.
- e) Cllr King, via a parishioner, raised an issue with regards to the nighttime visibility of the kerbing on entering Brook Lane from the B4084/Pershore direction. The clerk will progress.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Meeting of Crophorne Parish Council is on Monday 4th January 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 December 2009.

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Chair closed the meeting at 9:05pm.

Signed(Chair)

Date