

## MINUTES OF THE CROSSWAYS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7PM ON THURSDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2010 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr Andrew Brewer (Chairman) Cllr Terrie Connor (Vice Chairman) Cllr Dave Harris and Cllr Kathy Foster

Before the meeting commenced Cllr Brewer read a tribute to the late Cllr Joyce Rhodes which was followed by a 2 minutes silence to remember Joyce.

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

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD** No public participation was requested.

**REPORT BY COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER** Police Constable Charlie Dale was in attendance and reported incidences of graffiti which are being dealt with by PCSO Vickie Hedges and the CYPF (Crossways Young People's Forum), anti-social behaviour around the Youth Club, children cycling on footpaths and a daytime burglary. In the matter of the burglary PC Dale asked that residents be particularly vigilant and report any suspicious incidences. PC Dale advised that residents can report to the local Police that their property will be empty although no guarantees of complete protection can be made. In the matter of young people riding bicycles on pavements PC Dale advised that there was some flexibility in this depending on the age of the young people riding on pavements; the very young are not discouraged but older children and adults are. PC Dale was asked about Neighbourhood Watch and advised that the Police Authorities can assist in setting up Neighbourhood Watches.

**REPORT BY KRIS HALLETT, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKER** The Clerk was requested to remove Kris Hallett's item from future agenda as Kris's workload in Crossways has diminished following the completion of the MUGA and Skate Bowl  
ACTION: CLERK

**REPORT BY COUNTY COUNCILLOR** Apologies were received from Cllr Crowhurst. Cllr Crowhurst's report has been previously received.

**REPORT BY DISTRICT COUNCILLORS** To follow

### THE MEETING

**ITEM 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Stenning, Cllr Arnold, Cllr Bache, Cllr Thomas, Cllr Rowley and Cllr Bearman.

**ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** There were no Declarations of Interest.

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

**ITEM 4 TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – 29<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2010** The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted subject to a manual amendment on Item 15 Page 1126 deleting the sum listed under income (£15,6999.42) and inserting (£15,699.42)

Proposed: Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Connor

AGREED

### MATTERS ARISING

Access Track for Sports Field The Clerk reported that the Officer at WDDC dealing with this application is on leave. Waiting reply.

ACTION: CLERK

Siting George Hood Memorial Bench This matter will be taken forward to the next Sports Field Management Committee

ACTION: CLERK

Library Letter re Council's views on Volunteers Deferred to liaise with new Librarian.

ACTION: CLERK

**ITEM 5 TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER 2010** The Minutes of this meeting were accepted as a true record and duly signed.

Proposed: Cllr Foster, seconded Cllr Connor

AGREED

**ITEM 6 MATTERS ARISING** There were no matters arising from the minutes of the Extra-ordinary meeting.

**ITEM 7 CHAIRMAN’S REPORT** To follow

**ITEM 8 TO FILL THE FOLLOWING POSTS/REPRESENTATION ON THE FOLLOWING OUTSIDE AGENCIES (a) YOUTH CLUB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (b) DEPUTY EMERGENCY CONTACT OFFICER (c) DEPUTY DAPTC REPRESENTATIVE**

Youth Club Management Committee	Cllr D Harris
Deputy Emergency Contact	Cllr D Harris
Deputy DAPTC Representative	Cllr T Connor

**ITEM 9 TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM BLANCHARDS SOLICITORS TO HAVE A LINK FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL WEB SITE** The Council agreed that as Blanchard Solicitors are not local they could not agree to their request noting that it would set a precedent.

AGREED

**ITEM 10 TO CONSIDER QUOTES RECEIVED FOR TREE WORK IN THE MEMORIAL PARK TO THE REAR OF 1 SPITFIRE CLOSE** It was agreed to accept the quotation from Mr Heinrich of Thomas Lily Tree Care.

Proposed: Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Connor                      AGREED

**ITEM 11 TO AGREE THE ADDITION OF CLLR CONNOR AS A SIGNATORY TO THE PARISH COUNCIL BANK ACCOUNTS** Councillors were also asked to agree the addition of Cllr Harris as signatory.

