

Meeting of Crophorne Parish Council held on Monday 12th November 2012 in the Village Hall 7:30pm.

1. APOLOGIES

Present were	Chair R Annis V/chair T Meikle Cllr J King Cllr E Stoodley Cllr M West Cllr Segar	2 parishioners (WCC footpaths) WCC Cllr E Eyre WDC Cllr T McDonald Clerk R J Coles
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Apologies received from Cllr Hardy.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr King – Personal only re Village Hall.
Cllr Segar – Personal only re Village Hall.

It was proposed by Chair Annis, seconded by V/chair Meikle, and the meeting agreed that Crophorne Parish Council grant a dispensation up until the next ordinary election in May 2015 to all its parish councillors who live within the parish to enable them to participate in any discussion or vote on any matter concerning the setting of the council's budget and annual precept provided they are not in arrears of greater than two months in their local Council Tax payments.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cllr West proposed, seconded by Cllr Stoodley, and the meeting agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 1st October 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 reported that he had had an onsite meeting with WCC Mark Gowan which usefully coincided with partial flooding in the brooks area at the bottom of Main Street. WCC have agreed to put in a non-return drain from the highway, under the footway into the field to the south where the Parish Council has agreed with the local landowner, Mr Wallin (to be reconfirmed by Cllr Meikle) to put in a ditch at WDC expense (reference Martin Cross).

**5. POLICING – contacts are PC Dave Shortell & CSO Simon Hall (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)**

Following the fatal crash last Tuesday at the junction of Brook Lane/Main Road (B4084) the clerk was asked to contact WCC Highways Safety to seek a review of the speed limit between the two public houses in the current 40mph village corridor with the view of reducing it to 30mph. A request for speed monitoring at the junction for thru traffic will be requested.

6. CHARITIES

The clerk reported that he had still not heard anything further with regards to the Church clock grant request.

7. VILLAGE HALL (to include Sheppey Play Projects & Village Library/Coffee mornings)

Cllr King reported that the snagging issues were almost sorted with only a few queries and some delayed redecoration (awaiting proof of successful repairs) outstanding. There is a quiz night on Saturday 1st December with teams of up to eight which can be formed on the night if necessary from those attending. A donor bench at the bus stop was agreed.

Cllr Segar was supported in applying for a further £3.5k lottery grant towards sustainability of the Sheppey projects which would also include a specialist mower to handle obstacle grass cutting (trees etc.). She was thanked by the meeting for the successful firework party held last Sunday and attended by in excess of 200 parishioners.

The clerk reported that a former professional cricket umpire/player & amateur football referee who had attended the Sheppey on Saturday to see his grandson play football for a visiting junior team had passed on his complements of a fantastic facility, both hall and playing field, for which the village must be very proud.

The meeting continued as the parishioners present were there for a specific agenda item below.

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

WCC Cllr Eyre reported that the outcomes of Children's Services were being overly concentrated on by central government. The county broadband initiative was important and it had been extensively advertised in the village parish magazine/noticeboard/website and by emails. The issue of large vehicles in the village needs local reporting of any vehicles which do not have to stop and carry business out in the tri-village area, County and the police are prepared to contact offenders but they must receive a report, the cost of manning is to prohibitive otherwise. Bridge concerns continue to abound particularly after a couple of recent grid locks in Hampton at and around weekends. The new A44 roundabout construction through March 2013 is likely to compound the issue in the near term.

WDC Cllr McDonald reported on the proposals for local business rates to replace central government funding grants were heavily geared to promoting local growth which would have to be prudently managed, with the whole issue posing an area of conflicting views. Planning acceleration is already under way for economic development with the use of Local Development Orders (LDO) making it easier for businesses to develop. WDC is promoting various educational/apprenticeship programmes to provide skills to young workers. He is dealing with issues in the Lower Croft estate over parking, access etc. Local Mental Health issues and opportunities will be developing following the government's initiative to highlight and identify the issues.

9. MATTERS ARISING

- a) Change of WCC Footpath Warden – Hilary Hall introduced the new footpaths warden, Tom Williams of 2 Brook Cottages 861 293, to the meeting. An issue of a closed footpath at the new affordable housing site in Field Barn Lane will be investigated.
- b) Safety issues of Bus markings & speed stickers – Additional parking restrictions around the bus stop/village hall entrance will be discussed at the next meeting, the clerk will circulate a proposal from WCC Highways safety. Cllr Eyre will provide information on how speed signs suitable for wheelie bins can be obtained.

10. SOCIAL HOUSING - nothing

11. LENGTHSMAN - nothing

12. PARISH PLAN – priority continues with Sheppey Play Project & Community Projects above.

13. PLANNING

- a) **W/12/01865/PP – Mr D Furlong, Homeleigh, Field Barn Lane – Two storey rear extension with covered balcony and single storey side extensions.** – Concerns over total size were filed and permission has been granted.

Mid-Croft Land Project – Chair reported that the planning system acceptance of SWDP was awaited before proceeding with the parishioners offer. The structuring of the deal to prevent duplicate legal expense will be investigated.

14. FINANCE/PRECEPTING

- a) Chair Annis proposed, seconded by V/chair Meikle, and the meeting agreed to accept the Bank/Balance Schedules for 12/11/12 to be signed by chair with the addition of the lottery funded fireworks being added.
- b) Payments approved from above £

629	18	Sheppey p4 - acct	1,500.00
630	19	Sheppey p5 - Storey install	500.00
631	20	Sheppey p5 - Storey trees	2,360.00
632	21	Sheppey p5 - pgkj - trees	450.00
633	22	Sheppey p5 - s4p slide	3,984.00
634	23	Sheppey p5 - 6 art	5,100.00
635	24	Sheppey p5 - varnish**	16.96
636	25	clerk nov sal/all paye	123.04

637	26	Sheppey p5 - fireworks*	480.00	late
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c) The Precept for 2013/14 was discussed and the basic budget was acceptable giving a requirement to raise the precept by 7% following the recent years of using up all the free balances. The issue of the Mid-Croft Land Project was extensively discussed and it is hoped that New Homes Bonuses (£2000 already available) and additional funds due to the recent and near term expected housing increases would be used to fund this initiative. However it was thought prudent to begin provisioning for potential additional costs and a token £500 was added to the precept for approval at the December meeting.

15. WEBSITE - nothing

16. CORRESPONDENCE

03rd October 2012

1	CALC	Update 32 09/08/12
2	Hartlebury PC	Incinerator (emailed)
3	WDC	Strategic Partnerships & LSP (emailed)
4	WDC McD	July/August report (emailed)
5	CALC	Update 33 16/08/12
6	CALC	Update 34 23/08/12
7	WDC McD	Round Up September (emailed)
8	CALC	Update ?? ??/??/?? (emailed)
9	C&C	Direct September 2012
10	WDC	Chairman's invite 03/11/12
11	CALC	AGM 10/10/12
12	CALC	Update 36 20/09/12
13	WDC	Parish Matters – distributed with minutes
14	Comm First	Newsline Summer 2012
15	PHS	NewsLetter Aug/Sep

17. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION

- a) Proposed yellow lines/restricted parking at the Village Hall/Triangle had already been covered above.
- b) Provisional meeting dates for 2013 were agreed for publication and planning purposes.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING(s)

The next Meeting of Cropthorne Parish Council is on **Monday 3rd December 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 25th November 2012.

Chair closed the meeting at 09:30pm.

Signed (Chair)

Date.....