

**MINUTES OF THE CROSSWAYS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 29<sup>th</sup> JULY 2010**

Present: Cllr Andrew Brewer (Chairman), Cllr Terrie Connor (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Elaine Stenning (Vice Chairman (Finance)) Cllr Ron Arnold, Cllr Dave Harris, Cllr Barry Thomas, Cllr Daphne Bearman, Cllr Kathy Foster and Cllr Ted Rowley

Also Present: District Councillor Teresa Seall and County Councillor David Crowhurst

**PRESENTATION BY SSE LIGHTING WHO ARE WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH DCC TO UPDATE STREET LIGHTING IN CROSSWAYS** Councillors and members were given a presentation by Samantha Angus and Steve Wallace about the forthcoming works on street lights in Crossways. The Council was given maps highlighting street lamps to be replaced and contact details for SSE.

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

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

**REPORT BY COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER** Apologies were received from the Community Support Police Officers.

**REPORT BY KRIS HALLETT, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKER** It was noted that with the completion of the MUGA/Skatebowl project Kris Hallett would no longer be required to give monthly reports.

**REPORT BY COUNTY COUNCILLOR** Councillor David Crowhurst's report is attached to the web site and library copy of these minutes.

**REPORT BY DISTRICT COUNCILLORS** Councillor Teresa Seall's report is attached to these minutes

**AGENDA**

**ITEM 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Cllr Rhodes was unwell and left the meeting.

**ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** Cllr Stenning declared a personal interest in Item 11. Cllr Stenning opted to remain in the room but not vote on this item.

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

**ITEM 4 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record and duly signed.

Proposed: Cllr Rowley, seconded by Cllr Connor

AGREED

**ITEM 5 MATTERS ARISING**

Page 1123 – ACCESS TRACK SPORTSFIELD It was noted that an application for permitted development will be forwarded to WDDC.

ACTION: CLERK/CLLR THOMAS

**ITEM 6 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

It is only right at the start of my report to record the two tragic events of just under a week ago. I refer to the death of Mr Manicom, on the main Warmwell Road and the fire which destroyed the premises of David Aldridge Animation on the Hybris Business Park.

At this time, to have further discussion or comment would be inappropriate as both matters are being investigated by the relevant authorities. However I am sure my fellow Councillors would wish to endorse two points I wish to record.

Firstly that this Council sends its deepest sympathies to all those whose lives have been shattered in the last week and to those in the wider community who have been affected in any way. Secondly to add our thanks and gratitude to all those in the emergency services for their care and diligence in attending these incidents. In the case of the fire we are grateful that no injuries or loss of life was sustained. I am also aware that this care and attention is still ongoing with support, investigation and counselling being undertaken. I am sure that, in due course, we shall learn more about the causes and there may well be lessons to learn or preventative measures which can be taken. I have asked that this Council is kept informed and we shall monitor developments.

Personally, I was surprised and saddened in the way the local media reported these events. Many local residents and members of the Council were badgered for comments and information particularly by the Dorset Evening Echo. I was concerned that we should only comment on facts and that it was inappropriate to connect these dreadful situations with concerns this Council has voiced in the past. The time for this may come at a later date. Noting previous discussions we have had on relations with the press no statement or comments or information was given and I hope Council will endorse this stance.

I have received correspondence concerning the installation of street lighting in parts of the village. Councillors will be aware that I have referred back to previous meetings and discussions and responded. I have taken the view that, at present, there has

been no change in the attitude of residents on this matter and the opposition to any lighting on the MUGA reinforced this stance. It is difficult to judge when items should be looked at afresh and I am happy to be guided by Councillors. However, it must be our policy that whilst we listen to individual electors we cannot keep revisiting topics again and again unless the circumstances have changed.

