

**MINUTES OF THE CROSSWAYS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2010**

Present: Cllr Andrew Brewer (Chairman), Cllr Ron Arnold (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Elaine Stenning, Cllr Dave Harris, Cllr Joyce Rhodes, Cllr Barry Thomas, Cllr Daphne Bearman, and Cllr Kathy Foster

Also Present: District Councillor Teresa Seall, Dorset County Councillor David Crowhurst, Kris Hallett DCA and PC Charlie Dale

**PUBLIC INFORMATION ANNOUNCEMENTS** There were no public information announcements.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD**

- a. Mrs Bridget Symes asked who funded the questionnaire recently circulated in Crossways asking about walking areas noting that this questionnaire was supplied with a stamped addressed envelope addressed to the Clerk. Cllr Brewer replied that the Parish Council did not pay for this questionnaire and apologised for the fact that this was not noted on the questionnaire. This fact will be reported in the Bridge.
- b. Steve Cole presented the Council with a petition with 200 signatures regarding the condition of the Football Pitch. Cllr Brewer advised that the Parish Council has a Working Party dealing with this led by Cllr Arnold.
- c. Cllr Kathy Foster asked about the problem with Deer entering gardens. PC Dale advised that he was not aware of this problem. PC Dale asked that the public be aware of Poachers but cautioned approaching them but note vehicle registration and phone 999. PC Dale offered to follow up this concern.

**REPORT BY COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER** PC Dale reported there have been incidences of anti-social behaviour at the Youth Club; PCSO Vickie Hedges is dealing. During the recent speed watch on the Warmwell Road 225 vehicles were monitored and 5 were caught speeding. Crimes reported during the previous three months were nine Minor thefts including thefts from outbuildings and oil stolen from oil storage tanks. Cllr Brewer told PC Dale about the incidences of speeding after late in the evening, around 10pm. PC Dale offered to look into this.

**REPORT BY KRIS HALLETT, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKER** Apologies were received from Kris Hallett. Cllr Brewer, reporting on her behalf advised about the event organised by the Crossways Youth Forum to celebrate the new MUGA and Skate Park to take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May. There will be a meeting in the Sports Pavilion Dick o' th' Banks Road on the 7<sup>th</sup> April to discuss this event. It was noted that the CYPF has raised £900.00 already for this event.

POST MEETING NOTE: This event will not now take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May, new date to be advised.

**REPORT BY COUNTY COUNCILLOR – CLLR CROWHURT** Councillor Crowhurst's report is attached to the main and library copy of these minutes and is available on the web site. On the matter of the B3390 he hopes that when the Weymouth Relief road is in place and the tonnage restrictions in place conditions of this road should improve. Cllr Crowhurst advised that he now chairs the Woodsford Fields Quarry Liaison meeting and traffic controls have been enforced on request at this Liaison group.

**REPORT BY DISTRICT COUNCILLORS** Cllr Seall's to follow.

**THE MEETING**

**ITEM 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Apologies were received from Cllr Connor and Cllr Bache. Councillors were advised of the reasons and these were accepted.

**ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** Cllr Brewer declared a Personal and Prejudicial interest in Item 10 stating that he would leave the room and take no part in the discussions or vote.

**ITEM 3 DECLARATIONS OF PREDETERMINATION** There were no Declarations of Predetermination.

**ITEM 4 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – 25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2010** The Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record and duly signed.

Proposed Cllr Rhodes, seconded Cllr Foster AGREED

**ITEM 5 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**

- a. **ITEM 9 TO RECEIVE REPORT/UPDATE SPORTS FIELD WORKING PARTY – CLLR ARNOLD** A copy of Cllr Arnold's report was copied to Councillors and is attached to these minutes. Cllr Arnold advised that volunteers are needed to clean the manholes. Cllr Arnold is waiting for costings prior to seeking funding.

**ACTION: WORKING PARTY**

Cllr Arnold advised he is still waiting for costings

**b. ITEM 11 TO CONSIDER MEMORIAL BENCH IN MEMORY OF EX CLLR GEORGE HOOD – CLLR BREWER** *Cllr Brewer showed various types of bench materials. This item was deferred to allow further details of bench prices and materials.*

**ACTION: CLERK**

This matter is ongoing. Cllr Harris supplied the Clerk with details of benches.

