

**Minutes from a meeting of Cropthorne Parish Council held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023. 7 pm in the Village Hall.**

**Present:** Chairman B Annis, Cllr J King, Cllr C Hall, Cllr W Clive, Cllr K Styan, Cllr S Smythe. County Cllr E Eyre, District Cllr T Rowley. Lengthsman Steve Baker Clerk : Richard Timney

1. **Apologies** – None.
2. **Declarations of Interest.** Cllr King and Cllr Hall – village hall.
3. **Approval of minutes from meeting Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022** – acceptance agreed. Proposed Cllr Hall, Seconded Cllr Smythe.

#### **4. Planning**

Design code consultation - Wychavon Central and North – consultation ends 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2023. Feedback from a parishioner was that the form was badly designed and with poor questions leading to doubts about the process. **Clerk to send note to planning office.**

W/22/02565/FUL - Location: Lanesfield, Smokey Lane, Cropthorne, Pershore, WR10 3NF  
Description of Proposal: Erection of new hay store and covered barn (part retrospective) - confirm objection and concern submitted – Dec 2022 **Noted**

W/22/02540/FUL - Location: Land Known As Greenacres, Brook Lane, Cropthorne  
Description of Proposal: Amended design of dwelling and garage of Plot 4 – confirm no objection submitted Dec 2022. **Noted**

#### **5. HIGHWAY MATTERS (TO INCLUDE FLOODING).**

Concerns raised about Brook Lane and Brook Lane Cottages with worries that the highway may be undercut by the brook and that maybe culverts serving the Brook were too small. **County Cllr and Clerk to raise with County Council.**

Haselor Lane is due to suffer closures over the next 18 months due to Severn Trent works.

The quality of road surface works in Field Barn Lane was questioned with lumps and bumps left in repairs with no joint seals made. Apparently that the affected areas include passing places which are not maintained to the same level and in due course top dressing the road surface will deal with any issues. **Clerk to raise the issue with County Council.**

Could Neigh Lane be made one way? According to the Highways Department they would be unwilling to introduce this because traffic would flow faster and be more dangerous for pedestrians and the flexibility of the road for regular user would be reduced.

## 6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S / DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

**County Cllr Eyre** reported her continuing work as per report previously circulated and the highway matters above.

**Wychavon DC Cllr T. Rowley** reported on a quiet month of planning matters and on the next stage of the SWDP.

## 7. Progress Reports / Updates

- a) Lengthsman – 4 New Dog Poop signs to be ordered and Middle Lane Brambles will be cut back shortly.
- b) Community Infrastructure Levy Fund – *Solar powered traffic calming / speeding signs are on order but there is no delivery date so far – with some considerable delays in the matter. New road markings have been put in place.*
- c) Speeding / Traffic : Community Speed Watch – Start date is delayed as new volunteers are needed to make the scheme viable. A Facebook and e mail request for volunteers was issued. One new resident has so far emerged. **Cllr Styan will repeat the appeal on Facebook.**
- d) VAS sign declared defunct. **Cllr Hall will investigate any possible remedy.**
- e) Baldwin's Bank : Cllrs will meet onsite what with a contractor in January to considered what is possible to achieve. Funding for tree planting and environmental works could follow. **Cllr Styan and Cllr Hall will investigate further action.**

## 8. FINANCE / GOVERNANCE

- a) Payments made since last meeting

1117	Deposit new Unity Bank ac	500.00
1118	Deposit new Unity Bank savings ac	500.00
1119	Clerks Expenses	131.04
1120	Lengthsman Nov	168.00
1121	Cheque cancelled	
1122	Lengthsman Dec	168.00
1123	Defib batteries 1 set	232.80
1124	Defib batteries 2nd set	232.80

**2023/03**

Payments for approval.

Calc	Clerks training	36.00
HMRC	Quarterly PAYE	290.40
Clerk's salary 4months	since Sept 2022	1162.24
Clerk's expenses	4 months	64.88
PATA (UK)	Payroll services	47.95
Wychavon dc	Dog waste bin	100.34

Proposed Cllr BA, Seconded Cllr CM. **Approved.**

**Budget and Precept setting.** Cllrs considered the current (2022/23) budget and any changes that may be needed in the next financial year.

Resolved to request **an increase of £4.36 per year for a band D property** in the Parish. A 16.6% rise on a small budget. Extra funds are primarily to cover inflation and works to Baldwins Bank.

Proposed Cllr SS, Seconded Cllr KS. **Approved.**

#### **Coronation Medals for children at the Crophorne First School.**

Cllrs approved plans to offer medals to children at Crophorne First School.

County Cllr E Eyre offered to fund half the costs of the medals. **Clerk to follow up with the school.**

#### **Section 106 Funding.**

Wychavon DC have written to the PC with details of potential Section 106 (planning gain) funds being available to Crophorne PC subject to an application. The unallocated amount is £7945.27 to be spent on public open spaces.

Cllrs discussed putting some of these funds towards the opening up of Baldwins Bank - subject to discussions about what is possible. **Clerk to follow up with Wychavon DC following a meeting onsite with contractors and further discussions.**

#### **9. VILLAGE HALL -**

*Report from Cllr JK and CH.*

A successful quiz night had been held.

Volunteers grass mowers had been thanked for their efforts and given a bottle of wine each.

Signage in and around the hall had been improved.

#### **10. Plant boxes in Blacksmith's Lane**

Cllr Hall is working on refurbishing two plant boxes in Blacksmith's Lane. He will submit a bill for parts costs.

#### **11. Open Forum / Public Question Time.**

A parishioner sought information about what he could do **about poorly placed diversion signs** that divert traffic down Field Barn Lane. Cllr Eyre explained that contractors work to a specific plan to locate each sign and if they are wrong for those that notice to report it to the County Council so they can put it right.

**2023/04**

AP parishioner asked for clarification as to **what “development boundary” means** in relation to planning rules for a village. Cllrs said the development boundary defined the area of a village that may be developed most simply. Developments outside a development boundary have more difficulty in getting planning permission.

Cllr KS reported on the re siting of the post box in

## **12. ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION / AGENDAS**

- a) Potential for replacing dog poo bins with ordinary bins. **Clerk to enquire with Wychavon DC**
- b) Baldwins Bank proposals following on site discussions.

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2023**