

MINUTES OF THE CROSSWAYS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7PM ON THURSDAY 28TH JUNE 2007

Present Cllr D Smy (Chairman), Cllr J Rhodes (Vice Chairman), Cllr Andrew Brewer, Cllr Valerie Bache, Cllr Terrie Connor, Cllr Geoffrey Northcote, Cllr Dave Smith and Cllr (Mrs) Thelma Smith,

Also present: County Cllr David Crowhurst, District Cllr Teresa Seall, District Cllr Peter Read and Kris Hallet (Community Capacity Worker)

PUBLIC INFORMATION ANNOUNCEMENTS There were no public announcements.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD

a. Mr Clarke, a resident of Oaklands Park stated that whilst the residents appreciated the boundary mounds put in place of the area of land, recently cleared, abutting their properties; they were still very concerned about the condition of the area. Mr Clarke asked for the Council's support in lobbying the developer for a more secure barrier. Residents were concerned about the safety of the land in its present condition. The Clerk was instructed to write to the developers requesting a secure fence be built on the boundary.

ACTION: CLERK

b. Cllr Smy in response to a question regarding the Methodist Church informed the meeting that the Methodist Church building had been sold to Mr Crook. Mr Crook is willing to discuss the future of this building if requested.

c. Mr Peter Tizzard asked if there had been any communication regarding the matter of the Beavers using the sports field. The Clerk was instructed to read out correspondence received. Mr Tizzard asked for Cllr Smith's resignation. Cllr Brewer explained that a letter had been sent to the Chief Scout making complaints about the Scout Leaders present at the Beavers Sports days on the sports field. It was alleged that in the letter Cllr Smith referred to himself as a Parish Councillor. Cllr Brewer ask the Parish Council to disassociate themselves from Cllr Smith. Cllr Smith was asked to withdraw his letter on the grounds that it was unjust, unfair and unfounded. It was noted that the Clerk had written to Cllr Smith for a copy of this letter or to withdraw this letter. Cllr Smy said Cllr Smith should offer a copy of this letter to allow the Beavers to respond and to show he made no mention of his position as a Councillor. Cllr Smith replied stating he had no comment to make and that it is a private matter and he did not mention his position as a Councillor. Mrs Mary Warshaw told the meeting that she had heard reports that the sports field would be closed down for the convenience of residents of Egdon Glen. Mrs Warshaw stated that children must be permitted to play on the sports field. Thanking Mrs Warshaw Cllr Smy stated that there is nothing on the Council agenda to close the sports field. Cllr Smy ask that consideration be given to neighbours bordering the field and expressed his disappointment that this matter has reached such a stage. Cllr Smy stated that children's activities on the sports will be supported; the Scouting Movement will be supported and the youth of the Village will be supported.

d. Mr Tizzard questioned Cllr Seall regarding figures given to the Planning Committee Meeting at WDDC when the Church plans were under discussion. Mr Tizzard claimed that Cllr Seall informed the Committee that 460 people were in support of the Church. Mr Tizzard claimed that 284 people said no to the Church and 235 said yes. Cllr Seall replied stating that when questioned 460 people asked "if there is a church would they support it community use" they said yes and 235 people stated they would support a Church. Cllr Smy stated that 53% were against a church. Kris Hallet stated that 400 people replied to a survey stating that if there was a church built they would want it to be multi-functional. Mr Bill Kendrick spoke as a resident dealing with the Village Plan survey. It was noted that 40% of residents replying to the Village Plan survey stated they would like a church and 505 said not.

Cllr Smy ended Public Participation thanking all for their well presented points.

REPORT BY COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER Kris Hallet, speaking on behalf of the Community Support Officer, apologised for CPSO Hedges absence, stating she was unable to attend on compassionate grounds.

