

MINUTES OF THE CROSSWAYS PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 17TH MAY 2007 AT 7PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Prior to the meeting all Councillors attended to sign their declarations of office in the presence of the Clerk. Newly elected Councillors also signed and submitted their Registers of Interest.

Present Cllr Andrew Brewer (Chairman), Cllr Valerie Bache, Cllr Terrie Connor, Cllr Geoffrey Northcote, Cllr Caroline Round, Cllr Dave Smith, Cllr Thelma Smith, Cllr Daniel Smy and Cllr E Stenning.

Also present: County Cllr David Crowhurst, District Cllr Teresa Seall and District Cllr Peter Read

PUBLIC INFORMATION ANNOUNCEMENTS Cllr Brewer informed those present that all Councillors had been duly signed in and welcomed those new Councillors. It was agreed that to avoid confusion Cllrs Smith and Smith would be known as Cllr D Smith and Cllr (Mrs) T Smith. Cllr Brewer informed the meeting that the web site is, and has been, experiencing difficulties but would hopefully be repaired soon. Cllr Brewer also advised those present that Cllr Robert Russell had offered his resignation due to ill health and would not be taking his seat. It was noted that there had been six enquires from residents wishing to be co-opted to the Council. This co-option will be done at the next full council after due process. Cllr Brewer ended his public information announcements by informing the meeting that planning applications for 5 Dick o' th' Banks, 46 and 48 Dick o' th' Banks had been withdrawn.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD

a. Land at the junction of the B3390 and Warmwell Road - Representatives of the Oaklands Park residential park thanked Cllr Brewer and Cllr Seall for their efforts over the bank holiday weekend when contractors moved onto the land at the junction of Warmwell Road and the B3390, abutting Oaklands Park, and cut down all trees and vegetation on the site. Cllr Brewer expressed sympathy to the residents and shared their frustration. It proved to be difficult to get any assistance as it was a bank holiday weekend and the timing was questioned. The Police and Forestry Commission visited the site but were unable to stop the trees being cut down. Concern was expressed about the security of the field and a letter has been sent to the owner asking for security fencing to be put in place to secure the area. Mr Brian Puckett asked if there had been any infringements on protected species, especially bats, adders and slow worms. Questions were asked as to access gained via land and locked gate belonging to Woodsford Farms. It was noted that Wyatt Paul had asked police to investigate this action. A member of the public asked if WDDC could, as a matter of planning, insist on mature trees being planted to replace those lost. Cllr Seall replied that no planning application had been received to date but landscaping could be made part of any application.

b. Planning application 5 Dick o' th' Banks Mr Cartwright thanked the Parish Council for their support in the planning application to extend the residential care facilities in 5 Dick o' th' Banks. He stressed that the matter is being taken forward and other issues are under consideration and asked for the continuing support of the Parish Council. The Clerk was supplied with a copy of this letter and asked to forward it to Councillors for consideration at the next meeting.

ACTION: CLERK

c. Kris Hallet, Community Worker Kris introduced herself to the new Councillors and ask for their support especially with the issues concerning young people. Cllr Smy informed those present of the meeting held with sixteen young people, as previously reported, stating that the young people present gave a good account of themselves. The Clerk was instructed to add Kris's report to the Council as an agenda item.

REPORT BY COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER Community Support Officer Vickie Hedges was present but had to leave.

REPORTS BY DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

a. District Councillor Teresa Seall's report is attached at Annex A to these minutes. Cllr Seall supported the Council's concern over the loss of trees recently by the felling of trees by Magna and the owner of the land at the junction of the B3390 and Warmwell Rd.

b. District Councillor Peter Read introduced himself as the new District Councillor for the Owermoigne Ward, which includes Crossways. Cllr Read thanked all those electors who voted for him. Cllr Read also stressed his support for the matter of the trees and asked that the Parish Council must initiate a professional tree survey with a view to placing TPOs (Tree Protection Orders) on trees in Crossways. Cllr Read gave his contact details and offered to hold a regular surgery in Crossways if a need is identified. Cllr Read spoke about the current planning issues in Crossways and offered to be a voice at WDDC on planning issues.

- c. County Councillor Crowhurst Cllr Crowhurst's report is attached at Annex B of these minutes.

