

Meeting of Cropthorne Parish Council held on Monday 4th March 2013 in the Village Hall 7:30pm.

1. APOLOGIES

Present were Chair R Annis
 V/chair T Meikle
 Cllr J King
 Cllr E Stoodley WDC Cllr T McDonald
 Cllr M West Clerk R J Coles
 Cllr T Hardy

Apologies were received from Cllr Segar and WCC Cllr Eyre.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr King – personal re Village Hall – Chair
Cllr Hardy – Patty's Farm Bend flooding - Proximity

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cllr King, seconded by Cllr Stoodley, and the meeting agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 4th February 2013 be accepted and signed by chair.

4. Intentionally Blank

5. FLOODING – JULY 2007 AFTERMATH & 2012 CURRENT

- a) WDC grant of £1,000 is still being considered.
- b) & c) The recent four floods over November 2012 through February 2013 had not resulted in any unexpected flooding being reported. The main issue remains that of the road closures and drive damage on the Patty's Farm Bend. It was agreed that Cllr Meikle would continue to pursue the additional ditch on the inside meadow with WDC and the constraining factor of under footway access with WCC. Cllr Hardy was advised by WDC Cllr McDonald that his issue on the carriageway and resulting flow damage through his drive should be followed up with WDC Emma Stokes, Flooding Portfolio Manager, as there were additional funds being made available for small scheme alleviations with individual householders. Tony Jones and Gary Beatson both of WDC should be kept in the loop. Any drainage at the maize field had been lost in the mists of time; the recent issue was one of exceptional runoff before the field was restored after the maize harvesting.

**6. 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)**

Local reports of continued theft of metals were noted.

7. CHARITIES

After all the recent activity on the future of the Walkabout much would appear to be just business as usual constrained by the lack of new volunteers. The proposed use of the Sheppey for parking, with no Plan B, was causing concern following the recent weather and fears that last year's damage would be repeated if not vigilant. There is a proposed village activity planned for the Saturday evening at the Village hall.

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

Cllr King reported that the wall and tank had been removed in the tractor shed, storage now available for mowers & footballers, and new garage doors were imminent. The bench should also be positioned this week. Signage at the entrance visible in both directions is being quoted for. Additional heating controls inside the hall are under investigation. The addition of planned for car park lights could be an application for New Homes Bonus as advised by WDC Cllr McDonald.

Village Hall AGM is Tuesday April 23rd 2013 at 7:30pm

As there were no parishioners present the meeting continued.

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

WDC Cllr McDonald reported that the clerk had helped obtain the Flood Timetable for the local bus service for Mr Miller & website, S106 funding should be investigated, M&S plans had been approved for its Worcester Road site, Lower Croft top end grassed area was an issue for WCC highways noting continued traffic problems with the school may result in barrier protection for the neighbouring garages & parking area, and kerbstones there were adequate.

The issue of the addresses for the eight new affordable houses in Field Barn Lane was discussed and it was unanimously agreed to recommend to WDC a continuation of the existing numbering sequence on that side of the road being 16 thru 23.

10. MATTERS ARISING

- a) WCC Footpath Warden – The clerk reported that the warden was investigating a gate problem at the back of the Sling, Middle Lane. The state of village verges needs investigating when they dry out.
- b) WCC Picnic Area – Chair reported that a visit by WCC had raised many legal concerns over boundaries, rights of way, repairs, derelict bridge problem etc. WCC have agreed to investigate and if handing over would ensure all was safe and sound including pollarding the willows and resurfacing car park. However the meeting had reservations as to the long term viability of the site 'as is' with the Parish Council only, WDC Cllr McDonald suggested S106 possibility for funding. Ideas will be sought from the whole village.
- c) Bridge closure/Additional speed help – WCC Cllr Eyre has agreed to investigate.
- d) B4084 speed cable – WCC Cllr Eyre had made the request to highways again.
- e) Mel Hodges visit (861551) – Chair reported this outstanding.

11. SOCIAL HOUSING - none**12. LENGTHSMAN – Report available****13. PARISH PLAN – priority continues with Sheppey Play Project & Community Projects above.****14. PLANNING**

- **WCC - 13/000001/CM – Severn Trent Water Ltd – Off-road parking area to serve adjacent Cemetery Corner Sewage Pumping Station - WCC reply required within 28 days of 14/02/13 (i.e. 14/03/13)** – It was agreed that in filing a no objection, notice would be drawn to supporting any issues raised by Charlton PC due to the position of the site at the bottom of the Church Leys in Charlton.

Mid-Croft Land Project – Chair reported that there was no update as yet.

15. FINANCE/PRECEPTING

- a) V/chair Meikle proposed, seconded by Chair Annis, and the meeting agreed the Bank/Balance Schedules for 04/03/13 be accepted for signature by chair.
- b) Payments approved from above £

648	37	Sheppey p6 - AK works	587.77	early
649	38	clerk mar sal/all/exp paye	181.69	
650	39	HMRC paye	80.20	
651	40	Lengthsman nov-jan	152.60	

16. WEBSITE - none**17. CORRESPONDENCE****6th February 2013 (11 emailed, 4 additional*)**

1	C&M Rail	Line News Winter 2012/13*
2	CALC	Update 44 06/12/12 (emailed)
3	WDC McD	December Report (emailed)
4	CALC	Update 45 14/12/12 (emailed)
5	CALC	Update 46 19/12/12 (emailed)
6	PHS	NewsLetter December*

- 7 CALC Update 1 03/01/13 (emailed)
- 8 WDC New Homes Bonus year 3 (emailed)
- 9 CALC Update 2 10/01/13 (emailed)
- 10 C&C January 2013*
- 11 CALC Minutes 05/12/12 (emailed)
- 12 CALC Update 3 17/01/13 (emailed)
- 13 CALC Update 4 25/01/13 (emailed)
- 14 CALC Update 5 31/01/13 (emailed)
- 15 Evesham High January 2013*

18. NEW HOMES BONUS (NHB)

Status – Awarded - Year 1/2011 N/A, Year 2/2012 £614x6=£3684, Year3/2013 £5433x6=£32598 totalling £36,282 – Allocated nil.

WDC have indicated that any proposals over £1000 must be subject to village consultations. Usage must also be for new services/facilities or their expansion and not general day to day activities. The issue of additional facilities at the local school, including log cabin, out of school clubs, walking bus, etc. needs investigating and broken down into projects that can meet WDC criteria. With these school services the whole of the Croft future usages needs co-ordinating in general and in particular who owns what and what 'rights of way' there are.

19. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING(s)

Croptorne Parish Annual Meeting is on

Monday 15th April
2013 7:30pm
(new!)

at the **Village Hall**. Any items for inclusion on the agenda and proposed corrections to the minutes must be with the Clerk by Sunday 24th March 2013.

The Annual General Meeting of Croptorne Parish Council is on **Monday 13th May 2013 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 5th May 2013.

Chair closed the meeting at 09:00pm.

Signed (Chair) Date.....