

Meeting of Crothorne Parish Council held on Monday 5th March 2012 in the Village Hall 7:30pm.

1. APOLOGIES

Present were	Chair R Annis (chair)	3 parishioners
	Cllr M West	WCC Cllr T McDonald
	Cllr E Stoodley	Clerk R J Coles
	Cllr J Segar	
	Cllr J King	

Apologies received from Cllrs T Hardy & T Meikle and WCC Cllr E Eyre.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr King – Personal & prejudicial re Village Hall.
Cllr Segar – Personal re Village Hall.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cllr Stoodley proposed and the meeting agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 6th February 2012 be accepted and signed by chair.

4. FLOODING – JULY 2007 – AFTERMATH

- a) WDC grant of £1,000 is still being considered.
- b) Cllr Meikle and the clerk are due to meet with WDC on Monday 12th March with regards to the additional ditch in the orchard river side of the culvert at the bottom of Main St.

**5. POLICING – contacts are PC Dave Shortell & CSO Rod Gurney (03003 333000 Ext 3408/3499)
(Also new less urgent 101 services complement 999 emergencies)
(Neighbourhood Watch contacts are Sue Miller – 860 201, Angela Henderson – 860 683)**

6. CHARITIES

Chair Annis proposed and the meeting agreed to defer selection of a trustee to “The Randolph Meakins Patty’s Farm and the widow Lye’s charity” to the existing committee.

7. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr King reported that snagging continued prior to the final invoice from the builders. Lottery grants had been claimed; six monthly reports filed and also an indication that there was insufficient interest in researching the shop option. The stolen skateboard ramps require replacing in an alternative low scrap valued material. A recent ‘to do’ exercise indicated that the existing 6/7 trustees were insufficient, an alternative of a group of volunteers to do only specific duties and tasks, similar to the mowing group, would appear to be a better way forward if additional trustees were not forthcoming. The AGM is on Tuesday 24th April at 7:30pm for 8pm.

Cllr Segar reported that for the main lottery play project 5 tenders had been received of which only one was below budget and ranging up to twice the lowest quote. The best quote is being rechecked against specification and the lottery is being kept in the loop with regards to ultimate selection.

The meeting closed for 30 minutes to allow parishioners to address councillors with regards to the affordable planning scheme below.

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

WDC Cllr McDonald’s report has been circulated. He highlighted the ‘Intelligent Green Plan’ adopted, a new Planning Director to replace Gill Collin in April, investigations into shared services for planning between the six countywide district councils and homeless grants. Evesham replacement Bridge consultations, New Homes Bonus usage and saving jobs at Pershore were also mentioned. Any concerns over fuel poverty should be address to WDC with a meeting scheduled at Evesham Library on Friday 23rd March at 9:30am-12:30pm.

9. MATTERS ARISING

- a) Footpath 525 – The clerk reported that WCC Cropthorne path warden Hilary Hall was attending a meeting at County Hall with WCC Fladbury path warden FPC Cllr Geoff Mills and would be pursuing the object of getting the missing portion of the path reinstated.
- b) Broadband – The clerk reported that the local exchange in Fladbury was still due for upgrade in August and that BT were testing technology to enable the outlying villages of Cropthorne, Charlton and Lower Moor (who suffer from copper wire distant being greater than a mile) to benefit as well before 2015 at the latest.

10. SOCIAL HOUSING – see planning.**11. LENGTHSMAN - none****12. PARISH PLAN – priority continues with Sheppey Play & Community Projects above.****13. PLANNING**

- a) **W/11/02345/PN – Spa Housing Association Ltd –Erection of eight new affordable houses on land off Field Barn Lane (north west)** – Following a Parish Meeting on Friday December 16th 2011 an objection has been filed and the decision from the Planning Committee on Thursday 5th January 2012 was to defer the application on design & siting, after having sympathy for access and infrastructure problems which were not strong enough to overcome affordable housing shortages. Consultation with the Parish Council and neighbours took place on 21st February and the final plans have now been received for 4 off 3 bedroom & 2 off 2 bedroom house plus 2 off 2 bedroom bungalows. **WDC reply is required by 22/03/12.** A further Parish Meeting will be called. The clerk was asked to approach WCC Cllr Eyre to see if Highways could be convinced to reconsider their position and Chair Annis will be approaching WDC Phil Merrick requesting an area referral of the local infrastructure to WCC Regulatory Services under Steve Jordan. It was considered that the mix offered was not the prime requirement previously identified for singles and the elderly. The option of requesting 'under occupancy' to help families develop in the village will be put forward. The issue of rent verses buy was not being addressed but as the site was so small it was understandable. The level 3 Energy Efficiency appeared to contradict WDC own 'Intelligent Green Plans' for the district.

14. FINANCE/PRECEPTING

- a) Chair Annis proposed, seconded by Cllr Stoodley, and the meeting agreed to approve the Bank/Balance Schedules for 05/03/12 to be signed by chair with the addition of a late payment for Play Area Lighting which was due to be refunded by the lottery on 8th March.
- b) Payments approved from above

			£	
607	49	Village Hall meetings	60.00	
608	50	Clerk sal/all mar/payee	123.04	
609	51	HMRC paye Q4	80.20	
610	52	Play Area Lighting	2,400.00	late

15. WEBSITE - none**16. CORRESPONDENCE****10th February 2012**

- 1 WDC Democracy and Elections Scrutiny Team
- 2 CPRE/NALC A Guide to Neighbourhood Planning
- 3 CALC Update 3 19/01/12
- 4 CALC Update 4 26/01/12
- 5 NALC Events Bulletin 2012 (emailed)
- 6 Comm1st Silver Members – Evidencing Rural Need
- 7 CALC Update 5 02/02/10
- 8 WDC McD Report February 2012
- 9 Comm1st Newline Winter 2012
- 10 CALC Update 6 09/02/12

A request to ensure Parish Plans & Neighbourhood plans at the next meeting was lodged by Cllr West.

17. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION

- a) Hedgerow removal plans in fields north of railway line opposite the golf course were discussed and it was noted that WDC Cllr McDonald was leading discussions to ensure that this was suitable for the local area environment.
- b) WCC proposals to dispose/delegate the jubilee picnic area will be addressed by a visit to WCC to find out more information.
- c) Cllr King reported damage to the bus shelter which the clerk will investigate. It was suggested that in due course a more suitable structure be considered as a replacement.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING(s)

The Cropthorne Annual Parish Meeting is on Monday 16th April 2012 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 1st April 2012.

The Cropthorne Parish Council Annual Meeting is on Monday 14th May 2012 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 6th May 2012.

Chair closed the meeting at 08:40pm.

Signed (Chair)

Date.....