

CROPTHORNE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 9th May 2022 at 6:30 pm at
Crophorne Village Hall**

clerk@crothorneparishcouncil.co.uk

1. Present: Parish Cllrs: B Annis, R Sugar, J King, S Smythe, W Clive and C Hall, new Lengthsman S Baker and one parishioner
2. Introduction from Chairman – Cllr B Annis welcomed Cllrs and the parishioner to the meeting, reported the apologies received and reports were distributed to all in attendance, Reports were accepted as read.
3. Apologies of Absence were received from County Cllr E Eyre, District Cllr T Rowley and resident P Harris
4. *Public Participation – Discussion was deferred to discussion during the Annual Parish Council Meeting.*
5. Chairman's Report – *annexed to these Minutes*
6. County Councillors Report - *Annexed to these Minutes*
7. Reports from village user groups - *Annexed to these Minutes*
8. Open to Questions from the Floor - *non received*

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2022

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Welcome to everyone this evening

Despite the 'lifting' of Covid restrictions, we have still been struggling with the impact that Covid has on us all – with several Cllrs and the Clerk all being affected.

Where possible, we have continued to meet as a parish council, although there have been some gaps between meetings, for which I apologise.

Planning: we continue to comment on planning applications – the recent applications for Severn Acres on the B4084 were refused, but we do expect an appeal will be submitted. The SWDP Review is delayed as key documents relating to the development sites and infrastructure are still to be completed. District Cllr Tony Rowley continues to keep us updated.

Speeding / Traffic Calming: Community Speed Watch – we have been accepted on to the scheme and do have some volunteers who have kindly offered their time. The success of the scheme, moving forward, will continue to rely on volunteers and if there are any parishioners who would also like to be included on a rota, please contact the clerk. We would not want to get 'up and running' and then lose momentum if any of the current volunteers drop out or are unavailable. The clerk continues to chase the CSW team and is awaiting confirmation of a start date for the training. Thank you to Cllr Eyre for her support on this.

We have requested additional line marking to encourage traffic to slow down in Main Street and Neigh Lane, and are also investigating improved signage in the vicinity of the school

Dog Fouling: Following complaints from parishioners on the increase in dog fouling and the fact that there are a small minority of dog owners that do not clear up after their dog, we have purchased some signs for the entrances of some of the footpaths / Public Rights of Way as a prompt! We can but hope!!!!

Finance / Audit: the parish council continues to be cautious with its expenditure, but we are starting to build up reserves. The Internal Audit (for accounts 2021 / 22) has been successfully carried out with no concerns raised.

Corran Dean: a project supported by the parish council with use of the New Homes Bonus. Work is progressing and following a successful planning application for the new equipment, they are awaiting work to start.

Lengthsman: We admit there have been issues with the LM in the past and we have decided not to renew any contract with him for 2022 / 23. We have secured the services of a new LM who will be starting in the next couple of weeks. He is completely new to this but very enthusiastic. We hope residents will allow him time to settle into the role.

Baldwins Bank: we are mindful that this has been allowed to become a bit of an eyesore. A recent request to the community for volunteers for a working group to tackle this a couple of times a year and the planting of bulbs sadly only identified 2 volunteers. We will continue to look at other solutions.

I would like to thank the parish Cllrs, Clerk, District Cllr Tony Rowley and County Cllr Liz Eyre for their support over the past 12 months, and also to those parishioners who have taken the time to attend meetings and communicate with the council

Bob Annis
Chairman

Croptthorne - Cllr ELIZABETH EYRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT May 2022

County Issues

£1.2million pot to help decarbonise public sector buildings across Worcestershire

Got a local highway problem? Before you go on Worcestershire's portal and report the problem why not ask the parish clerk if the parish lengthsmen could tackle it. The term 'lengthsman' dates back to 1800. It refers to workers responsible for keeping a particular length of road neat and tidy. The modern role of Parish Lengthsman was reintroduced by Worcestershire County Council to give communities more say in how their local area is maintained. This financial year Broadway is benefiting from a small share of £75,000 extra funding allocated by Worcestershire County Council, across 184 parishes, to pay for the Parish Lengthsmen. The lengthsman does those important smaller jobs for the Parish: ditch and drain clearing, the smaller sections of hedge cutting on the highway, sign cleaning, clearing of gully gates, digging out of blocked gullies on smaller roads where safe to do so - not the faster roads, removal of vegetation, hand gritting of footways/carriageways using County Council grit bins, siding out encroachment of grass onto verges, all sorts of basic maintenance work on footways and highways prioritised by the local parish.

