Meeting of Cropthorne Parish Council held on Monday 7th February 2011 in the Village School 7:30pm.

1. APOLOGIES

Present were Chair A Hughes

V/chair R Annis

Cllr J Segar WCC Cllr E Eyre

Cllr J King Cllr M West

Cllr T Meikle 0 parishioners Cllr J Meredith Clerk R J Coles

Apologies were received from WDC Cllr McDonald.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Segar – Personal interest as a member of Village Hall Committee and Sheppey Play Project Committee.

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

Chair Hughes – Personal and prejudicial interest in W/10/02904/PP.

C/chair Annis – Personal and prejudicial interest in W/11//00096/PP.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cllr Meredith proposed, seconded by Cllr King, and the meeting agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 7th January 2011 be accepted and signed by Chair.

4. FLOODING - JULY 2007 - AFTERMATH

- a) WDC grant of £1,000 is still being considered.
- b) A planning application including identifying work specific to the flood alleviation grant of £2500 from WDC is being prepared but timing is becoming very urgent as the financial year end is 31st March 2011.
- 5. POLICING contact is PC Stuart Toms (08457 444888/03003 333000) none

The clerk was asked to ensure that the police could attend the Annual Parish meeting in April and also to investigate whether any domestic fuel thefts had been reported.

6. CHARITIES - none

7. VILLAGE HALL

Refurbishment etc

Cllr King reported that four tenders had been received for the restarting of the delayed Village Hall refurbishment. Although there were finances available from the previous builders the total funds available would be tight due rework/restart issues, and compromises may have to be made. The cheapest bidder has previous village hall experience which will be checked out together with financials of all four participants. The new schedule indicated 16 weeks of working. The day to day finances are of great concern with little to no income but much of the standard expenditures still accruing. An insurance assessor has been on site and a successful claim is imperative. Shindig cabaret night held at Fladbury Village Hall was a success. Junior football parking is still a concern especially with the lack of onsite parking due to the building problems (police are aware), and payments are also not being received.

Sheppey Play Project

Cllr Segar reported that phase 2 had been completed with an extra tree bench being added. The overall financial status of the project has seen £60k in grants received from a variety of sources; WDC, WCC, EU, NHS plus local fundraising. There has now been £45k of equipment/installations made. This leaves £15k available for 2011/12 phase which includes a tree house proposal that would require most of this remainder. The Parish Council expressed thanks to all those, and in particular Cllr Segar, for their efforts on such a substantial improvement of Sheppey facilities in such a short time.

As there were no parishioners present the meeting continued.

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

WCC Cllr Eyre reported that the Acute Trust and NHS had agreed to provide a radiotherapy Unit in Worcester by 2013. Cabinet had ratified the budget to be presented to full council on 17th February, Council Tax implications are 0% in the first year then 2.5% for three years. All budgets had decreased. Additional responsibilities for flood and water had come with a grant of £143,000 for the whole of Worcestershire. Schools have a flat cash amount per pupil plus a pupil premium of £430 awarded for hardship as measured by free school meals which caused a problem due to their stigma and hence under claiming of free school meals in the first place. Over the past decade County financing had gone from 1/3 council tax, 2/3 government grants to 2/3 council tax, 1/3 government grants. Adult care now takes 50% of the council tax and vulnerable children a further 25% leaving only 25% for everything else. With the elderly increasing and family breakdowns' growing, the pressures of local demographics is only one way, up, with finances available constrained, innovation and efficiency are the only way out.

Cllr Eyre asked the clerk to investigate the possibility of a requirement for a cycle way between Jubilee Bridge and Charlton bypassing a narrow dangerous stretch of road on Millbank.

9. MATTERS ARISING

- a) <u>Eon Supply</u> Clerk reported that an engineering feedback was still outstanding and would be progressed. b) Footpath Middle Lane/Blacksmiths Lane Cllr Meikle requested that this item be carried forward.
- 10. SOCIAL HOUSING none
- 11. LENGTHSMAN none
- 12. PARISH PLAN priority continues with Sheppey Play Project above.

