

**Minutes from a meeting of Crophorne Parish Council held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020 at 7pm**

Conducted via Zoom

**1. PRESENT:**

Chairman B Annis	Vice Chairman S Smythe	Cllr M Rowell	Cllr J King
District Cllr T Rowley	County Cllr E Eyre	I member of the public	Clerk L Yapp

**2. APOLOGIES** - Cllr Clive

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

- Cllr King - Village Hall
- Cllr Rowell – reported he was no longer a member of Sheppey Corner Residents Association

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Minutes from previous meeting were approved and signed – proposed Cllr King, seconded Cllr Rowell – all in favour

**5. PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME** – The parishioner in attendance was welcomed to the meeting. He commented on the amount of rubbish that was left on the verge outside the farm units in Field Barn Lane, seemingly from new tenants. He would let the clerk know which unit was responsible. He also raised concerns that the site seems to have changed from originally classified as being ‘farm units’ but becoming more industrialised. Cllr Rowley advised he would ask the enforcement officer at WDC to re-visit the original planning approval to see if there were any restriction on the type of business permitted to operate from the site and if there were any possible breaches.

**6. PLANNING/ENFORCEMENTS:**

- Kimberleys Field – Cllr Rowley reported that a site visit has yet to be organised but with the ongoing Covid restrictions this was proving difficult
- 20/02151 – Evesham Vale Caravan Park – to vary condition 4 to allow private static caravan owners to extend the season – *there were no objections to this application*
- 20/02133 – Severn Acres, Main Road – 2 x new gypsy plots comprising 1 x static and 1 x touring caravan and 2 x utility blocks + retrospective permission for new day room – discussion took place and concerns were raised regarding the increased traffic to and from the site, the ever increasing development and access onto the highway. It was agreed that the clerk draft comments for circulation before submitting to WDC
- Planning Reforms – Cllr Annis and clerk both attended the Zoom briefing. The parish council had responded to the consultation supporting the points raised in the joint consultation response made by WDC, Malvern Hills and Worcester City Councils

**7. VILLAGE HALL** – Cllr King reported there was a new see-saw in place. One piece of equipment (the Titan, large green rotary multi swing) was ‘making noises’ and becoming difficult to move, suggesting there was a possible bearing problem. Cllr Smythe offered to look into this. Cllr King reported she had met with Arc Landscapes to discuss the mesh pathways and additional parking scheme. She explained that there was not much leeway on price as we were at the top end of the amount available from the s106 grant funds. Arc are willing to include a new gate for the price quoted previously. The plans will be circulated to ensure everyone is happy with the exit planned from the corner of the field on Blacksmith’s Lane. . Due to the new Government restrictions the village hall will now be closed until further notice though it is hoped there may be further funding available

**8. HIGHWAY MATTERS :**

- Smokey Lane Junction – there was nothing further to report, but Cllr Annis would liaise with the landowner

**9. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT** – had been circulated to Cllrs and attached

**10. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR** – Cllr Rowley had interacted with a number of agenda items, and in addition reported that Wychavon car parks would be free until the New Year, and that the district was seeing an increase in the number of Covid cases. There would be new business grants available to local businesses. The marquee at the Civic Centre is a testing centre.

**11. PROGRESS REPORTS:**

- a) Lengthsman - nothing to report
- b) New Home Bonus – Consultation with residents has now been sent out by email, on the parish council website, via Facebook and to local businesses and the school. *The clerk had received a phone call from a resident asking if Corran Dean was privately owned, and what would happen if the decision was ever made to sell the site / buildings. The clerk had made contact with Corran Dean and was advised that :- “Corran is a Community Interest Company. This is similar to a charity, and has an asset lock in place which means that the assets of the company must benefit the community if the company is dissolved. We are setting up a charitable incorporated organisation to sit alongside the social enterprise where we can do more general fundraising. Corran has 3 directors and decisions are made to benefit service users, and not individuals. “* It is hoped that the parish council will be able to submit the full application in January.
- c) Community Infrastructure Levy Fund – County Cllr Eyre reported that it is hoped to meet with other officers from WCC to agree on traffic calming options but overload of work is slowing the process. The clerk would send traffic data from the speed sign to Cllr Eyre
- d) Speeding – Community Speed Watch –the clerk is still waiting to hear from the CSW team and would chase this up
- e) Bollards Lower Croft – The clerk would chase Rooftop regarding this. *Since the meeting she has made contact and the staff member responsible for Crophorne would make contact to those concerned*
- f) War Memorial – Nothing further to report