Worcestershire's Health and Well-being Board brings together all the organisations responsible for improving health and wellbeing and reducing health inequalities across Worcestershire. Its members include elected councillors and officers from County and district councils, representatives from Worcestershire Children First, local NHS organisations, the local voluntary and community sector, Healthwatch Worcestershire, and West Mercia Police. It also has a range of sub-groups that focus on specific age groups or geographical areas such as the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership and Health Improvement Group. The Health and Well-being Board and its Health and Wellbeing Strategy set the strategic direction for many other strategies, forums, and committees across the Integrated Care System, working with partners to achieve better health and wellbeing for Worcestershire. Its Chairman is Cllr Karen May from Bromsgrove kmay@worcestershire.gov.uk

Worcestershire's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee alongside Healthwatch is responsible for scrutinising services relating to local NHS bodies and health services. Its Chairman is Cllr Brandon Clayton from Redditchbclayton1@worcestershire.gov.uk Currently this committee is looking at Health delivery in GP surgeries. Any concerns please email Brandon.

Supporting Ukraine Council leaders across the county have pledged to welcome Ukrainian guests with a 'One Worcestershire' approach, confirmed by a joint statement by Worcestershire County Council and the six District/Borough Councils. They are working together with local communities, using their experience of supporting refugees over the last few years, to ensure the county can offer the best experience to those arriving from Ukraine. Details from the central Government have started to be shared on the number of sponsors for 'Homes for Ukraine' and the potential numbers of Ukrainian guests that will be welcomed into Worcestershire. Already several hundred sponsors have been matched to Ukrainian families on the Government's Homes for Ukraine scheme, which means the county could be welcoming several hundred guests.

The role of the District/Borough Councils is to carry out checks on the suitability of the accommodation and the welfare of the Ukrainians. This includes providing emergency funding support for each person. The council will also help them to claim Universal Credit or other relevant benefits, if required as well as provide the £350 a month 'thank you' payment to sponsor households, helping Sponsor families to gain the relevant background checks and gathering and mobilising the wider support that may be needed for both sponsor families and guests when they arrive. They are also working to get the children into schools.

The already well-established [Here2Help](#) service run by the County Council is evolving to help organise and link up those wishing to offer help to those who may need help or advice. Here2Help will also become the hub for information when families start to arrive and therefore details of how to access support will be included in welcome packs that are being produced. Please encourage anyone who feels they can support in any way to go through [Here2Help](#) and fill out the 'offer of help' form.

There is specifically a request for those individuals, organisations or services who are in a position to provide practical/emotional support and translation support and are not already registered on the Community Services directory, to register online as soon as possible.

When the guests start to arrive, we will be working closely with them and their sponsor families to understand what additional support they may need in terms of donations from residents and businesses. Libraries in each district have also become hubs for residents to find trusted information about how they can help, access a wide variety of information and will also be locations where Ukrainian families can meet and use our services and we have increased our stock of books that will be useful for our Ukrainian guests.

Local Issues

21/00999/CU – Evergreen Bank, Main Road – refused, no appeal yet.

Community Speed watch- Safer Neighbourhood team to liaise with Parish Clerk.

Holland House car parking by residents causing concerns as those driving down the main street are speeding, beyond 30mph. (Marc Watts is considering a community speed watch assessment), Parish Council requested two REDUCE SPEED signs before the parking either way - the contact is Mike Rowell. KH has reviewed and feels this isn't something WCC thinks is needed. There is no accident history associated with this parking and it does act as a natural traffic calming feature.

Field Barn Lane Passing Bays A request had been made for them to be put on the WCC 'list' for action: tidying up and making larger if possible, adding a passing bay if possible. Informed in July that advisories had been raised, they had been **surveyed for work but not scheduled**.

Evesham to Pershore cycleway. Awaiting clarity on the deliverability of the scheme, given the pinch point issue, at Porter's path. **WCC team should be making a new approach to the landowner. Chasing.**

Footway, B4084 to Hampton - siding out Hampton to Cropthorne Request **49** - ongoing since July 26th. B4084 siding out 5k applied by Cllr eyre starting 4th May for 5 days TBC and Hampton to Cropthorne 9th to 11th 3 days (middle bits will be done with next tranche of funds.)