REPORTS BY DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

a. County Councillor Crowhurst Cllr Crowhurst's report is attached at Annex A to the main and library copy of these minutes.

b. District Councillor Seall Cllr Seall's report is attached at Annex B to the main and library copy of these minutes.

c. District Councillor Read Councillor Read spoke about the historic problems experienced along the B3390, the HGV and traffic problems and the accident black spots and referred to two recent accidents at Hurst Bridge. Cllr Read advised of a series of meeting being held with officers at DCC. Cllr Read advised of a further meeting to be held at his house on the 9th July with representatives of the Police Authority in attendance. Cllr Read informed the meeting of a planning application for nine units on the Hybris Industrial Estate. Cllr Read advised the meeting that in his position as a District Councillor living abutting Hybris explaining that he is not permitted to discuss this application. Cllr Read reminded the Council and the public in attendance of a previous application and the concerns about the height and asked that this is remembered when this new application is discussed. Hillary Marrett asked Cllr Read about the planning application in Redbridge Lane at the Old Council depot, noting that it had been withdrawn, and asking is there is a timescale for further applications. Cllr Read advised Mrs Marrett that the application had been withdrawn by the applicants to allow time for further consultation. A monthly report from Cllr Read will be attached to the Library copy of these minutes.

ACTION: CLERK

REPORTS BY SCHOOL GOVERNORS There were no school governors present. Cllr Smy informed the meeting that a monthly report from the school is in the Bridge.

REPORT BY KRIS HALLET COMMUNITY WORKER A copy of Kris Hallet's report will be placed with these minutes in the library.

AGENDA

ITEM 1 TO FILL BY CO-OPTION A VACANCY ON THE PARISH COUNCIL. FOLLOWED BY THE SIGNING OF THE DECLARATION OF OFFICE AND ACCEPTANCE OF CODE OF CONDUCT THE CHOSEN CANDIDATE WILL BE INVITED TO TAKE THEIR SEAT ON THE COUNCIL A round of voting was taken and after due process Mrs Abi Scard was elected to be co-opted to the Council and signed the Declaration of Office, witnessed by the Clerk, and took her seat on the Council

ITEM 2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Elaine Stenning and Cllr Caroline Round.

ITEM 3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

a. Cllr Valerie Bache declared an interest in Agenda Item No 11 stating that she would remain in the room for the item but not take part in any discussion or vote.

ITEM 4 DECLARATIONS OF PREDETERMINATION

a. Cllr Valerie Bache declared predetermination in Agenda Item 13, as a signatory of the Crossways Village Residents Group, stating that she would remain in the room but not take part in any discussion or vote.

a. Cllr Abi Scard declared predetermination in Agenda Item 13, as a signatory of the Crossways Village Residents Group, stating that she would remain in the room but not take part in any discussion or vote.

ITEM 5 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

ITEM 6 MATTERS ARISING There were no matters arising.

ITEM 7 CORRESPONDENCE The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from Mr Paul Martin, the agent for the planning application at the Old Council Depot, thanking the Council for the well constructed planning committee meeting and the opportunity to speak to the Council and those residents speaking for and against the application.

ITEM 8 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

a. Cllr Smy advised the Council that he had agreed to do a voluntary survey with Stuart Murgatroyd and identify trees that may need a TPO (Tree Protection Order) to WDDC. Cllr Smy acknowledged that he had received maps from WDDC and these maps will form the basis of the preliminary Parish Council survey to be undertaken by Stuart Murgatroyd supported by Cllr Northcote.

b. Cllr Smy informed the Council that he had attended the planning meeting at which the Church planning application had been discussed and raised the objections put forward by the Parish Council. Cllr Smy noted his disappointment that the issues raised in objection; the traffic issues and the size of the community hall part of the church not felt to be adequate for Village use. Concern is expressed that if Lottery Funding is used for this church/community hall application further funding could be denied to the Village for a Village Hall.

c. It was agreed that a further request for a response to concerns regarding the height of the workshops at the Redbridge Lane construction would be sent by the Clerk.