**12. FINANCE**

- (a) Payments made since the last meeting/for authorisation

1st Novet SO	Clerks Expenses	16.22
1st Novet SO	Clerk Salary	344.00

Proposed approval Cllr Rowell, seconded Cllr King – all in favour

**Current account balances:**

(incl. unrepresented cheques) £ 37,235.36 (Incl. s106 Monies)

**Deposit account:** £5,022.08

*Since the meeting, the clerk asked for authority for £50 to be made available for Clerks training / refresher courses – total cost £300 but shared between her 5 other councils. This has been approved*

**13. CORONAVIRUS UPDATE** – Cllr Eyre was able to join the meeting and reported that we were about to go into tier 2 with reported cases of Covid rising rapidly. Had it not been for the national lockdown, the county would have probably been in a bad place anyway

**14. COMMUNITY FIBRE PARTNERSHIP** – Cllr Segar had taken this on board and was communicating with the community to gain support. Cllr Eyre would share this information on the Crophorne Facebook page.

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15. **BOUNDARY WALL – The Grayes / Crophorne Court** - the clerk had received a letter from a resident with concerns regard its stability. It was agreed amongst the council that work has been ongoing and now resolved.
16. **REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE / DONATION** - Cllr Annis had agreed to lay a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council. It was also agreed that a donation of £50 be made
15. **ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS / FUTURE DISCUSSION:** Nothing to report
16. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7pm

## Cropton - Cllr ELIZABETH EYRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT November 2020

### County Issues

**Schools:** The County Council ensured no child went hungry at half term. WCC worked with District Councils across the county to ensure vulnerable children could access a meal during the half term holiday. The number of children receiving Free School Meals in Wychavon is 1825.

Prior to half term just under 90% of pupils in Worcestershire were in school which is above the national average.

Even in Half Term WCC continued to provide communications and advise schools about when pupils and staff should get tested.

Face coverings should be worn by parents outside of schools. Parents and carers across the county are being advised to wear face coverings when dropping off and collecting children from school. It is an area where it is physically difficult for parents to follow 2 metre social distancing rules. This extra measure is being introduced to keep the whole school community safe, especially those who are most vulnerable.

**Adults and Older People:** The County Council has this week launched a new reablement approach to help adults in need of social care to remain in their own homes. The new look service, originally due to be launched after Easter had been delayed due to Covid. To achieve the best outcomes for people, we have changed our Homecare teams to become a single Reablement Service. We have redesigned our systems, processes and organisational structure to enable the Reablement Service to focus on promoting independence across all pathways, and to work with people to maximise their abilities and avoid the need for long-term care and support.

Limited visits to care home residents can be arranged in the county once more, providing strict safety measures are in place to protect vulnerable residents. Extra Care and Supported Living are also being advised that they can open to limited family visits.

**Health:** As with all county residents, the advice remains to only get tested if you are showing symptoms or if advised to do so by their GP or Local Authority or Public Health England.

New walk-in test centre locations in Redditch and Worcester have been publicly confirmed by Worcestershire Public Health. Work began to create a new walk-in test centre for Wychavon on the middle car park of the Civic Centre from Wednesday, 29 October 2020. Staff and visitors will not be able to use the Wychavon car park from Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>. People cannot just turn up to get tested, they will need an appointment. It is expected it will be in place for 6 months and, if a vaccine does eventually arrive, then it will be converted to a vaccination centre.

**Finance:** The Government confirmed on Friday WDC will be receiving another £246,139 in support to help cover losses and additional costs caused the coronavirus pandemic. Total supported received from the Government is £1,785,015 however, total losses are estimated to more than £2million.

A new £100million fund has also been created for local authority run leisure centres to bid for. As WDC own the buildings but does not directly run them, it is not yet clear if WDC will be able to apply for money from this fund to support our leisure operator.