School flashing lights – Clll Money from Council – meeting with Kieran Hemstock Thursday 12th at 9.00 am to review where signs could go as current school warning signs are very close to the school and are only 100 metres apart. Ideally, these would be another 100m further out to cover both the direct school frontage and associated pedestrian movements on route but struggling to find anywhere suitable based on footway widths/intrusion to adjoining properties. If we're stuck with the current locations, the cost/benefit of upgrading these to 20 flashing signs might not stack up? As a minimum KH wishes anyway to upgrade the signs to include yellow backing boards and install SLOW markings if the flashing signs route does not work.

Neigh Lane – Pedestrians in Road - Enquiry 475 now 1072 - time scale for this would be Late Spring/ Early Summer

Additional pedestrians in road warning signs to cover the section between Jubilee bridge and the 30 terminal point.

1. Slow on road near the existing sign going towards Fladbury
2. Second slow on road going towards Fladbury around the bend
3. Up the hill to Crophorne second parent and child sign

The extra SLOW markings and the parent-child sign are on order.

An extra Pedestrians in the road sign Neigh Lane near Jubilee bridge

Up and down the hill - no footway notices

1 to 3 are on order.

WCC has also ordered a peds in road warning sign at the bottom of neigh lane for traffic which has just turned off the Fladbury Rd by Jubilee bridge.

Pinch point Mainstreet near Blacksmith Enquiry 476 now 1017 - lane narrowness and safety issues were noted by KH at the meeting on 7 October. the timescale for this would be Late Spring/ Early Summer

2 main risks with introducing a priority system at this location: Increased vehicle speeds on the approach with priority. Confusion/conflict over right of way between vehicles emerging from blacksmiths Lane and vehicles at/or approaching a newly established give way on Main Street.

Work to be done

1. The removal of the centre line road markings localised to the narrowing
2. Edge of carriageway markings to accentuate the reduced width.
3. The road narrows signs and 'SLOW' markings on both approaches.

Local Transport – The bus strategy was not funded by the central government

Emerging minerals Local Plan

- Delays due to the Planning Inspectorate's capacity
- a draft copy of the Inspectors' report with WCC for "fact-checking"
- Some comments were returned to the Planning Inspectorate.
- final report imminent, but no confirmed date from the Planning Inspectorate
- WCC anticipate progressing the Minerals Local Plan with the Inspectors' Report for consideration by Cabinet in May and Full Council in July, - caveat this may change if the Inspectors' Report is not received very soon.

A46 – a relevant local issue – updates attached.

Safety update for A46 Worcestershire

Following various meetings and exchanges concerning safety issues on the A46 from Evesham to Teddington Hands it was agreed that we should attempt to develop an options appraisal. The Parish Councils have populated the table with proposed improvements, and National Highways have responded on progress.

No.	Proposal	Perceived Benefits	Challenges to delivery	Possible timescale	Update on progress from National Highways (NH)
1	Realign road markings at Sedgeberrow north junction	More easily identify junction and path of A46 to avoid driver confusion.	Work may not be completed in the time available as planned scheme work takes priority.	April 2022	30/03/22 - NH are exploring the option to amend white lining in upcoming Worcester Bends and Junctions closure in late April. This will depend on available time and resources.
2	Splitter island north Sedgeberrow junction	Reduce the risk by preventing southbound vehicles overtaking traffic slowing to turn left into Sedgeberrow.	Clarification required over whether splitter has to be lit. Electricity supply a potential problem but solar solution potential. This would require an NH scheme to be designed and approved.	Long-term	30/03/22 - The splitter island is a possibility if the speed limit is reduced (see point 8), but would need to go through a Road Safety Audit.
3	Remove or re-site redundant or poorly located signage at the Sedgeberrow North junction	Improves visibility of junction and so reduces the risk of accidents.	None – works scheduled within existing budgets	April 2022	28/03/22 - Sign should be removed in April/May as part of Worcester Bends and junctions' work.
4	Traffic light junction at Sedgeberrow north	Would guarantee priority on to A46 from Sedgeberrow, Dumbleton etc.	Not funded – would have to be included as part of the Road Investment Strategy (RIS). This would	N/A	05/04/22 – This is unlikely to progress as a solution. Installing traffic lights would create such a differential in traffic flow that queues