d. Cllr Smy advised that no response had been received regarding the forthcoming public consultation exercise to be undertaken by the owner and agents of the land at the junction of the B3390 and the Link Road. Cllr Conner asked that the developer be pushed for a response. Cllr Brewer questioned the proposed move of the Surgery to this development and the difficulty for patients having to cross the busy Link Road.

e. Cllr Smy advised the Council of the government initiative to supply all parish council clerks with a lap top, complementary hardware and a broadband connection. The Parish Council has requested this equipment and it is anticipated to be link up by end 2008.

f. Cllr Smy spoke of the Library issues and the forthcoming meeting on July 2nd at DCC and asked if any Councillor wished to attend.

ITEM 9 VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT (VDS) INTRODUCTION TO THE CONCEPT OF VDS; TO AGREE A SMALL SUB COMMITTEE UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF CLLR NORTHCOTE Cllr Northcote informed the Council that up to 400 villages have produced a VDS. Cllr Connor asked what a VDS was and was informed that it was a blue print on landscaping/design and planning. Cllr Smith endorsed the project; Cllr (Mrs) Smith supported; Cllr Rhodes supports saying that planning should be a forward looking project looking at all aspects. Cllr Bache agreed. Cllr Scard agreed. Cllr Connor and Cllr Brewer abstained.

AGREED

ITEM 10 TO CONSIDER PROBLEM OF YOUNG PEOPLE PLAYING FOOTBALL ON THE 'NO BALL GAMES' DESIGNATED AREA AT YALBURY LANE (ITEM DEFERRED FROM COMMITTEE 4TH JUN 07) Cllr Smy informed Councillors that a site meeting had been held. Cllr Smith said that the whole area had been looked at, including an area of land situated to the rear of properties 19, 21, 23, 25 and 27 Yalbury Lane facing Egdon Cottages and warned of a "nimbyism" culture. Cllr Bache stated that she understood the concerns of residents but if the Council plant trees they will be vandalised and stated the other area viewed was not visible. Cllr (Mrs) Smith has nothing further to offer but advised that residents must be consulted if it is suggested that the children be told to play football on the area behind the area mentioned. Cllr Scard asked about the play area to be built by Betterment properties. Cllr Connor advised that the proposed play area will not be developed until completion of the new estate at Woodsford Fields. The Council was advised that of the trees planted at the Pauls Way end of Yalbury Lane to prevent games of football being played two had been vandalised. Cllr Smy offered two proposals (a) to avoid playing of football by young teens build in the middle of the green a raised flower bed (b) place a small football net in the enclosed area behind properties (19,21,23,25 and 27). Kris Hallet offered the assistance of a team called Play Doctors who have experience in dealing with situations like this who have knowledge of funding groups. Cllr Smy suggested Kris Hallet is asked to assist the Council with this problem. Cllr Connor asked for safety measures to be taken into consideration when dealing with children playing on exposed greens. It was agreed to ask for help on this matter from Kris Hallet in her capacity as Community Worker.

AGREED

ITEM 11 CONSIDER LETTER ON STREET LIGHTING DICK O' TH' BANKS ROAD MR TURTLE (ITEM DEFERRED FROM COMMITTEE 4TH JUN 07) The Clerk explained that Mr Turtle had requested a survey/referendum of the residents of Dick o' th' Banks Road in the matter of street lighting. Cllr Brewer informed the Council that previously 40 – 50 residents of Dick o' th' Banks had lobbied the Council against street lighting when the traffic calming measures were being discussed (2001). Cllr Brewer suggested asking for comments in the Bridge. Cllr Scard agreed, Cllr (Mrs) Smith agreed. Cllr Smith agreed but said the Council must be aware of the cost implications. Cllr Connor informed the meeting that the matter of street lighting had come up during the traffic calming consultations during 2006 and were dismissed as cost prohibitive. It was agreed to use the Bridge to ask for villagers views.