Proposed: Cllr Brewer, seconded Cllr Foster                      AGREED

**ITEM 12 TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATION**

- a. 1/D/10/001507 WARMWELL COUNTRY TOURING PARK – USE OF CARAVAN PARK FOR SITING 10 STATIC CARAVANS – No objections
- b. 1/D/10/001344 44 MORETON ROAD – ERECT 1.8M FENCE TO FRONT BOUNDARY – No comment

Proposed Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Connor                      AGREED

**ITEM 13 REPORT PLANNING APPLICATIONS GRANTED/REFUSED**

- a. 30 School Drive – Conservatory    GRANTED
- b. 2 Egdon Glen – Removal of Protected Tree - GRANTED

**ITEM 14 TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE SPORTS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE DATED 22<sup>nd</sup> SEPTEMBER 2010 (PAGES 3 AND 4) ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES AND TO AGREE ANY ITEM FOR EXPENDITURE REQUEST INCLUDED** Cllr Harris, Chairman of the Sports Management Committee presented the minutes which were noted and accepted. Cllr Harris advised that following a meeting with Fleet Markers an offer had been made of an upgraded White Lining Machine and 4 15ltr containers of white lining for £400.00 with no carriage charge. It was agreed to accept this offer which represented better value.

Proposed Cllr Connor, seconded Cllr Foster                      AGREED

**ITEM 15 TO RECEIVE THE SIX MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT** This item was deferred to the next meeting to allow for the presence of Cllr Stenning Vice Chairman (Finance)

**ITEM 16 TO NOTE AND APPROVE EXPENDITURE 29<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2010 – 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2010 TO INCLUDE AGREEMENT TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM THE OPEN SPACES DEPOSIT ACCOUNT IN RELATION TO THE MUGA/SKATEBOWL/AMENITIES** The following Income and Expenditure was noted for the previous two months (Council in recess August). All figures noted are inclusive of VAT if item is subject to VAT

	Expenditure	Income
	£	£
Salary Clerk (August)	753.46	
Inland Revenue (PAYE) (August)	276.45	
Tonrin Contractors (Sports Field)	2523.11	
Insurance	1846.63	
Grass Cutting Payment DCC		1325.23
Rates (Pavilion)	32.00	
BT	38.11	
Maverick Industries (MUGA/Skatebowl)	16,000.00	
Steve Manuel Grass Cutting	400.00	



CHAIRMANS REPORT AND TRIBUTE TO THE LATE CLLR JOYCE RHODES – COUNCIL MEETING 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2010

Councillors and members of the public,

Before Council begins this evening it is my sad duty to record the death of one of our number. Cllr Joyce Rhodes Joyce passed away peacefully in her sleep just a few days after our last meeting aged 86. Joyce was elected to Crossways Parish Council on 1 May 2007. It followed her active participation in the campaign to save Crossways Library and she immediately placed her unique experience and knowledge at the disposal of the Council as the future of the library was secured. She was elected to serve as Vice-Chairman of this Council and became Chairman in 2008 and acting in that capacity until May 2009. I was honoured that she nominated me to be her successor and so fortunate to have her support and help since then.

She earned the respect of many of us very quickly and worked with enthusiasm and energy on different and difficult matters. She served as representative to the Dorset Association of Parish & Town Councils, she joined the Management Committee of the Youth Centre in Crossways and was very interested in listening to the ideas and thoughts of younger members of the village. She was a great supporter of the plans to build a Multi used Games Area and Skatebowl, attending all the planning and building sub committee meetings and enjoying the chance to go and study other facilities including a very wet day spent looking at the construction of the Dorchester skatebowl. In this she had a very practical and forward looking attitude and always gave the young people the greatest respect and courtesy. It is a comfort to this Council that in her last days she saw the new facilities open and being enjoyed by the local young people.

A welcome and thoughtful development that Joyce brought about was the very generous supply of a variety of home made cakes and shortbread for meetings and also her support with items for cake stalls at events run by the young people for their projects. The last time was a community day for Crossways. Joyce was rather unwell but still came to the playing field and did her bit on the cake stall and although not feeling 100% she was still enthusiastic about all the enjoyment everyone was having at the event. Frustrated at not being able to do as much as she wanted she was able to outpace younger councillors with her ability to read and understand the mountains of paper which are the modern bane of any Parish Council. As a new member she quickly attended training sessions and showed an eagerness to learn, understand and play a full part which was infectious to those around.