We have today been advised that the ROSPA inspector will be calling tomorrow morning to inspect the MUGA/Skatebowl and teenage youth shelter. Hopefully it will be passed and the process of accepting the facilities into our ownership can be undertaken. It is regrettable that the project was not completed on the original timescale. The contractors were made fully aware of our frustrations, disappointment and displeasure and a full explanation was requested. In short, it would appear that weather conditions were not appropriate for the concrete to be applied. I was initially sceptical of this excuse but from enquiries I have made it would seem that if the concrete had dried out too quickly the surface would not have been as durable and further problems may have occurred. In some construction work, the surface is kept damp by use of wet hessian sacking. I also suspect that there were difficulties with specialist sub contractors and the responses from Maverick indicate that these have been addressed. Within 48 hours of my e mail and that of Kris Hallett contractors were on site and the work has speedily progressed.

Many thanks to all who contributed and helped with the Fun Day which was denied the opening. A scorching hot day with plenty to do and great fun. The £700 added to the funds shows how hard you all worked. We now have to look for an official opening date and I am pleased to confirm that Lord Knight of Weymouth had kindly agreed to do the honours for us and we are rescheduling with him. He was a great support to the young people and you may recall how a group travelled to Westminster in the early days of the project. As soon as the date is confirmed then we will publicise it as widely as possible.

There was an issue with our youngsters using the MUGA and skatebowl prematurely and we had to seek clarification from the project Manager and contractors regarding this. I feel it is unfair to criticise the young people who have been so patient in waiting to use their new areas. The fun day seemed to give the impression that the MUGA was open for business when it wasn't quite finished and should have been sealed off again. Within a couple of days it legally will go from building site to part of our recreational ground.

There is a tradition that whenever this Council sows grass seed we have a drought – this year has been no exception. The two areas most affected are the football pitch and the new play area on the Woodsford Fields site. In both locations we are taking advice and trying the best but hopefully residents will appreciate that there are some aspects of our lives which we have no control over at all.

From hot weather to hot dogs and not the ones at the fun day ! It would appear that our four legged friends were not happy about the new signage on the village hall road. Of course not able to prove that a campaign is underway against our attempts to keep the lane free of 'messages' there has been sabotage. I am unable to prove that it was a dog that snipped the signs off the posts and threw them in the hedge however they will need better equipment next time thanks to Philip Bearman in bolting them on straight away. What is anti social is that the signage yesterday was alongside a pile of what we are trying to metaphorically stamp on. We need to ensure that dog owners act responsibly and as mentioned before I fear that some will have to be fined before all take notice. I would also draw your attention and ask for consideration to those who walk Fido when the sun first comes up and in shouting at them causes nuisance to others, possibly cat lovers, who like to sleep a little later.

**ITEM 7 TO CONSIDER PROTOCOL FOR REQUESTS FOR WEB SITE LINKS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL WEB SITE – DEFERRED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING FOR REPORT** It was agreed that the Council would deal with any request for inclusion in their web site on an as received basis.

AGREED

**ITEM 8 TO CONSIDER VARIATION OF CONTRACT WITH TONRIN, THE CONTRACTORS WORKING ON THE FOOTBALL PITCH, TO ENABLE INTERIM PAYMENT. LETTER DATED 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY.** Cllr Arnold explained that there has been insufficient rain to facilitate the earth breaking. It was agreed that the Contract would be amended to allow for the interim payment.

Proposed: Cllr Thomas, seconded Cllr Foster

AGREED

**ITEM 9 TO CONSIDER BREAK DOWN OF STREETS (ATTACHED) AND TO FORMULATE RESPONSIBILITY ROSTER TO FORWARD REPAIR NEEDS TO THE CLERK TO FORWARD TO THE PMU (PARISH MAINTENANCE UNIT) – COVERING LETTER DCC ATTACHED FOR INFORMATION** Councillors were asked to consider those areas they would be willing to cover. Cllr Stenning offered to ask residents of Oaklands Park to assist. It was noted that areas as in the break down was not evenly distributed.

