

# CROPREDY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Cropredy Parish Council held in the Methodist Chapel on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 at 7pm

**Present:** Councillors Tania Johnson (Chairman), Des Knight, Sheila Jones, Bob Garland, District Cllr Phil Chapman and David Best (Clerk). 8 members of the public attended the meeting.

1. **PRESENTATION TO MARGARET BOSCOFF** – Margaret Boscott retired as a Councillor at the May Election after 50 years of service. Current and past Councillors joined to thank Margaret for her dedicated service to the community. Margaret said that she had enjoyed every meeting.
2. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND WORKING GROUPS**

Cllr Tania Johnson was elected as Chairman.  
Cllr Des Knight was elected as Vice Chairman.  
Cllr Des Knight was elected to lead on the Transport working group.  
Cllr Sheila Jones was elected to lead on Village Maintenance with Cllr Des Knight supporting.  
Cllr Sheila Jones was elected to lead on Emergency Plan with Cllr Tania Johnson supporting.  
The lead on Internet is to be agreed.  
Cllr Bob Garland was elected to lead on Planning.
3. **CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS** – Mrs Gill Moss was co-opted as a Councillor. There is one more Councillor vacancy to be filled and two residents are considering putting themselves forward (one resident was present at the meeting).
4. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs Jacqui Smith, Cllr Gill Moss & County Cllr George Reynolds
5. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None.
6. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** – The minutes of the meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> April were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
7. **MATTERS ARISING:** None
8. **VILLAGE MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT**

**Hell Hole Wall** – There is no further update on the state of the wall. Cllr Des Knight will contact Mr Tony Brummell, CDC, to obtain an update.  
**Canal and River Trust Volunteering Group** – The next ‘Towpath Taskforce’ has been confirmed for Wednesday 31st May and will continue to be scheduled on the last Wednesday of the month.  
**Upper Churchyard mowing** – This is progressing.  
**Wooden Bollards at the Lock Garden** – Quotes have been obtained for the new posts which will probably be fitted with steel caps as the existing posts have rotted from water seeping into the tops. This has become urgent as vehicles can’t get to Prescote Manor Farm due to cars being parked.  
**Replacement Trees** – A vote of thanks was given to Mr Tim Bachelor for the trees that he has donated to the village and planted at no cost.  
**Damaged Fence at Lock Green** – Tape warning of the hazard has been put in place, a repair quote obtained and accepted and it is hoped that the repair work will commence this week.  
**Damaged Planter on Station Road** – The planter by the railway bridge is damaged with bricks missing from the top along with the plaque. Someone has been asked to repair this. Planting may be taken over by the Parish Council from the school as it hasn’t been planted recently.
9. **TRANSPORT, TRAFFIC & STREET LIGHTING**

**Community Speedwatch Initiative** – Weekly speed checks continue. A sign has been purchased which is a requirement that has recently been introduced.  
**20mph Speed Limit** – Pre-consultation was issued at the beginning of May. A comprehensive consultation will follow soon at the formal consultation stage.
10. **VILLAGE EMERGENCY PLAN, CRIME PREVENTION & ENVIRONMENT**

**Damaged Salt Bin** – OCC has still not repaired this despite the issue being escalated. The Clerk will chase OCC.  
**Emergency Plan** – This is currently up to date.

## **11. PARISH COUNCIL USE OF INTERNET & SOCIAL MEDIA**

**Communication with the Village** – A member of the public attending the meeting stressed the importance of the website and Facebook to communicate with the village. This is recognised and the Parish Council is investigating ways of improving this after the resignation of Cllr Karla Dier who managed this.

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

### **New Planning Applications:**

**23/00976/F & 23/00977/OUT** - Cropredy Parish Council has considered very carefully each of the planning applications for housing developments: Obsidian, 'Land East of Claydon Road, Cropredy'; Nicholas King Homes, 'Land at the Old Dairy Farm, off School Lane, Cropredy'. Councillors' consideration comprised: a detailed study of each application; taking account residents' views as expressed at the open meetings and surveys conducted by the PC during 2021 and 2022; and recent comments to the PC and to Cherwell from residents specifically about the current applications. After careful consideration, the PC has drafted a list of potential advantages and disadvantages specific to each site for Cherwell D.C. to take account of when it makes a decision on each development.

Members of the public who attended the meeting raised concerns over the developments and information on the planning process was given by Councillors and District Councillor Phil Chapman.

Changes to the advantages/disadvantages suggested by members of the public were agreed by the Parish Council. It was RESOLVED to submit the final responses to Cherwell District Council incorporating the agreed changes (3 Councillors supported, 1 Councillor abstained).

### **New Planning Decisions:**

23/00386/F – 19 Station Road – replacement oil tank – Approved by Cherwell D.C. 13/04/2023.

23/00221/F – 35 Station Road – 2 storey extension – Approved by Cherwell D.C. 14/04/2023.

22/02004/F – Spring Grounds Farm – 2 shepherds huts – Approved by Cherwell D.C. 19/04/2023.

13. **SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB:** No update

## **14. FINANCE**

**Year End Accounts and Annual Return** – It was agreed to postpone this agenda item to the next meeting as the internal audit has not been completed.

15. **COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT** – No update.

16. **DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT** – No update.

## **17. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS NOT OF A CONFIDENTIAL NATURE:**

The Chairman expressed a vote of thanks to Mrs Gill Parratt for her organisation of the 'Coronation Day' celebrations on the Green.

The Chairman thanked the members of the public who attended the meeting for their participation and input to the meeting.

19. **ANY MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** None

20. **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING** – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023

There being no further matters the Chair closed the public meeting at 8.34pm

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Chairman  
12<sup>th</sup> June 2023