REPORTS BY SCHOOL GOVERNORS There were no school governors present. Cllr Read, a governor at Frome Valley First School said that the school is happy and safe school and pupils and staff have now fully settled into the new environment. He stated that unfortunately the school is at present running with a deficit budget as there are more children than budgeted for. The school role is at present 106 expecting to rise to 112. A full programme is underway and will include resident's use of the facilities. Cllr Read stated that the school has been re-accredited as a centre of excellence.

THE MEETING

ITEM 1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Joyce Rhodes nominated Cllr Daniel Smy, seconded by Cllr Geoffrey Northcote. Cllr Elaine Stenning nominated Cllr Andrew Brewer, seconded by Cllr Terrie Connor

Cllr Smy requested a secret ballot. The Clerk supplied Councillors with nomination paper.

The result of the vote showed for Cllr Smy 7 votes for Cllr Brewer 3 votes.
Cllr Smy was duly elected and took the Chair.

ITEM 2 SIGNING OF DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN Cllr Smy signed the Declaration of Office as Chairman in the presence of the Clerk.

ITEM 3 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Smy nominated Cllr Rhodes, seconded by Cllr Bache. Cllr Round nominated Cllr Brewer, seconded Cllr Connor

A secret ballot was requested. The Clerk supplied Councillors with nomination paper.

The result of the vote showed 6 votes for Cllr Rhodes and 4 votes for Cllr Brewer
Cllr Rhodes was declared Vice Chairman

ITEM 4 SIGNING OF DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE OF VICE CHAIRMAN Cllr Rhodes signed the Declaration of Office as Vice Chairman in the presence of the Clerk.

ITEM 5 Prior to the Chairman's address Cllr Smy offered the floor to Cllr Brewer who informed the members that he had attended Moreton Parish Council to confer on the Library initiative. Moreton offered their support as its residents use Crossways Library. Cllr Smy thanked Cllr Brewer for his work in the role of Vice Chairman for the previous 4 years and more recently as Chairman during Cllr Russell's illness.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS Cllr Smy thanked everybody for their support and said he was looking forward to a new way forward for Crossways Parish Council and promised to work closely with Crossways Community Association and be a professional, friendly and listening Council. Cllr Smy said the Council would need to be realistic and current priorities were protecting trees, dealing with proposals for the area of land known as the Hippy Field, and issues emerging from the planning application 5 Dick o' th' Banks Road. Cllr Smy said the Village needed a Village Design Statement and strategic medium and long term planning for the Village and he would instigate an immediate start on the Village Design Statement. Meaningful and participative consultation with residents with regard to planning applications would take place before it's too late to influence decision of the relevant planning authority. Cllr Smy said the Council will take a firm and fair attitude to planning applications, working under the guidance of agreed planning guidance. The Parish Council will take responsibility for their land to ensure that the Sports Field and Pavilion, play areas and open spaces are kept clean and tidy to a high standard. Cllr Smy said that before embarking on new community facilities the Parish Council need to ensure utilization and security of the Library, the Youth Centre, the Sports Field and Pavilion, the Memorial Park and play facilities. Cllr Smy reminded the Council that they should be mindful of costs stating that all these facilities cost money and grant funding will be sought. Cllr Smy finished his report stating that the Parish Council will achieve results by working in partnership with DCC, WDDC Dorset Community Action, the local MP and the local School. The Parish Council will be seen to be working for the good of Crossways to make a difference.

ITEM 6 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE There were no apologies for absence

ITEM 7 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr E Stenning declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 16 it was noted that this would not be a voting matter, Cllr Stenning opted to remain in the room.

Cllr A Brewer declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 17 and agreed to take no part in the decision and vote on this matter.

ITEM 8 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN TO THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:

Cllr Smy asked that the matter of Committee Vice Chairman be deferred. This was agreed and proposed by Cllr (Mrs) Smith, seconded by Cllr Bache and agreed by a vote of 7 for and 3 against

a. PLANNING Cllr Rhodes proposed Cllr Smith for Chairman Planning, seconded by Cllr Northcote
There were no further nominations. Cllr Smith was duly elected Chairman Planning.

b. AMENITIES Cllr Connor proposed Cllr Stenning for Chairman Amenities, seconded by Cllr Brewer
Cllr Northcote proposed Cllr Bache for Chairman Amenities, seconded by Cllr (Mrs) Smith

A vote was taken. Cllr Stenning received 4 votes, Cllr Bache received 6 votes. Cllr Bache was duly elected Chairman Amenities.

c. FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION Cllr Stenning proposed Cllr Brewer, seconded by Cllr Round
There were no other nominations; Cllr Brewer declined the position of Chair Finance & Administration

Cllr Smy proposed Cllr (Mrs) Smith, seconded Cllr Rhodes. There were no further nominations.
Cllr (Mrs) Smith was duly elected Chairman Finance & Administration.