ACTION: CLLR BREWER/CLERK

ITEM 12 CONSIDER DATES AND VENUE OF FUTURE MEETINGS (COUNCILLORS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO INFORM THE CLERK OF THERE NON AVAILABILITY/PREFERRED DATES FOR FULL COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS)

a. Venue Cllr Smy informed Councillors that the school had offered the use of the school hall as a monthly alternative to the Village Hall. Cllr Smy proposed that the next meeting of the full council take place in the school hall on a trial basis. Cllr Connor questioned any ensuring confusion to residents. Cllr Bache stated that the pedestrian access to the was unlit and could present a problem. Cllr Northcote questioned the acoustics. A vote was taken 6 Councillors were in favour of the change of venue and 3 Councillors were against.

AGREED

b. Date of Meetings – Full Council Cllr Smy proposed that the Parish Council continue using Thursdays.

AGREED

c. Date of Meetings of Committees Cllr Bache advised the Council that Monday nights was not suitable for her as Mondays clashed with the WI meetings and proposed that the Committee meetings move to Tuesdays. Cllr Connor stated she was not available on a Tuesday. Cllr Brewer stated that he was also not available on Tuesdays. Cllr Smy asked for a vote for the committee meetings to remain on a Monday night. Six councillors voted for Mondays, three voted against. It was agreed by a majority that the committee night stays on Mondays.

AGREED

ITEM 13 TO DISCUSS THE LETTER RECEIVED FROM THE CROSSWAYS VILLAGE RESIDENTS GROUP IN THE MATTER OF 5 DICK O' TH' BANKS ROAD ASKING FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL'S SUPPORT

As no response had been received by the Crossways Village Residents Group Cllr Smy advised waiting for a response before taking any action as the matter is still under investigation. Cllr Brewer stated that he was uncomfortable with the letter as the planning process was dealt with fairly and correctly and this letter deals with internal matters not planning matters. Cllr Brewer recommended no further action. Cllr Connor stated that she felt this letter was not a Council matter. Cllr Smith agreed but stated he found the deputy housing officer's conduct at the Parish Council meeting reprehensible. Cllr (Mrs) Smith had nothing to add. It was proposed and agreed that the Council would take no further action on this matter and would take no further action on the perceived conduct of the housing officer.

AGREED

ITEM 14 TO HEAR REPORT FROM CHAIRMAN PLANNING IN THE MATTER OF THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT "AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROVISION AS A RESULT OF PLANNING OBLIGATION

Cllr Smith informed the Council that he had received this 26 page document and had sought assistance from District Councillor Read. He noted that there were major concerns and proposed a small working party to include Cllr Read. Cllr Brewer questioned Cllr Read's involvement in Parish Council matters. Cllr Connor agreed with Cllr Brewer. Cllr Read would not be asked to work on this Parish Council document. It was agreed that Cllr Smith would draft answers by the July meeting and Councillors would be given a copy of the documents to add their responses.

AGREED

ITEM 15 TO CONFIRM AND AGREE NEW SIGNATORIES FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL CURRENT BANK ACCOUNT AND AGREE TO DELETE CURRENT SIGNATORIES New signatories will be Cllr (Mrs) T Smith, Cllr Joyce Rhodes, Cllr Valerie Bache and Cllr Caroline Round. All current signatories Cllr Brewer, Cllr Stenning, ex Cllr Russell and ex Cllr Chubb to be removed.

