

# CROPREDY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a meeting of Cropredy Parish Council held in the Methodist Chapel on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7pm

**Present:** Councillors Tania Johnson (Chairman), Des Knight, Sheila Jones, Margaret Boscott, County Cllr George Reynolds, District Cllr Phil Chapman and David Best (Clerk). Two members of the public attended the meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs Karla Martin, Jacqui Smith and Bob Garland.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None.
3. **Oathill Farm** – Framptons and the owner of Oathill Farm gave a presentation on the proposed development at Oathill Farm. It is planned to convert the previous equestrian facility but keeping the existing agricultural appearance as much as possible. The site infrastructure is to be very eco-friendly. It is proposed to hold about 15 private events a year but residents will also be encouraged to use the facilities and some have already expressed an interest in doing so at the open event at the Village Hall. No objections were received at the open day. The owner wants the facility to provide a service to the community and visitors will be encouraged to use the village shop and pub. Some questions had been raised about noise, but the owner advised that the barn will be heavily insulated and there will be a strict curfew. The lighting will be carefully designed to minimise light pollution.
4. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** – The minutes of the meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> January were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
5. **MATTERS ARISING:**
  - Allotment Agreement** – The clerk had not yet located a copy of the allotment agreement.
  - Grant Letters** – Organisations hadn't received confirmation of their grants by letter or email although the January minutes included a list of the grants awarded. It was agreed that the clerk would contact all grant applicants within a day.
6. **VILLAGE MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT**
  - Hell Hole Wall** – No update but monitoring continues.
  - Canal and River Trust Volunteering Group** – No update but work continues.
  - Upper Churchyard mowing** – More volunteers are needed. Residents interested in volunteering are asked to contact Cllr Des Knight. If additional volunteers cannot be found then we may have to depend on a contractor. The mowers are being serviced in February.
  - Dog bin and waste bin at Broadmore Lock** – It has been established that the Canals and River Trust are responsible for emptying these.
  - Cemetery Leylandii Hedge** – National Grid contractors will reduce the height to 10ft.
  - Brown bins for volunteer mowing** – The Clerk will collect the renewal licences and deliver them to Cropredy.
  - Wooden Bollards at the Lock Garden** – OCC Highways has not responded to the report on 'Fixmystreet'. Car parking where the bollards are missing is blocking access to Prescott Manor. OCC Highways will be contacted but if they do not respond the Parish Council will replace the missing bollards.
  - Replacement Trees** – Cllr Tania Johnson is trying to contact the owner of the house where OCC is planning to plant a tree and is also trying to find out when the trees donated by a resident will be planted.
  - Millenium Sign** – The Lockbund Gallery has quoted £2,400 to repair the sign which is in a very poor state as the backing plate was mild steel which had not been galvanised and had rusted through. It was agreed unanimously to accept the quote.
  - Churchyard Wall** – Two Councillors had met with a Churchwarden and Diocesan Architect to discuss the repair. It was agreed that the clerk would contact Diocesan Church House to try to obtain a copy of the agreement between the Parish Council and the Parochial Church Council on maintenance before any work is carried out.
7. **TRANSPORT, TRAFFIC & STREET LIGHTING**
  - Community Speedwatch Initiative** – Weekly speed checks continue.
  - Yellow Lines on bend outside the Brasenose Arms** – OCC has issued the consultation with a deadline for comments of 3<sup>rd</sup> February. Cllr Des Knight will check progress with OCC.

**20mph Speed Limit in Cropredy**- Cllr Des Knight attended a meeting on this held by the Oxfordshire Association for Local Councils. Cropredy is in Phase II which includes 80 Parishes. Contact from OCC is expected in the summer.

#### **8. VILLAGE EMERGENCY PLAN, CRIME PREVENTION & ENVIRONMENT**

**Salt Bins** – The High Street salt bin still hasn't been replaced and topped up.

**Flood Warden** – The current warden has resigned and the Parish Council will try to find a replacement.

**Emergency Plan** – This is being updated with a new contact at the school. OCC has requested Parishes to send in their emergency plans and the Cropredy plan will be sent to them by the Clerk.

**Defibrillator at the Surgery** – Cllr Tania Johnson is trying to contact the Practice Manager to discuss the administration. It is possible that refresher training will be carried out.

#### **9. PARISH COUNCIL USE OF INTERNET & SOCIAL MEDIA** – No update. Everything is in order.

#### **10. PLANNING, CLIMATE CHANGE, FINANCE & LEGAL**

**Cherwell Local Plan** – Publication of the final draft is delayed indefinitely.

**New telecoms mast applications** – Residents are aware of additional applications. CDC has not formally notified the Parish Council of these. The Clerk will obtain more information from CDC. District Councillor Phil Chapman has contacted the head of planning to request that there is co-ordination across the different sites and network providers and that there is co-ordination with the Clerk.

##### **New Planning Applications:**

22/03829/F – Oathill Farm – change of barn from equestrian to leisure - PC supports this application.

##### **New Planning Decisions:**

None since last meeting.

#### **11. SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB**

**Resurfacing the Tennis Courts** – The resurfacing has been completed and final court colouring will be completed early in April.

**New Agreement** – Cllrs Tania Johnson and Des Knight attended a Sports and Social Club meeting to update them on the progress of the new agreement. The S&SC is considering whether to change from an unincorporated body to an incorporated body. Cllrs Tania Johnson, DES Knight and the Clerk will meet further on this.

#### **12. FINANCE**

**Accounts, Bank Balances, and Payments** – The accounts and bank reconciliation were issued prior to the meeting.

#### **13. COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT** – No update

#### **14. DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT** – No update.

#### **15. CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **16. PARISH MATTERS**

**Request for a memorial bench** – A request has been received to install a bench in honour of Pamela Keegan. This was agreed and a suitable location identified. One of the existing benches may be replaced with the new bench.

**Coronation Grant & mugs** – CDC has offered a grant, but the use of the money is limited to hiring of equipment. The village Hall is organising live streaming of the Coronation. The possibility of street parties and a volunteering day were discussed. It was agreed to purchase mugs for children.

**Burial Ground Rules and fees** – The rules have been tidied up and fees increased by £10.

**Fairport Grant Guidelines** – These have been drafted and were circulated prior to the meeting.

#### **17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS NOT OF A CONFIDENTIAL NATURE** - None

#### **18. ANY MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC** - None

#### **19. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING** – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023

There being no further matters the Chair closed the public meeting at 9.45pm

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Chairman  
13<sup>th</sup> March 2023