## **ITEM 6 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

It was a great pleasure and privilege to represent this Council at the surprise farewell party for our village Librarian Chris Galpin. A truly memorable evening and a fitting tribute to Chris and her work. I was joined by four of my predecessors as Chairman in the school hall. There was a chance for a word with the Head of the Library Services who asked me to report back that they will be advertising for a replacement in due course. Unfortunately, budget cuts mean there is no money for an advertisement at present. In the meantime a rota of librarians will be covering the Crossways Library. It may mean if you use the library on a regular time and day you will see the same person but if you pop in it may be a selection of faces who greet you. I hope Councillors will agree that it is our responsibility on behalf of the community to keep a close eye on this situation. Crossways Library needs its librarian and sooner rather than later. This is a crucial time as the Friends Scheme starts to pick up momentum and hopefully will see an increase of the hours by using volunteer help.

Councillors have been involved in several different projects at the moment. Preliminary surveys and investigations have been carried out in preparation for the installation of the MUGA and skate bowl and we are advised that construction will commence next week. Councillors and the public may expect to receive regular updates as work progresses. We are now within weeks of two brand new, purpose built facilities. Following my previous report I now propose to establish a Management Committee for the Dick o' th' Banks site and have asked Stella to make the necessary arrangements for full council to enable this to be set up. The agenda for this body to include the question of byelaws for the site, the management of the land, the pavilion and new equipment. There will be an opportunity for user organisations to be represented and a separate constitution will be required for this group.

I am sure that the majority of villagers will have been concerned and saddened to learn about the incident in the village Post Office when a large amount of money was stolen by 'visitors' to Crossways. I wish the police well and hope that anyone with information will respond. I was also concerned to hear that a senior member of our community had money stolen in a scam which involved a young couple calling and asking to search for a missing cat in her garden. Whilst out of the house an accomplice came in and stole her purse.

It is worrying the number of matters being referred to this Council which seem to indicate a lack of consideration some of which are illegal and some of which are just annoying and unpleasant. This Council has focused on the problem of dog mess but it is also of concern that a minority of dog owners are allowing their pets to endanger others by not having them on leads and therefore under control. On Monday evening one of our residents cycling past this hall was pursued and almost knocked off his bike by three uncontrolled dogs. I would urge anyone who witnesses things of this nature to report it. How many times as a Council have we heard the antics of younger members of the community condemned and criticised. In some ways they will copy some of the things they see the adults doing. We have also our litter problem and those who criticise the council when the village looks like an open cast tip. We have a litter picker who is paid at charge payers expense – but hang on ! it should not be necessary, it is illegal to drop litter, it is anti social, it is happening in front of our eyes and we say or do nothing. Why should our taxes go up because a minority again think it their right to do exactly as they please without any consequences ? We will do our best to make sure litter bins are provided, that signs go up about dogs fouling the walkways but it will not cure the situation. What will need to happen is that people will have to be caught and dealt with according to the law.

The roads around Crossways are still blighted by potholes and I have certainly noticed more and more lorry traffic in the past few weeks. Lorries are to be sheeted and some of our litter problems stem from refuse blowing off these vehicles. If you can, take a number and report it with day, date and time. We will continue to push for co-operation with the local companies but we need the evidence to present to the agencies that are there to support us. As a Council we made strong representation on the impact of any increase in HGV movements. The more we report the more chance that something will be done. If operators cannot operate within the rules they run the risk of losing their licences to operate.

We have now received an outline of the landscaping for the Woodsford Fields area that we are shortly to take possession of. May I thank those Councillors who have given their feedback and attended the meeting with Betterment Properties. I would like to show you what has been received and invite any further comments to be made as quickly as possible. The Councillors agreed to plant a more mature tree on this area and decided on a sweet chestnut. This will hopefully avoid any future complaints about large scale ball games and create a pleasant area for seating, the notice board and a play area for the younger age range.

A meeting was also held with the consultants Broadway Malyan which was informative and interesting. A public consultation on proposals will follow but at the moment a survey of dog walking routes is underway and I would urge as many as possible to complete and return the questionnaires using the pre paid envelope or the boxes in the village.

**ITEM 7 TO FORM A MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR THE SPORTS FIELD (CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY REFERS)** Councillors agreed that this Committee would envelope the sports field as a whole and one of its first duties would be to consider, update and amend bye laws as previously requested. It was noted that the Committee would be formed including a residents representative, a football member, a Skate Bowl member, a Multi-Use Games area representative and Councillors. The Chair and the Vice Chair will sit as ex-officio members. Cllr Dave Harris and Cllr Barry Thomas volunteered to sit on this Committee. A first meeting will be arranged and a constitution agreed. A report will be written in the Bridge Magazine inviting interested residents/clubs to join the Management Committee. Cllr Brewer stated that these Committee meetings will be properly constituted and reported back to the Full Council and will start with Public Participation.

