

Cropredy Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Cropredy Parish Council held at the Methodist Chapel on Monday 24th July 2023 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors Tania Johnson (Chair), Sheila Jones, Des Knight, Gill Moss, Jacqui Smith, Bob Garland, County Councillor, George Reynolds. One member of the public joined during the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence

District Councillor, Phil Chapman; David Best, Clerk

2. Declarations of Interest None

3. Minutes of the last meeting held on 12th June 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) **Cemetery Shed** Councillor Johnson will obtain a quote for repairs.
- b) **Tree for Margaret Boscott**. It was agreed that the tree would be planted near the Millennium sign.
- c) **Lock Garden**. The PC thanks John and Liz Atkins for volunteering to care for the garden. The PC agreed to obtain a brown bin licence and gravel, and to obtain a quote to remove a branch growing into Dorothy's tree. Councillor Johnson had obtained new 'Keep Dogs on a Lead' notices which had been installed by Rob Johnson
- d) **Mowing policy and wild areas**. Some areas currently mown by volunteers have been left to grow long this year. Some of these areas require more frequent cutting for visibility of traffic etc.. It was agreed that the PC would discuss with the volunteers as appropriate and, if necessary, the PC would take on the mowing. Wild areas – There may be areas suitable for less frequent mowing but it was acknowledged that such areas also need to be managed, for example, in cutting down brambles etc. Councillor Knight will draw up a schedule of work for areas in the village requiring mowing.
- e) Other areas requiring attention will be notified to Steve Watts. These include the hedge at Kyetts Corner and the verge in Creampot Lane near the 'new' house.
- f) **Fallen and dead trees** Councillor Johnson and Rob Johnson had volunteered to remove the fallen and dead trees from the Playing Field car park. Councillor Johnson had cleared fallen branches from Williamscoot Road and the Church Yard. Tim Batchelor had been employed to breakdown the branches into chippings.
- g) **The Millennium Sign**. This had been beautifully restored by Lockbund Gallery, and has now be reinstalled. The PC thanks Mike Jefferies for his help with the installation.
- h) **Skips during Fairport** Councillor Johnson had contacted Fairport to ask that the skips be left in the village until the Monday after the festival, to help with the clear up.
- i) **Canal and River Trust Volunteer Group** The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 26th July (to be confirmed).

ii. Transport, Traffic & Street Lighting including:

- a) **Parking** The 'yellow lines' on the corner by the Brasenose appear to be having an effect. Recent parking issues have been noted on The Plantation and on the Claydon Road between the Brasenose and the surgery. If these issues appear to become dangerous, then vehicles parked illegally should be reported on the Oxfordshire County Council website at <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/roads-and-transport/parking/illegal-parking>. The PC wants to avoid more street signs and posts, but will keep under review.
- b) **Fairport parking signs** for residents of The Plantation. A request had been received for signs to display that would allow residents to park in other areas of the village during the festival. As, however, this is also an issue for those without off-street parking in other parts of the village, the PC decided that it could not set a precedent without further consideration.
- c) **New Posts to discourage parking**. At Roundbottom (adjacent to the Lock Garden) eleven new posts had been installed on the verge, by volunteers Andrew [], Manager at Prescote Farm, Richard Beghin, Rob Johnson, and Councillor Johnson. 'No Parking' signs had been obtained by Councillor Johnson and had been installed (by Rob Johnson and Councillor Johnson) to protect the corner by the canal bridge. At the entrance to the Coal Wharf, Rob Johnson and Councillor Johnson had installed two posts.

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- d) **Speedwatch** Councillor Knight reported the work of the volunteers continues and pointed to evidence of its effect from a recent session on the Claydon Road during which 50 cars passed all within the speed limit.
- e) **20 mph limit** The consultation has closed and Oxfordshire C.C.'s decision is awaited, on the scheme for Cropredy.
- f) **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.
- g) **Buses** Councillor Jones reported that updated timetables had been posted at the bus stop (with thanks to Ray Moss) and would also be placed on the Village Notice Board and included in the September *Crier*.

iii. Village Emergency Plan, Crime Prevention and Environment

- a) Councillor Jones reported that the Emergency Plan needed updating with new contacts for the Village Hall. Councillor Garland will assist and post the update on the Village/Parish Council Website.
- b) Councillor Jones would convene a meeting in the Autumn to update the part of the plan concerning dealing with heavy snow.

iv. Parish Council use of Internet & social media

- a) Councillor Johnson is keeping up to date the Village / Parish Council website and posting Council information on the Village Facebook (via the Parish Council Facebook).

v. Planning, Climate Change Finance and Legal

- a) **Planning Application for housing adjacent to Claydon Road**, Councillor Garland reported that there were no updates and that the application is likely to be discussed at the Cherwell Planning Committee meeting on 7th September.
- b) The PC thanks all residents who have returned the 'opinion poll'. A meeting to count up the forms will be scheduled over the next week.

New Planning Applications & Appeals since last meeting:

Crimond, High Street, Retrospective Planning Application for two storey rear extension. The PC comment will be 'From the information provided it is difficult to judge the impact on neighbouring properties'.

Planning Decisions since last meeting:

None since last meeting

6. County Council Report – County Councillor George Reynolds

- i. Councillor Reynolds reported that the roll out of 20 mph speed limit areas continues to be a priority for Oxford C.C. For Cherwell D.C, the priorities are likely to include environmental work, people/communities in need, town centres, and the Local Plan. The 'Banbury Walking and Cycling Plan' had been approved by the Cherwell cabinet.

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 considered at the next meeting.

11. Correspondence. Nothing to report.

12. Any other business not of a confidential nature None

13. Any matters raised by members of the public attending the meeting

- i. A member of the public attended towards the end of the meeting and asked what was the opinion of the PC towards the proposed development in the North of the village. Councillor Johnson replied that

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the PC's 'opinion' will be formed from the result of the opinion poll, and that this will be the PC's response that will be given at the Cherwell Planning committee. The results of the opinion poll will be published within a couple of weeks, using the PC website, Facebook and put on the notice board. The member of the public question also asked was it usual for a Developer to ask the Cherwell Planning Committee for the date to be put back to consider a planning application? Councillor Garland replied that this can happen if both parties agree an extended time period beyond the usual 13 weeks.

14. **Date of next meeting** – Monday 14th August 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 8.20 pm

Chair
24th July 2023