Although she became a Councillor in her eighties this did not diminish her contribution to the Council and in three short years she became an inspiration to us all. At a time when she could have taken a well deserved retirement she set about making a difference and for the people of Crossways she did just that and many are going to miss her input.

The funeral service in West Stafford was, as she would have wanted it, respectful and moving but above all a celebration of a rich and full life. So many people were there and of course many more with us in spirit who could not attend. The Council was represented and a moving tribute was given by Councillor David Crowhurst. Councillors may recall that Joyce struggled to come to our last meeting but was poorly and had to turn her car around and return home. I am certain her last words to David of ‘keep away from me’ was not the parting she intended but out of concern that she did not pass on the bug she was suffering from.

We owe a duty to Joyce’s memory that we continue to monitor developments with the village library facility. If this service is diminished in any way I feel we can expect to hear a clap of thunder and a voice booming across at us that we are failing in our duty. She is, to my knowledge the first Councillor to pass away in office and it is certain that she had no intention of leaving this Council with ‘unfinished business’ as she would see it. We should however be grateful that her passing was peaceful and without long drawn out suffering which was a prospect that filled her with dread. The loss of independence and

of course her beloved dog would have been dreadful for us to have seen but we are still shocked that she has been taken so suddenly and tonight's meeting will be missing something with her empty council seat.

As a mark of respect this short tribute will be entered in the records of our Council and I would ask all present to stand and join me in a short silence when we remember Joyce, our fellow Councillor, our friend and colleague and a loyal support to the residents of Crossways.

Ladies and Gentlemen let us remember with thanks Councillor Joyce Mary Rhodes.

So much has happened since the last full Council and our recess has not been a time to sit in the garden and put our feet up. Completion of the MUGA and skatebowl was delayed but was eventually handed to the Council at a meeting held with Councillors on the site. The snagging list has been completed and the children have certainly been making very good use of the area with anything up to 3-35 youngsters at a time. There has been some good work done especially through the Police and our own Vickie Hedges to promote good behaviour and self regulation of the new facilities. The official opening is now scheduled to take place on Saturday 20 November with a short opening at the site followed by a visit to this hall. This will combine opening the Playgroup's new outdoors play area which you may have noticed is being constructed. There will be a few words and refreshments and a chance for us to display information about Crossways to a group of VIPs. Lord Knight of Weymouth has agreed to do the honours at the request of the Young People's Forum. There is a possibility that the Lord Lieutenant of Dorset and the Chief Constable will also be in attendance. A very proud day for us all and more details will follow; Councillors are asked to mark the date in their diaries. An unofficial working group may be needed to plan this event and already the clerk is wrestling with issues of protocol but I am sure it will be alright ! The landscaping side of the contract will be due to take place in November as this is the optimum planting time. West Dorset Planners are aware as this is a condition of the consent. Once again our thanks go to all our District Colleagues for the support and help they are giving.

It appears that news of what has been achieved has reached further away. I am absolutely delighted to advise Councillors that Jonny Webb, the Chairman of the Young People's forum has been invited to meet the Queen at a reception to be held at Windsor Castle. What an honour for him and for us. Work has progressed on the improvements of the football pitch. I guess we have seen not enough rain to too much but from a layman's point of view it does look better. It will never be Wembley Stadium standard (but from what was in the papers that may be a blessing). There is a need to look at the pavilion now with a view to smartening it up and making sure it is all in order.

There has been a further problem with the play area between Brewer and Blackwell Walk and I am grateful to Councillors for attending a meeting with the developers. We are not the legal owners of the land yet and it would seem that the landscaping plan we agreed has not been delivered. As a consequence we have a large mound of earth that now serves as the 'nursery' slope to the skatebowl with young cyclists endangering themselves and the public in an unexpected and unwelcome addition to our play facilities. We continue to work on this matter.