13. PLANNING

- a) W/10/02548/PP Mr Webberley re 1 Lower Haselor Lodge Extension to house to provide an additional bedroom with ensuite bathroom – A no objection response was filed and permission has been granted.
- b) W/10/02904/PP Mr A Hughes, Riverside Lodge, Neigh Lane Roof alteration A no objection response was filed and permission has been granted.
- c) W/10/02601/CU Field off track to fisherman's car park Jubilee Bridge at Mill Bank Fladbury Support for Fladbury Parish Council and Cropthorne Mill owners together with a number of concerns have been filed and a decision is awaited.
- d) W/11/00112/CU Mr & Mrs Hutchings, Cropvale Farm, Smokey Lane Change of use from agricultural land to domestic garden WDC reply required within 21 days of 27//01/11 (i.e. 17/02/11)
- e) W/11/00096/PP Mr R Annis, Conifers, Main Rd Proposed kitchen extension WDC reply required within 21 days of 03//02/11 (i.e. 24/02/11)

14. FINANCE/PRECEPTING

a) Cllr Meredith proposed, seconded by V/chair Annis, and the meeting agreed to approve the Bank/Balance Schedule for 07/02/11 for signature by the Chair.

b) Payments approved from above £

Early Sheppey Play Project				
548	23	Oyster	3,349.93	
549	24	Titan	9,000.08	
550	25	Titan Oyster grass installs	6,247.20	
551	26	Tramp install/Titan bearing	1,440.00	
Early Sheppey Play Project				
552	27	Bench & install	2,132.40	
553	28	Trampoline	4,542.55	
Current				
554	29	WCC - School Hire	55.60	
555	30	Clerk sal/all/exp jan	159.94	

15. WEBSITE - none

16. CORRESPONDENCE

18th January 2011

1	WDC	Parish Matters
2	PHS	Oct/Nov Newsletter
3	CALC	Issue 37 04/11/10
4	CALC	Issue 38 11/11/10
5	CALC	Issue 39 18/11/10
6		Journal of Local Planning Autumn 10
7	CALC	Issue 40 26/11/10
8	Various	Toolkit Small Grant Scheme H&W
9	CAB	Appeal
10	CALC	Issue 41 09/12/10
11	SW	P&T Council Workshops – SWDP
12	Eyre	Dec 2010 report
13	Rooftop	Concern for Older Residents during Cold Spells
14	CALC	Issue 42 16/12/10
15	PHS	Dec Newsletter
16	RBL	The Great Poppy Party Weekend 10,11,12 June 2011
17	CALC	Issue 1 06/01/11
18	WDC	Vacancy on Independent Remuneration Panel
19	C&C	Direct Jan 2011
20	McD	Jan 2011 report
21	Luff	Localism Bill
22	Eyre	Jan 2011 report
23	WCC	Consultation subsidised public transport & home to school
24	CALC	Issue 2 13/10/11
25	Com 1 st	Newsline

17. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION

- a) The clerk indicated that a Notice of Election for 5th May 2011 must be made by 25th March, with the 14th being likely. Candidates then have until noon Monday 4th April to file their relevant papers. Candidates will be announced on the 6th with one days grace for any late withdrawals. Therefore by the close of play on the 7th it will be known whether a ballot for parish councillors will be required. If it is not then there should be no costs, if there is then costs are proposed as 25% PC, 25% WDC and 50% referendum, if held, otherwise 50% PC, 50% WDC. New councillors' expenses must be filed on 9th May to ensure no legal complications.
- b) Reports have been received that there are more than the permitted six caravans on the temporary travellers' site on Main Rd and that a shed is being used as overnight accommodation. The clerk has been asked to contact WDC Enforcement with these concerns and also to seek status of the site given that its temporary licence has nearly expired, November 2011, with respect to the inspectorate's requirement that the site be returned to its original condition within this timescale.
- c) Concerns over fireworks and thatched cottages have been raised. Given the expected celebrations in April for the Royal Wedding the clerk was asked to post a notice in April and the usual October for 5th November as well as raising awareness of the issue locally, parish meeting, 5-Alive etc.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING(s)

The next Meeting of Cropthorne Parish Council is on Monday 21st March 2011 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 13th March 2011.

The Cropthorne Annual Parish Meeting is on Monday 11th April 2011 7:30pm at the Village School (due Village Hall closure). Any items for inclusion on the agenda and proposed corrections to the minutes must be with the Clerk by Sunday 27th March 2011.

The Cropthorne Parish Council Annual Meeting is on Monday 9th May 2011 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 1st May 2011.

Chair closed the meeting at 08:40pm.	
Signed(Chair)	Date