ACTION: COUNCILLORS/CLERK

**ITEM 10 TO CONSIDER SITING OF GEORGE HOOD MEMORIAL BENCH** Areas proposed were the Memorial Park, the Sports Field and the open space area Woodsford Fields. It was agreed to liaise with the Sports Field Committee,

**ITEM 11 TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATION**

1/D/2008/2363,2364 AND 2365 – PART OF WARMWELL QUARRY, CROSSWAYS –CONSOLIDATION OF MINERAL PLANNING PERMISSIONS. The Parish Council agreed no comment.

AGREED

**ITEM 12 REPORT PLANNING APPLICATIONS GRANTED/REFUSED** The application to fell a tree at 27 Egdon Glen, a protected tree, was noted as approved as the tree was diseased.

NOTED

**ITEM 13 TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE SPORTS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE DATED 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2010 (PAGES 1 AND 2) ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES** Cllr Harris, Chairman of the Sports Field Committee, presented the Minutes which were approved.

Proposed: Cllr Bearman, seconded Cllr Stenning

AGREED

**ITEM 14 TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM THE SPORTS FIELD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR THE SUM OF £600.00 FROM THE OPEN SPACE MONEY ON DEPOSIT AT WDDC FOR TENNIS NETS AND STORAGE** This request was granted: subject to checking an agreement with the Contractors that they would supply the storage.

Proposed: Cllr Arnold Seconded Cllr Stenning

AGREED

**ITEM 15 TO NOTE AND APPROVE EXPENDITURE 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2010 – 29<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2010** Income and expenditure was noted and agreed as follows:

	Expenditure £	Income £
Refund VAT		£15,6999.42 (15,597.23 Muga/Skatebowl Acct)*
Non Domestic Rates	32.00	
Salary Clerk (July)	753.46	
Transfer to MUGA Acct	*15,597.23	
Grass Cutting Agency	1,325.23	
Century 21 Photocopier Hire	70.50	
RoSPA Annual Play Ground Inspection	222.08	
Reference Library, Essentials of Employment Law	28.80	
Nildram Broadband	18.38	
Southern Electric (Pavilion)	16.11	
Steve Manuel Grass Cutting Contractor	380.00	
Fire Line Equipment and PAP Test	50.36	
F C Bearman & Sons Signage & Repairs	119.50	
New Printer/Scanner/Copier	89.29	
DAPTC Training (Councillors)	40.00	
Inland Revenue (PAYE July)	276.45	
Salary Clerk (August)	753.46	
Inland Revenue (PAYE August)	276.45	

Proposed Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Bearman

AGREED

**ITEM 16 ANY LATE URGENT ITEMS AT THE CHAIRMAN’S DISCRETION**

a. **LIBRARY ISSUES** - Cllr Brewer read letter from DCC regarding Library volunteers stating that it needed further volunteers to keep the Library hours current. The Council expressed concern that the 5 volunteers already put forward in Crossways was not sufficient and to fill 12 volunteer spaces as requested by DCC might prove difficult. A further request for volunteers will be placed in the Bridge and on notice boards. Cllr Brewer will draft a letter to DCC regarding the Library issues.

ACTION: CLERK/CLLR BREWER

b. **MUGA/SKATEBOWL AREA** – Cllr Arnold informed the Council that he had been advised that young people were using construction vehicle’s headlights to light the Skate Bowl at night and questioned the Council’s responsibility. It was noted that the site was still under the control of the Contractors. The Contractors will be requested to reinstall their temporary fencing at the site.

ACTION: CLERK

**ITEM 17 CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup> 2010 AND APPROVE DELEGATED POWERS TO CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMEN, AS PER STANDING ORDERS, DURING COUNCIL RECESS** The next meeting of the Parish Council was noted as 30<sup>th</sup> September. Delegated powers were approved.

Proposed: Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Arnold.

There being no other business the meeting closed.

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