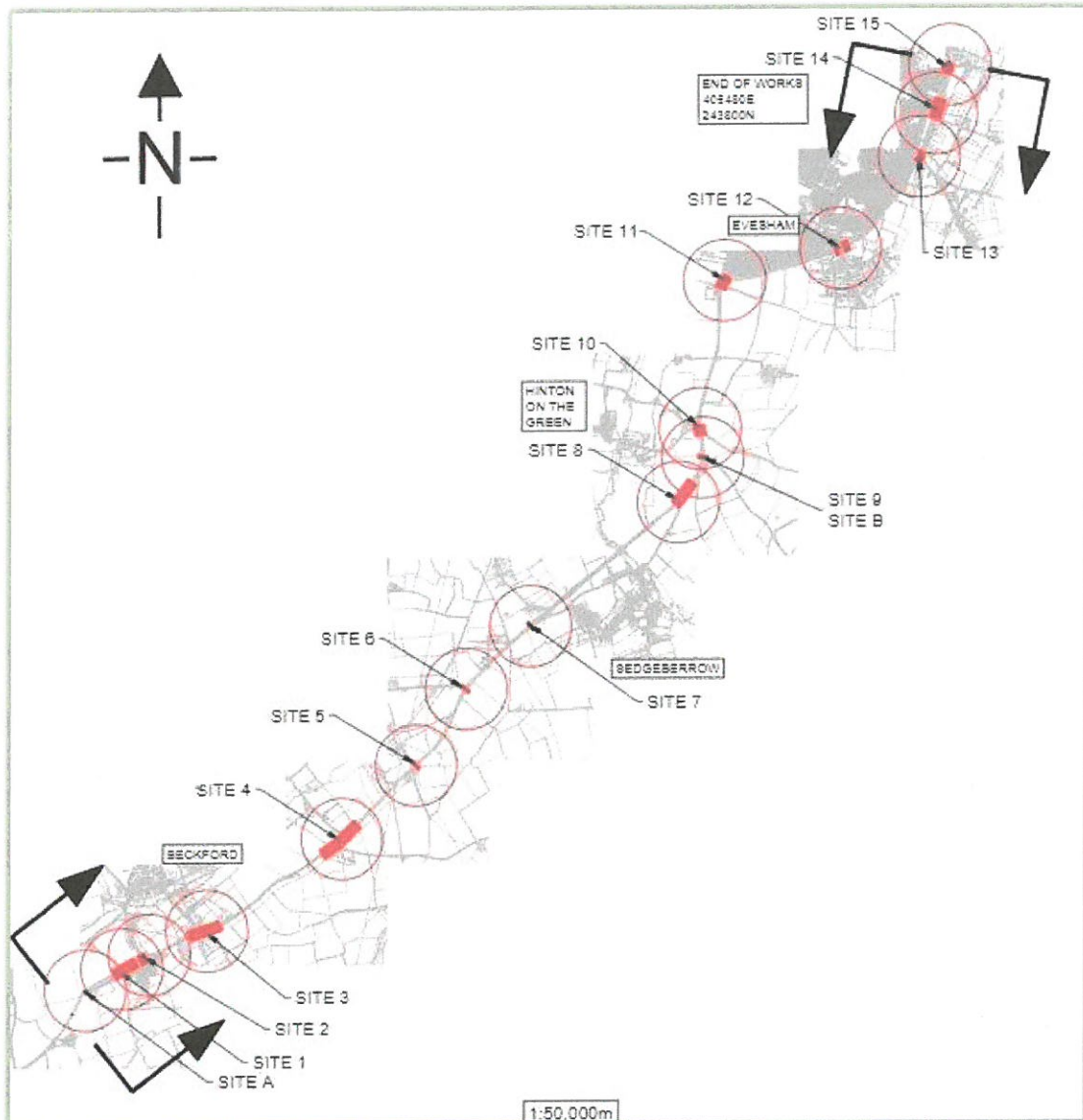
			require extensive modelling to assess stacking impact on A46 and there is the potential for B4078 to become a 'rat run' if access to A46 made easier.		would form on the A46 and introduce a hazard to road users.
5	Solar Powered Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) sited north of Hinton crossroads	Alert drivers travelling from Evesham of the junction ahead and people waiting to join the A46 at Hinton crossroads.	None – works possible within existing budgets	Summer /Autumn 22	07/04/22 – We are working at pace to install the VAS as soon as possible. It is important to design the sign and sensors to fit around the existing utilities. We should be able to give a more accurate timescale in May 2022.
6	Improve signage at Hinton Crossroads	As above highlight risk to drivers e.g. replace deer sign with staggered junction.			30/03/22 – The VAS (please see point 5) will contribute to improved signage and other measures are being included in the design as part of the speed reduction proposal (please see point 8).
7	Relocate BT boxes at Hinton cross roads	Improve visibility for traffic emerging from Childswickham side of junction			Councillor Elizabeth Eyre of Worcester County Council is engaging with BT on the location of these boxes.
8	Speed limit reduction from 60mph – extent to be determined but noted that Evesham has both 50mph	Reducing the speed limit along with camera enforcement would reduce accidents as a result of vehicles emerging from	This requires a full analysis of speed data and also statutory consultation.	Mid to long-term	07/04/22 - All reductions in speed limit must be agreed with West Mercia Police, and alterations made to the road so it 'feels' like an