Proposed Cllr Smith, seconded Cllr Connor

AGREED

ITEM 16 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN TO THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:

a. PLANNING Cllr Northcote was nominated, seconded by Cllr Smy

AGREED

b. AMENITIES Cllr Stenning was nominated, seconded Cllr Connor
Cllr Abi Scard was nominated, seconded by Cllr Smith

A vote was taken for the Vice Chair Amenities: Cllr Scard 5 votes, Cllr Stenning 4 votes

Cllr Scard was voted on a Vice Chairman Amenities

AGREED

- c. FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION No nominations were accepted for Finance & Administration; the position remains vacant

ITEM 17 TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO THE FOLLOWING BODIES. The following members agreed to act on committees

a. HYBRIS RECYCLING GROUP	Cllr Smy
b. DAPTC REPRESENTATIVE	Cllr Smy & Cllr Rhodes
c. WINFRITH LIAISON & NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE	Vacant
d. WARMWELL QUARRY LIAISON COMMITTEE	Cllr Stenning
e. CRIME PREVENTION PANEL COMMITTEE	Vacant
f. YOUTH CLUB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	Cllr Rhodes
g. TRANSPORT FORUM	Vacant
h. DCA STEERING GROUP	Vacant
i. CROSSWAYS PLAYGROUP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	Representation removed
j. CROSSWAYS SCHOOL/COMMUNITY COMMITTEE	Cllr Smy
h. VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	Cllr Brewer/Cllr D Smith

ITEM 18 TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO THE FOLLOWING POSTS: The following members agreed to act on the following committees/posts

a. ANCIENT MONUMENT LIAISON OFFICER	Cllr Brewer	
b. EMERGENCY CONTACT OFFICER (2 POSTS)	Cllr Brewer	Vacant
c. RIGHT OF WAY/FOOTPATH OFFICER	Cllr Scard	
d. PLAYGROUND INSPECTOR (WEEKLY)	Cllr Smy	
e. ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER	Mr Tony Smith	

ITEM 19 TO REVIEW THE ECOLOGICAL REPORT FROM PEGASUS PLANNING AND CONSIDER THE PRÉCIS BY CLLR BREWER AND STUART MURGATROYD Copies of Cllr Brewer and Mr Murgatroyd précis are attached to the library and main copy of these minutes. Cllr Brewer stated his concern that the report appears to have been written during or after the major clearance of the land. Cllr Brewer questioned the way this report was written and questioned its credibility and suggested caution when dealing with further reports. All Councillors concurred with the precise as written.

ITEM 20 TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEES MARCH 6TH 2007 AND TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES:

- a. AMENITIES – Page 370 The Minutes of the Amenities Committee were presented and accepted.
- b. PLANNING – the Planning Minutes were not available
- c. FINANCE - Page 156 The Minutes of the Finance & Administration Committee were presented by Cllr (Mrs) Smith and accepted.

ITEM 21 TO NOTE AND APPROVE INCOME/EXPENDITURE FOR THE PREVIOUS MONTH Expenditure for the month 17th May – 28th June was noted and approved:

	Income	Expenditure
	£	£
VAT Refund	327.44	
Clerks Salary		813.20
Training Councillors		175.00
Expenses Clerk		67.20
John Pierson Landscapes		558.12
Fleet Line Markers		84.70
S Manuel Grass Cutting		482.00
Fireline Extinguishers		59.08
S Manuel Grass Cutting x 2		964.00
British Gas		73.58
Litter Collector (3 Months)		321.00

Proposed Cllr Connor, seconded Cllr Northcote

AGREED

ITEM 22 CONFIRM DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING The date and venue of the next meeting was agreed as July 26th at the Frome Valley First School

ITEM 23 ANY LATE URGENT BUSINESS

- a. Cllr Brewer thanked all Councillors and villagers for the best wishes and cards he had received during his recent spell in hospital.
- b. Code of Conduct Training 10th July. Cllr Scard, Cllr (Mrs) Smith, Cllr Rhodes and Cllr Smith agreed to attend this training.
- c. Cllr Smith informed Councillors that the coach of Crossways Football Team has lifted flints before matches are played.
- c. Cllr Rhodes informed Councillors that the training she had received had been very worthwhile.
- e. Cllr Northcote asked for volunteers to help with the Village Design Statement.

There being no other business the meeting ended at 9.36pm

Signature (Chairman) 2007