Proposed: Cllr Anold, seconded Cllr Harris

AGREED

**ITEM 8 REPORT PLANNING SEMINAR – CLLR HARRIS** Cllr Harris advised that although interesting he felt it was aimed at the wrong audience and mostly irrelevant to Parish Councils. Cllr Harris's views will be passed to the County Training Partnership at DAPTC.

AGREED/ACTION

CLERK

**ITEM 9 A REPORT FINANCE SEMINAR – CLLR ARNOLD** Cllr Arnold gave his report advising that the following issues were discussed; depreciation, Asset Register (the Council will look at its Register to ensure it is up to date), the cessation of the cheque book and its implications. Cllr Arnold advised that VAT claims should be minuted. A question arose of Parish Council's powers regarding charities; this will be followed up for confirmation.

**ITEM 10 TO CONSIDER PARISH COUNCILS ANNUAL DONATION TO THE BRIDGE MAGAZINE** Cllr Brewer left the room. Cllr Arnold took the Chair stating the donation under consideration was for £300.00. Cllr Bearman and Cllr Stenning supported this donation stating that the Bridge is an important source of information. Cllr Thomas supported the donation and noted this Magazine is produced and distributed by volunteers. Cllr Rhodes agreed. Cllr Arnold stated that this donation was to be given on the understanding that the Bridge Editor produced accounts; he felt this has not happened. Cllr Arnold spoke against this motion stating the Council should not pay suggesting advertising costs were increased. Cllr Bearman stated that accounts are published. Cllr Harris proposed that the Council agree this donation and ask the Editor to produce accounts. This donation will be made:

Proposed Cllr Bearman, seconded Cllr Rhodes. A vote was taken 6 for 1 against

CARRIED

**ITEM 11 TO ACCEPT MINUTES OF WARMWELL QUARRY LIAISON MEETING OCT 8<sup>th</sup> 2009 AND TO HEAR PRELIMINARY REPORT LIAISON MEETING 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2010 – CLLR ARNOLD** Cllr Arnold advised members that once quarry has finished the area will be marketed for sale and questioned any restoration consultation. Cllr Arnold was advised that the Quarry Managers had consulted with residents and the Council extensively in May 09.

**ITEM 12 TO CONSIDER EXPENDITURE TO FIX THREE WOODEN POSTS, IN CEMENT, IN MOIGNE COMBE ROAD TO AFIX WDDC PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG PENALTY SIGNS** Members agreed to expenditure not exceeding £100 for the installation of these posts.

Proposed: Cllr Thomas, seconded Cllr Arnold

AGREED

**ITEM 13 TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**1/D/10/000283 35 COMBE WAY – DEMOLISH CONSERVATORY, BUILD NEW EXTENSION AND REBUILD ATTACHED GARAGE** It was noted that these plans were not available and the resident Librarian closed early on the day of collection. The Clerk was requested to speak to the Librarian to ensure future plans are available. Plans were available on line and Councillors advised. No objections were raised to this application.

**ITEM 14 TO NOTE AND APPROVE EXPENDITURE 25<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2010 – 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2010**

	Income	Expenditure
Field Hire Crossways Football Club	159.00	
Allotment Lease		50.00
Allotment Society Rent	100.00	
Shrub and Maintenance Contract		750.00
Expenses Clerk Motoring/Home Office (3 Months/6 Months)		148.00
Salary Clerk		
Village Hall Rent		48.00
Inland Revenue PAYE		274.45
Training DAPTC		50.00
Nildram Broadband		16.61
British Gas		225.10
S Manuel		100.00

Cleaners Pavilion	60.00
Century 21	105.75
Clerks Gratuity Annual Payment	435.17
Southern Electric	75.03
DAPTC New Standing Orders	51.00

Proposed: Cllr Thomas, seconded Cllr Bearman

**ITEM 15 TO NOTE END OF YEAR BUDGET REPORT** Councillors were given an end of year budget report. Cllr Harris requested that totals be included in this report.

ACTION: CLERK

**ITEM 16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2010** Noted

**ITEM 17 ANY LATE URGENT ITEMS AT THE CHAIRMAN’S DISCRETION – CLLRS ARE REQUESTED TO ADVISE THE CHAIRMAN OF ANY LATE ITEMS THEY WISH TO BRING FORWARD PRIOR TO THE MEETING** None requested.

Meeting closed at 8.50

Signed ..... (Chairman) ..... 2010