In my last report I advised that a resident had corresponded concerning street lighting in parts of the Village. Councillors will recall that I copied this to you all. My stance was that in the absence of public pressure or a change of circumstances we would not consider this matter. I have been advised that the gentleman concerned has asked again and I seek your endorsement once again of this position. The nub of the matter is a claim that this Council carried out an in depth survey which came out in favour of lighting and then ignored its findings. What we did was put a mention in the 'Bridge' and collated responses from all around the village. This was then followed by a meeting concerning proposed street calming measures. The strength of opinion from the large numbers of residents there led us to walk away from any idea of street lighting. I also believe that advice was received that funding would not be available anyway. No Councillor has asked me to reconsider and I am therefore content for the clerk to respond once again in a like manner.

I understand that some residents have experienced problems with the replacement of the street lights and I hope Councillors will share my concern that difficulties have occurred and that the service from the helplines does not appear to have been what we were led to believe. I would ask any resident to write to the contractors and copy the correspondence to us so that we can consider taking forward if a pattern develops as well as being forearmed for the future.

With the roadworks and increasing difficulties on the Dorchester bypass and Weymouth I wonder if residents have noticed an increase of traffic on the B3390. Whilst this is not an official diversion we must be vigilant that we are not an unofficial ratrun.

With that in mind we also have to commend and commiserate with Stella who has been faced with leaving earlier for meetings in Crossways and either arriving very early or having to sit in traffic – not a pleasant experience from one who took nearly 2 hours to travel 10 miles to Wyke Regis this morning. I was honoured to attend the Best Kept Village of the Year awards and Crossways featured prominently in the village round up section with photographs of the RAF Fighter Station Warmwell and the hall remembering the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Britain. Crossways won a special award from West Dorset District Council for our part in the village allotment scheme and I was delighted to receive a certificate and a cheque.

In attending and looking at the other villages that one the awards and listening to the judge's criteria and comments I did feel a little despondent and disheartened. There isn't an easy way of saying this without people nudging and saying 'sour grapes' but here goes. We are pitched against some of the loveliest chocolate box/picture postcard communities not only in Dorset but the country. The judges knock off points for pieces of litter and dog poo which they observe in their visits. We try hard here in Crossways but it is sometimes like King Canute holding the waves back. Dog poo continues to be deposited as the dogs can't read the signs and the owners certainly can't. When this competition started this Council scored well in terms of the Village Website, notice boards, facilities and the amount they were used and the community spirit – organisations and groups were featured in the submissions. I air my view that we are not going to ever win a 'glamour competition' but might just do well in the 'hard working' section. Finally it is sad to mark the passing of another of our village worthies. Vic Myers has passed away in his ninetieth year. Knowing him for over 30 years I must mention this remarkable man to you. He was a civil servant who was involved in the setting up of the community of Crossways; it was his suggestions that gave us Airfield, Hurricane, and Spitfire Closes. He was on the management committee of this hall in the early days and he served as a Councillor on Owermoigne & Watercombe Parish Council representing Crossways. He was a founder of the Crossways Scout Group and lately was its President. He was Secretary of Moreton PCC and involved in many village events and would read the commendation at our annual village remembrance services. To his family and friends our deepest sympathy.

## **CROSSWAYS PARISH COUNCIL**

### **SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN - POLICY STATEMENT**

Crossways Parish Council believes that it is always unacceptable for a child or young person to experience abuse of any kind and recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people, by a commitment to practice which protects them.

The council recognises that:

- the welfare of the child/young person is paramount
- all children regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare

The purpose of the policy:

- to provide protection for the children and young people who receive Crossways Parish Council's services, including the children of adult members or users
- to provide staff and volunteers with guidance on procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a child or young person may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm.

This policy applies to all members, staff and volunteers or anyone working on behalf of Crossways Parish Council

The council will endeavour to safeguard children and young people by:

- valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- adopting child protection guidelines and procedures for members, staff and volunteers
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- sharing information about child protection and good practice with children, parents, members, staff and volunteers
- sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training.

The council is also committed to regularly reviewing its policy and procedures.

Agreed Minute 1130/17 dated 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010