	and 40mph limits	Broadway Road, by creating more thinking time for drivers approaching the junction.			appropriate speed to drive at. A scheme is in the early stages of design in consultation with West Mercia police and will be considered alongside other safety schemes for delivery in the region.
9	To create a no right turn from Elmley side of Hinton junction forcing traffic to route via Evesham and use roundabout	Would reduce risks at the junction	Would need full analysis to assess impact		07/04/22 – This is not something NH would support. A no right turn on the Bevans Lane junction would not physically stop traffic turning right. The measure would need enforcing by police and would be resource intensive. It may also cause more drivers to attempt U-turns before Evesham.
10	To increase capacity at Elmley side of Hinton junction by widening the road	Reduce frustration and hence risk by allowing traffic turning North to easily join the A46	Requires feasibility and cost analysis. Potentially a WCC project as on their network	Mid to long-term	28/03/22 – NH to begin discussion with WCC on a proposal for a dedicated left-hand turn at Bevans Lane junction.
11	Filter lane at Aston Somerville junction to more easily allow vehicles heading South to join A46	Improve connection with A46 and hence reduce risks	Requires feasibility and cost analysis. Potentially a joint NH/WCC project as on both networks.		07/04/22 – This would need consideration by WCC.
12	Use of traffic lights either side of Hinton junction to create 'space' for cars emerging from	Would aid vehicles emerging from side roads by creating more time to exit safely	Requires feasibility to demonstrate effectiveness. Carries risk that vehicles once stopped then		05/04/22 – This is unlikely to progress as a solution. Installing traffic lights would create such a differential in traffic flow that queues

	sideroads i.e. not a full traffic light junction		accelerate towards junction to make-up for time loss thereby increasing risk for vehicles emerging from side roads.		would form on the A46 and introduce a hazard to road users. Investment through the RIS should improve safety on the road network.
13	Ashton under Hill junction improvements – splitter island or signage	Signage to assist junction visibility. Previous bollards with chevrons allegedly lost during maintenance/ grass cutting	Requires investigation		28/03/22 – Analysis of the circumstances indicates collisions that occurred at this location were due to driver behaviour, for example they failed to look properly or suffered a loss of control. There is no indication that a splitter island would improve safety at this junction. NH sent inspectors to raise a defect record for the missing bollards. These will be replaced in due course as part of routine maintenance.
14	Vale garage/ Long Carrant vehicle activated signs (VAS)	Warning sign for traffic heading north – noting potential for stacking traffic; turning right into garage and businesses	Allegedly previously funded but not implemented. Needs clarifying; potential offer to fund a VAS from Police and Crime Commissioner.		07/04/22 – This is not something that NH are considering. The visibility of vehicles waiting to turn on approach to the services is good, so drivers should be aware and slow accordingly.
15	Camera enforcement along A46	Enforcement associated with speed reduction so assists wider safety	Average speed monitoring is expensive due to infrastructure required, so reserved for stretches of road with greater accident rates.	N/A	07/04/22 – Camera enforcement is used in areas where speed is a known contributor in collisions and would be progressed through the Safer Roads Partnership if appropriate.

			Enforcement carried out currently carried out by West Mercia Speed enforcement team.		
16	A roundabout to replace the Hinton junction	Clearly safer than a staggered junction	Not funded – would have to be considered via RIS. Would require extensive modelling to assess stacking impact on A46. Equally works of this scale would need to fit into longer term plans for the A46 as a strategic highway. Very unlikely to meet the value for money requirements for a standalone scheme.		07/04/22 – A roundabout at Hinton Cross is unlikely to meet NH value for money constraints. Future planning applications may enable a roundabout as part of mitigation works to the road network. More homes and/or businesses would increase the number of vehicles using the junction, necessitating improvements to be made by the developer.