**Highways: New look Pinvin Junction and update on Pershore Infrastructure Improvement Scheme** – work is progressing well on the scheme. Works have recently focussed on the extension of the A44 north-west of the junction to accommodate an additional right-hand turn, and taken place on the kerbing and installation of a new footpath on the south-east side of the A44 towards White Logistics. To allow surfacing works to take place, on the A44, Terrace Road and Main Street, there are some planned night closures (8pm-6am from 9<sup>th</sup> November which will include up to four night-time

**closures Closures will be in place from Monday 26 October for up to four nights, from 8pm until 6am. During the day, the junction will operate as it is now, under temporary traffic lights. Diversions will be in place during the closures. Works on Pinvin Junction are set for completion this winter.**

**Highways Gritting:** Whilst no severe winter weather is currently predicted, from 15<sup>th</sup> October, WCC's Winter Service teams have been officially on standby. When gritting is required, actions will be updated daily on the @WorcsTravel Twitter account using the hashtag #GritterTwitter. The fleet of 32 gritting vehicles has been supplemented by 3 brand new vehicles, with another 3 to be updated as the season progresses. Over 11,750 tonnes of salt is ready to be used ahead of the new season and this will be replenished when necessary. WCC has also checked the county's 1,320 grit bins to ensure they are full. The grit bins are available across the county and are maintained with stocks of a salt/grit mixture. They are provided for use on the public highway only (including footways). There's also a variety of information about our gritting operations online, including interactive maps which show designated gritting routes and where residents can also locate their nearest grit bin and report it for refilling as we move through the winter: [www.worcestershire.gov.uk/gritting](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/gritting)

**Business:** Further support has launched for Worcestershire start-ups and entrepreneurs. Enterprising Worcestershire will offer support to new and early stage businesses in the region, after securing a further three years of funding. Match-funded grants between £1,000 - £15,000 will be available from November for eligible businesses under three years old, allowing them to get their ideas off the ground. Individuals wishing to start their own business can also receive free support to develop their ideas, whilst early-stage businesses can progress with free business coaching and development sessions. Find out more about the grant funding available at the upcoming free online grant workshop:

<https://businesseventsworcestershire.com/events-search/details/?id=187>

**Remembrance Day** :The Chairman’s Remembrance Day Service on Wednesday, November 11 is being webcast only this year due to Covid-19 restrictions. For anyone who would like to join, here is the webcast link:  
[https://worcestershire.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast\\_interactive/519434](https://worcestershire.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/519434) The Service will start at 10.55am.

**Superfast broadband** –the Superfast Worcestershire Partnership is working to bring superfast and gigabit capable broadband connectivity to Worcestershire homes and businesses, whilst, at the same time supporting proactive communities with their efforts to secure gigabit capable connectivity, through the Rural Gigabit Voucher Scheme.

Worcestershire County Council welcomes your support in encouraging rural communities not currently in their deployment plan (red dots on the map): [www.superfastworcestershire.com/#where-when](http://www.superfastworcestershire.com/#where-when) to proactively pursue a community solution via the Rural Gigabit Voucher Scheme to potentially fully fund the build of the new fibre to the premise (FTTP) network. Please note that rural premises with access to good speeds (up to 100mbps) can also request upgrades to FTTP and utilise the Rural Voucher Scheme. Specifically:

- Support the transition for communities not in the deployment plan to move from 'complaining about lack of broadband' to taking a 'proactive approach' and engaging through the Gigabit Voucher schemes.
- Promote Take-Up; ensure residents know they need to 'sign up' to the newly available services.
- Engage with the officers if you have questions or require additional detail for communities.

Please see the attached FAQs for more information.

## **Local Issues**

Minerals Local Plan Examination in Public later in year

Passing bays Field Barn Lane – condition and lack of – still no date to improve more than done already - in discussion BB

Smokey Lane hard standing for those waiting for bus – parish chairman negotiating – parish gang when Smokey Lane access issue sorted by resident. Left with resident to apply. Chairman PC Crophorne talking to resident.

More work to be done on speeding in village – capacity full currently re wires on road and visits.

Neigh Lane area footway for safety. Can't extend 30mph, footway request not on list yet. BB

Clerk sending Cllr Eyre log of accidents in last 3 years

Flooding brook Lane recent (October) request to check drains /gullies - BB raised work orders to jet gullies. The vast majority are clear and working.( 6h October)

Broadband – ensuring Cllr Seager is fully supported by contact details and information