ITEM 9 TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO THE FOLLOWING BODIES:

- a. HYBRIS RECYCLING GROUP
- b. DAPTC REPRESENTATIVE (SEE ATTACHED)
- c. WINFRITH LIAISON & NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE
- d. WARMWELL QUARRY LIAISON COMMITTEE
- e. CRIME PREVENTION PANEL COMMITTEE
- f. YOUTH CLUB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
- g. TRANSPORT FORUM
- h. DCA STEERING GROUP
- i. CROSSWAYS PLAYGROUP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
- j. CROSSWAYS SCHOOL/COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
- h. VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Cllr Smy proposed that this item be deferred to sub-committee to allow for new Councillors to receive more information regarding these positions, Cllr Rhodes seconded this proposal. The proposal was agreed by a vote of 7 for and 3 against.

ITEM 10 TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO THE FOLLOWING POSTS:

- a. ANCIENT MONUMENT LIAISON OFFICER
- b. EMERGENCY CONTACT OFFICER (2 POSTS)
- c. RIGHT OF WAY/FOOTPATH OFFICER
- d. PLAYGROUND INSPECTOR (WEEKLY)
- e. ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER

Cllr Smy proposed that this item be deferred to sub-committee to allow for new Councillors to receive more information regarding these positions, Cllr Rhodes seconded this proposal. The proposal was agreed by a vote of 7 for and 3 against.

ITEM 11 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING The minutes of the previous meeting (April 26th) were accepted as a true record and duly signed.

ITEM 12 TO FORMALLY ADOPT THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT) ORDER 1972 UNDER SECTION 51 OF THE LGA 1972 FOR MEMBERS AND CO-OPTED MEMBERS (COPIES SUPPLIED)
MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO NOTE THAT PARAGRAPH 12 (2) IS NOT MANDATORY FOR PARISH COUNCILS. MEMBERS MUST DECIDE WHETHER THEY WILL ADOPT THE CODE IN FULL OR EXCLUDE PARAGRAPH 12 (2). It was proposed by Cllr Smy, seconded by Cllr Northcote that the Code be accepted in full. Cllr Brewer asked for a recorded vote, this request was seconded by Cllr Connor as agreed.

Cllr Brewer	For
Cllr Stenning	For
Cllr Northcote	For

Cllr Rhodes	For
Cllr Round	For
Cllr Smy	For
Cllr Connor	For
Cllr Bache	For
Cllr (Mrs) Smith	For
Cllr Smith	For

ITEM 13 TO CONSIDER ATTENDANCE AT THE NEW COUNCILLORS TRAINING 12th JUNE OR 23RD JULY 2007 COST £25 PER COUNCILLOR Cllr D Smith, Cllr (Mrs) Smith, Cllr V Bache, and Cllr Rhodes asked to attend the training on June 12th. The expenditure was agreed.

ACTION: CLERK

ITEM 14 TO CONSIDER ATTENDANCE AT THE CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING ON TUESDAY JUNE 19TH 2007 COST £25.00 PER COUNCILLOR Cllr Smith, Cllr (Mrs) Smith, Cllr Connor, Cllr Rhodes, Cllr Stenning and Cllr Brewer asked to attend. The expenditure was agreed.

ITEM 15 CONFIRM DATE OF SITE MEETING WITH PAUL MARTIN AT DCC STORAGE DEPOT (PLANNING APPLICATION 1/E/07/000680 REFERS) DATES OFFERED 22ND MAY AT 6PM OR 24TH MAY 6PM THIS APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED AT THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING ON JUNE 4TH
Date for the meeting was agreed as 24th May. Time 6pm Cllr Stenning advised the Council that she would be away. Cllr Northcote offered his apologies.