Worcester Bends & Junctions Scheme



Measures planned between Hinton Crossroads and Beckford under the Worcester Bends and Junctions scheme are as follows:

Site A – Beckford bend: we will install 25 new reflective bollards to delineate the bend and highlight the hazard to road users.

Sites 2 and 5: fitting new reflective bollards to highlight the junctions to road users.

Sites 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 9: replacing sign faces and installation of passive signposts, designed to deform or break on impact to reduce the severity of injury to a road user in the event of an impact.

Site B – Aston Somerville turn: Replacing direction and chevron sign faces and installation of passive signposts, installation of 25 new reflective bollards to delineate the bend and highlight the hazard to road users.

Sites 10 to 15 around Evesham involve replacing a mixture of sign faces and installing passive signposts.

Crothorne with Charlton Village Hall: Chairman's Report April 2022

Committee:

Chairman John Grove stood down in November last year and has been replaced by Rupert Segar. Our treasurer is still Maggie Grove, who replaced Richard Getting. Along with several new trustees and there are currently 9 VHMC members. Our AGM this year will be held on May 17th.

Bookings:

We were closed up until the second week of April 2021.

Bookings started picking up after that, with some of our keen regulars back again. Exceptions were Ballroom dancing, Pilates and Zumba, who started back in June. Yoga back in July and Zen meditation not until September.

Children's parties back in July, but still a bit thin on the ground

Usual groups held their annual Sunday school outing, plus there were a couple of Christening and a Wedding in Aug/Sept.

By October, children's parties back up to usual bookings and continue to be so.

Indoor bowling back in October too.

Coffee morning back in Jan 2022 and Baby Sensory (teacher on maternity leave) started back again in Feb. 2022.

New groups during 21/22 period: U3A Jam (music group) and Key2Confidence (supporting children and young people with autism and anxiety)

Hall Maintenance:

The village hall is in very good condition. We are currently three quarters of the way through a scheme to replace and add extra emergency lights and to replace light switches in the changing rooms with motion detectors. Gutters and rooves have been seen to. The fire alarm box has been repaired twice. We've recently passed our Fire Alarm examination although 3 extinguishers need replacing – ordered. The external doors and window frames have been painted this year.

PVs/Ground Source Heating/Water:

The PVs and heat pump produce an income which pays our utility bills and generates a small profit. Aware that these payments won't last forever, we looked at these money saving initiatives:

Replacing all our lighting with LEDs, saving energy and money, this project is now complete. Installing a system which uses our solar powered electricity for heating water for the washbasins rather than selling it at a low price to our supplier.

Play areas:

The play areas are still well used and enjoyed.

The PC contributes an annual amount of £900 towards upkeep and repairs - thank you.

The field in general has been such an appreciated facility for local people these last two years.

Our annual RoSPA safety check has been done and a 'to do' list will be compiled from it.

Football:

Football restarted a year ago

Our adult team is still Crophorne FC and there are 3 junior teams.

Field upkeep:

The team of 7 mowers, organised by Alan Hughes, continue to mow the Sheppey.

The replacement mower, bought nearly a year ago, continues to perform well and so far has been more cost effective than the old Ransom.

Fuel for the mower is now bought in bulk, which is cheaper and much easier for the mowers.

Field Improvements:

A sum of 106 money was used to refurbish the paths and replace the old field gate.

The rest of this project – a mesh path down the main road side of the field, with additional parking spaces and an improved exit/entrance onto the field from

Blacksmith's Lane has been completed. We are now looking at signage to encourage people to use the parking overspill.

Events:

The Picnic in the Park, took place last year on 11th September.

A similar event is planned to commemorate the Queen's platinum jubilee.

The annual VH Quiz took place on Saturday November 27th and we've booked another for Saturday 26th November. The committee is keen to increase community involvement and attendance at events at the hall and on the field.

Finances:

Income was about £30,000 of which £12939 was from Wychavon District Council re: Covid. We also received support from other groups and charities to help us to run community events.

Thanks

Many thanks to John Grove for managing the hall until last November. Thanks to the mowing team managed by Alan Hughes. And last but definitely not least, thanks to Lynda for looking after the hall.

