

Cropredy Parish Council

There is a vacancy for the position of a Parish Councillor, please apply to the Cropredy Clerk cropredypc.clerk@gmail.com

The Parish Council would like to establish wildflower areas, these will need to be created and manged, we are looking for volunteers. Please contact taniajohnson64cpc@gmail.com

Minutes of a meeting of Cropredy Parish Council held at the Methodist Chapel on Monday 14th August 2023 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors Tania Johnson (Chair), Sheila Jones, Des Knight, Gill Moss, Jacqui Smith, Bob Garland, David Best, Clerk. Eleven members of the public joined during the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence**

District Councillor, Phil Chapman; County Councillor, George Reynolds

2. **Declarations of Interest** None

3. **Minutes of the last meeting held on 24th July 2023** These minutes were approved as correct and signed by the Chair.

4. **Matters arising from the minutes not otherwise on the agenda.** None

5. **Reports of Working Groups:**

i. **Village Maintenance & Improvement** including:

- a) **Hell Hole Wall.** The shrubs are growing in the wall again so Councillor Knight is going to ask Cherwell District Council to inspect it again.
- b) **Wall in churchyard on left going into Hell Hole.** Hazardous tape has been put here and the house owner and the Church are investigating who owns it.
- c) **Tree for Margaret Boscott.** Tim Batchelor will plant a small blossoming tree by the Millenium sign.
- d) **Mowing schedule for village.** Councillor Knight will be completing schedule for all the mowing that Steve Watts carries out.
- e) **Flooding at Roundbottom.** A resident rang to report flooding. This will be reported on Fix my Street for OCC highways to check the gullies/ drains.
- f) **Crocus planting at the entrance to the village and by the War Memorial.** Crocuses will be planted by the Banbury Rotary Club with the help of children from Cropredy school (Rotakids).
- g) **Wild flower planting.** It was agreed that it would be nice to have some wild flower areas around the village but volunteers are asked to come forward to assist with this.
- h) **Play equipment renovation.** Councillor Smith has contacted Wicksteed to see if they can recommend a contractor to paint equipment and also give advice on the skate park.
- i) **Smashed glass in the playground.** Councillor Johnson has cleared up some broken glass. The earth humps may need some attention as rabbits are digging the soil away.
- j) **Canal and River Trust Volunteer Group** The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 23rd August.

ii. **Transport, Traffic & Street Lighting** including:

- a) **Parking** Recent parking issues on The Plantation and on the Claydon Road have been reported with photographic evidence. Residents are encouraged to report incidents to Oxfordshire County Council at <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/roads-and-transport/parking/illegal-parking>
- b) **Fairport parking.** Festival goers were ignoring cones which were spaced widely so temporary no parking signs might be used in between the cones next year and the PC would also ask Fairport to place more cones. The Police will only get involved if vehicles are causing an obstruction.
- c) **Speedwatch** Councillor Knight reported the work of the volunteers continues.
- d) **20 mph limit** The consultation has closed. The final report is still outstanding and the progress can be viewed on the OCC consultation portal at the address below: https://letstalk.oxfordshire.go.uk/cropredy_20mph2023

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- e) **Pot holes.** The PC thanks Laurie Wilson who has become a 'Fix My Street-Super User', if anyone sees a pothole and feels it needs repair, please get in touch with a councillor who will let Laurie know.
- f) **Buses** Councillor Jones updated timetables have been at the bus stop and on the Village Notice Board and included in the September *Crier*.

iii. Village Emergency Plan, Crime Prevention and Environment

- a) Some updates are required with the new Anglican vicar and some changes of the Village Hall management committee. Councillors Jones and Garland will update.

iv. Parish Council use of Internet & social media

- a) Future editions of The Crier will be uploaded to the website.
- b) A member of the public felt the PC's forms of communication were not easily accessible. As the minutes are published in 'The Cropredy Crier', which goes to every house in the Parish. The PC feels everyone that wants to can access the business of the PC.

v. Planning, Climate Change Finance and Legal

- a) **Planning Application for housing adjacent to Claydon Road.** There are no updates and the application is scheduled to be discussed at the Cherwell Planning Committee meeting on 7th September.
- b) **Cherwell Local Plan.** This has been amended and is due to go to the CDC Executive Committee on 4th September. If approved, it will then go out to consultation. It is important that residents submit their views. The most important section affecting the village is the section on rural areas and villages.

New Planning Applications & Appeals since last meeting:

21/01980/F – The Paddock, Gt Bourton – Applicant has appealed against the refusal by CDC.

23/020075/F – Thickthorn Farm – extension to outbuilding – PC to decide response.

Planning Decisions since last meeting:

23/01427/F – The Old Manor – Orangerie – CDC Refused

- 6. **County Councillors Report** – County Councillor George Reynolds (apologies had been received).
- 7. **District Council Report** – District Councillor Phil Chapman (apologies had been received).
- 8. **Sports and Social Club** Nothing to report.
- 9. **Playing Field**
 - i. John Taylor was employed to repair chains and fill in rabbit holes on mounds.
 - ii. Councillor Smith is going to make enquiries of cost of new equipment and get quotes for painting the metal framed equipment.
 - iii. Councillor Smith suggested that we consider some form of survey of playground users to collect views on the current provision and possible future developments.
- 10. **Finance: Clerk's Report**
 - i. Year to date accounts. These will be issued after the meeting.
- 11. **Correspondence.** Nothing to report.
- 12. **Any other business not of a confidential nature**
 - i. The bin by the Canal Bridge was not being emptied during the festival. The organisers will be asked to put one of large blue bins from the Plantation in the Roundbottom area to provide extra capacity for rubbish Councillor Johnson and Rob Johnson emptied the Village bins into the skip provide by organiser of Fairport.
- 13. **Any matters raised by members of the public attending the meeting**
 - i. **Planning Application for housing adjacent to Claydon Road.**
 - a) A member of the public advised that the Case Officer Report recommending refusal was on the Planning Portal but this is incorrect. The Case Officer's report is normally published about a week prior to the Planning Committee meeting. (Note: Councillor Garland checked after the meeting and it appears the document referred is the response from Cherwell planning policy section to an internal consultation from the case officer. This response will be part of the evidence that the case office uses for the final report and recommendations.)

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- b) Members of the Keep Cropredy Rural Group requested that they speak at the Planning Committee meeting instead of the Parish Council. It was agreed that both the chair of the PC and a representative of the Keep Cropredy Rural Group would speak separately. It was noted that those wishing to speak need to contact the Cherwell Planning Committee in advance of the meeting. (Note: Councillor Garland, after the meeting, added the following web reference with advice for those wishing to speak).
<https://modgov.cherwell.gov.uk/documents/s29927/How%20to%20have%20your%20say%20at%20Planning%20Committee.pdf>
- c) Members of the Keep Cropredy Rural Group requested that they receive a transcript of what the Parish Council are going to say at the Planning Committee meeting. It was agreed that two members of the KCR group and the PC will meet together before the Planning Committee meeting.
- d) Equipment fault on emptying a recycling container. A resident reported that the contents of a recycling bin smashed onto the ground whilst being emptied.

14. **Date of next meeting** – Monday 11th September 2023.

The Chair asked that any members of the public and press to withdraw from the meeting during consideration of any confidential items.

There being no further matters the Chair closed the public meeting at 8.30 pm

Chair
11th September 2023