ITEM 16 TO CONSIDER EVENTS OVER THE BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND, AND CONTINUING, ON THE 5.2 ACRE SITE AND THE JUNCTION OF THE LINK ROAD AND THE B3390 (LOCALLY KNOWN AS THE HIPPY FIELD) Cllr Smy stated that this item had already been the subject for much discussion during the public participation period where all the representations from residents of Oaklands Park had been heard. Cllr Stenning asked to remain for this item. It was agreed she could. Cllr Smy thanked the residents of Oaklands Park and other residents for there thorough representation. It was agreed that the Council will take the concerns about the safety of the decimated area to the owner of the land. The Clerk was instructed to write urgently on this matter. It was agreed that the Council should undertake full and meaningful consultation with the developers. Cllr Smy ask for a mandate from the Council to arrange a meeting between himself and the developer's agent. Cllr Brewer objected to this meeting stating that all Councillors should be able to meet and discuss this emotive issue. Cllr Smy assured the Council that the Clerk would be present and minute the meeting. Cllr Smy proposed that the meeting be convened, seconded by Cllr Bache. A recorded vote was requested by Cllr Brewer as per Standing Orders:

Cllr Brewer	Against
Cllr Stenning	Against
Cllr Northcote	For
Cllr Rhodes	For
Cllr Round	For
Cllr Smy	For
Cllr Connor	Against
Cllr Bache	For
Cllr (Mrs) Smith	For
Cllr Smith	For

CARRIED

Cllr Smy said that the events at the 'hippy field' led him to believe that the Council should carry out a professional assessment on all trees in Crossways to identify those worthy of a TPO. Cllr Brewer questioned the cost of a professional service when the Council had a volunteer Mr Stuart Murgatroyd who he felt was more that capable of assisting with such a survey at little or no cost to the Council. Cllr Connor confirmed that Mr Murgatroyd has undertaken tree work for the Council on a satisfactory basis. Cllr Smy stressed that a professional survey would be required. Cllr Brewer asked why the Council, with Mr Murgatroyd's assistance could not identify trees needing a TPO and questioned the possible cost of the survey.

The meeting suspended for input from Mr Murgatroyd.

Mr Murgatroyd confirmed that he had carried out work for the Council on a voluntary basis. Mr Murgatroyd did explain that he is retired and would probably not have letters after his name that could be required by WDDC.

Meeting resumed.

It was proposed by Cllr (Mrs) Smith, seconded by Cllr Rhodes that the Clerk be instructed to obtain quotes for professional surveys of trees in Crossways. The vote was 6 for and 4 against and carried.

ACTION: CLERK

ITEM 17 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATION 1/E/07/000675 15 WARMWELL Cllr Brewer, confirming his personal and prejudicial interest declared that he would not speak or vote on this item. Cllr Smith noted that there was one letter of objection and proposed that the Council agree this application with the request that the window facing the neighbouring property is opaque and the Garage/Workshop is not used beyond B1 use. A vote was taken 7 for and 2 abstentions (Cllr Brewer and Cllr Stenning).

ITEM 18 TO CONSIDER PROBLEM OF YOUNG PEOPLE PLAYING FOOTBALL ON THE ‘NO BALL GAMES’ DESIGNATED AREA AT YALBURY LANE The Clerk read an e mail from Mr Hulland about the playing of football games on the green at the Frome Valley Road end of Yalbury Lane and his request that the Council consider planting trees on this green as had been done at the Pauls Way end of Yalbury Lane. Cllr Smy asked that this item be deferred to Committees to allow Mr Murgatroyd to advise and the Clerk to advise of the cost of this planting at Pauls Way.

ACTION: CLERK

ITEM 19 TO NOTE AND APPROVE EXPENDITURE FOR PREVIOUS MONTH AND AGREE EXPENDITURE FOR SIGNATURE TO DATE Expenditure for the month 26th April to May 17th was noted and approved.

	Expenditure £	Income £
S Manuel Grass Cutting	482.00	
Clerk’s Salary	813.21	
Inland Revenue PAYE	221.94	
VAT Refund		327.44
Rates Sports Pavilion	32.00	
S Manuel Grass Cutting	482.00	
DAPTC Membership	446.19	
John Pierson Landscapes		
Sports Field	558.12	
Viking Direct Stationery	129.19	
Allianz Cornhill	1540.35*	

* A comparative quote was requested and Allianz Cornhill agreed as best value.

ITEM 20 TO RECEIVE ANY LATE URGENT ITEMS None requested.

ITEM 21 CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT MEETING (JUNE 28TH) Confirmed.

There being no other business the meeting closed.

Signed (Chairman) 2007