Rupert Segar

Chairman CCVH committee

Randolph Meakins Patty's Farm & Widow Lye Charity

Report 2021-22

As I write this report it feels like a case of déjà vu. Covid still remains an issue and with the Government now relaxing the measures it had in place it appears that almost everyone knows a family who is affected by it. However, hopefully not as bad as it was.

We again as a committee have found it difficult to operate over the past year as we would like and our face to face meetings have been very limited. However, despite this with the help of the committed trustees we have still been able to support several groups with grants and help over the past twelve months.

I mentioned last year that the Charities' income would be dependent on the volatile markets due to the pandemic but as we appeared to be seeing the markets recover it has again been affected by the terrible circumstances in the Ukraine, but our issues are miniscule to that of those people who are suffering at the moment.

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, we again had to cancel our usual popular afternoon teas at Holland House which was a disappointment, but hopefully we will be able to hold it again in July this year. The date will be confirmed and a leaflet sent around the village. It is open to Crophorne residents who are 60+ or retired. The numbers for this event may have to be limited so if you wish to go please contact the clerk as soon as possible after the leaflets have been delivered to avoid disappointment.

On a brighter note we have awarded several grants this year.

£800 was awarded to Crophorne and Charlton First School towards their purchase of a new group of books which will offer the children better reading opportunities, and the Pre-school was awarded a grant of £327 for equipment.

There were several students who were attending full time education either at college or university and the grants totalled £400.

The Village Hall was also supported with a grant of £300 which went towards the Picnic in the Park event on the Sheppey. An event which appeared to go down very well with the villagers who attended.

The charity again provided Christmas vouchers for the Senior citizens of the village and this totalled £2173. As always these were gratefully received by the residents.

On a more unfortunate note there have been quite a few Crophorne residents who have been in hospital over the past year and they have been given a suitable gift, usually a box of fruit for when they return home.

The charity would be very grateful that if you hear of any resident who has been in hospital please could you let the Clerk or any of the trustees know so we can provide a gift for when they return home. We might already know but there is always the possibility that we don't and we would not want to miss the opportunity to provide a gift.

Over the past year despite the financial issues the charity has been pleased to have been able to distribute over £4000 in grants/vouchers to the residents of Crophorne and hopefully we will be able to continue our support in the next year.

Finally, the trustees hope that the residents of Crophorne, their families and friends can now begin to enjoy life again as we hope to get back to a bit of normality although everyone is still aware that Covid is also out and about.

The Trustees are, Sheila Smith, Angela Henderson, Sheila Castle, Roger Hutchings, Jim Carter, Angela Hall & John Ayliffe, Lesley Houghton (Clerk)

John Ayliffe

Chairman.

Randolph Meakins Patty's Farm and Widow Lye Charity

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2022

CHURCH REPORT

With regret, I shall be several thousand miles away on the 9th, please give my apologies for the meeting.

I am afraid I am still holding the reins here for the time being!

Our churches agreed not to prepare summaries for the Parish Annual Accounts statement this year, due to the COVID closure for most of the 2021 year (Jan to Dec).

We are re-starting work on the Toilet Project soon, having obtained PCC approval to commission the detailed plans needed for LA Planning Permission and Full Faculty.

Regards

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2022
CROPTHORNE WALKABOUT REPORT

It was very good to get the Cropthorne Walkabout back on the calendar this year. Our thanks for to all who helped to make it such an enjoyable and successful event.

The weather on Sunday 1st was rather damp, overcast and cold but we filled about half the Sheppey with visitor's cars and they enjoyed entertainment on both the Sheppey and the Churchyard. The weather picked up on Monday 2nd and although not sunny it felt much warmer and the Sheppey was nearly full with cars.

Visitors on both days enjoyed exploring 15 gardens, seeing a beautiful floral display in the Church, browsing round stalls in the Village Hall and on the Sheppey, as well as the tombola and bric a brac stall whilst eating an ice cream in the churchyard. There were classic motorbikes on display and a book stall in one garden and a wide variety of classic cars in another. Delicious cream teas and homemade cakes were also on offer in a garden setting. There were several stalls serving food and homemade refreshments served in the Village Hall. The Miniature Stream Railway was a delight and is always a very popular attraction.

On Monday the school was open and the children danced round the maypole, in the churchyard the Morris Men performed their dances, both of which proved popular.

Joint Chair - Carolyn Middleton and Kathy Rayers