

CROPREDY PARISH COUNCIL

Draft minutes of a Virtual Meeting of Cropredy Parish Council held online on Monday 14th December 2020.

At the beginning of the meeting Jim Smith gave a brief presentation on Climate Change and the positive actions parish councils and local communities can take. It was proposed to set up a Climate Change Group and, as a first step, in January, hold a Zoom meeting to be open to all parishioners. The Parish Council supports this and Cllr Garland will liaise with Mr Smith. The Council meeting then started at 7.15pm

Present: - Councillor Bob Dunn (Chairman) Councillor Margaret Boscott
Councillor Bob Garland Councillor Tania Johnson
Councillor Sheila Jones Councillor Des Knight
Councillor Jacqui Smith

In Attendance: together with one member of the public who joined the meeting.

Apologies for Absence: were received from County Cllr George Reynolds and District Cllr Phil Chapman (attending full District Council meeting) and Kenneth Porter (Clerk).

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** there were no declarations on this occasion.
2. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** of 12th October 2020 was approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
3. **MATTERS ARISING:** there were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.
4. **REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS:**
 - (i) **Village Maintenance and Development** – Cllr Knight reported that, to encourage a ‘Wild Flower’ environment in the Lower Churchyard, a second cut of the year was carried out on the 28th October with six volunteers. A full cut was not complete and is likely to remain the same until May, the first of two cuts in 2021.
 - (ii) **Transport and Traffic, Street Lighting and Trees** – Cllr Knight reported that the planning application for the proposed school car park was approved on 13th November – a significant milestone! During the one month extension period from 13th October there had been a number of revisions made to the proposed plan to cover flood risks, gating orientation and car parking for the disabled. There is an existing draft construction specification that needs to be finalised in line with the above revisions and is subject to a meeting with Keon Petre (Landowner), Caroline Reid (School Business Manager) and Cllrs Garland and Knight on Thursday 10th December. The finalised construction specification will be put out for three quotes (including one from the landowner). The ‘speed limit’ work in Claydon Road, Mollington Road and Williamscot Road was completed by the end of October. The proposals on bollards by Cropredy Surgery are still outstanding. Flooding signs for Williamscot Road have been reviewed. Two ‘Road Liable to Flooding’ signs were installed, one by the Pub Stuff entrance and the other at the river bridge, the work being completed by the end of November. Cllr Knight has been informed that a ‘Not Suitable for HGVs’ sign for Claydon will be installed on the Claydon Road just beyond the Mollington Road junction going out of Cropredy assuming there are no objections. Defective lighting in Newscut Lane, Orchard View and Cup and Saucer had been reported using fixmystreetlighting.com during October/November and all three repairs were completed within the quoted 7 working days. All villagers are encouraged to use this user-friendly website as and when necessary. Mr Batchelor has now completed the tree stump work in the churchyard reducing it to ground level. Unfortunately, the tree at the Sports Pavilion is still outstanding and Cllr Johnson will follow this up with Mr Batchelor. Cllrs Dunn, Johnson and Knight have reviewed the ‘Duty of Care’ Tree Survey requirements for the village. Three quotes have been received and assessed and Cllr Knight proposed accepting the recommendation in his report that Nicholsons be appointed to carry out the survey. This was seconded by Cllr Garland and approved unanimously. It was noted that the trees planted by the new house in Creampot Close were not established by the PC, possibly CDC? Following damage to the wall adjacent to Hell Hole the Clerk has written to the representative of the landlords asking that remedial action be taken and, in the meantime, Cllrs Knight, Johnson and Garland will visit to see whether the footpath should be closed. There has been a case of fly tipping by the garages in Cup & Saucer and the Chairman and Cllr Boscott have installed a combination lock on the gate to prevent further access. The Chairman thanked Cllr Knight for arranging the installation of the permanent flood warning signs. Cllr Smith reported that the rubbish bin at Broadmoor Lock had been overfilled by removal of the liner, which she replaced. It was decided to write to the Canal & River Trust to ask them to remind boaters that rubbish should be disposed of at The Old Coal Wharf.

(iii) **Village Plan, Crime Prevention and Environment –Planning, Finance and Legal** – Cllrs Garland and Jones will consider whether the Village Emergency Plan, with confidential addresses omitted, may be published on the village website.

New Planning Applications: 20/03376/F – rear of 2 Stanwell Cottages, Great Bourton – erection of two agricultural buildings:

Decisions: 20/02039/F – Box Tree Cottage, The Plantation – additional window to 1st floor bedroom - granted;

20/02036/F – Stonecote, Church Lane – two-storey rear extension – granted;

20/01665/F – Old Stone Cottage, Creampot Lane – proposed store conversion with internal & external works - granted;

20/02060/F – The Stables, Main St. Great Bourton – change of use to allow keeping of horses and as residential caravan site for four gypsy families (no more than four caravans) with laying of hardcore - refused;

20/02038/F – Cropredy Primary School – formation of hardstanding for use of car park - granted;

20/02783/TCA – Romeland, 9 Vicarage Gardens – reduce yew by 1.5m and shape by up to 25% - granted;

20/02939/TCA – 4 Cherry Fields – fell two mature conifers too big for site and replace with shrubs – granted.

It was agreed that Mr Petre should be invited to make a presentation to the February PC meeting on his proposals for camping for the disabled. School Car Park Planning Permission Granted – Councillor Garland had liaised with CDC to enable the permission to be granted within an extension period instead of needing to re-submit the application.

6. **SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB** – there was nothing to report on this occasion.

7. **FINANCE** – the Clerk’s report had been submitted to councillors prior to the meeting and it was **resolved** that the payments itemised for £4330.27, together two others for 64p being the annual access fee from Network Rail, and £3120 to OCC in respect of relocation of 30 mph signs, be authorised.

(i) To Accept the Annual Accounts to 31 March 2020 – it was proposed by Cllr Garland and seconded by the Chairman that the PC accepted the Annual Accounts for the y/e 31 March 2020 which had been duly audited by the external auditors, Moore.

(ii) Precept 2021/22 – Cllr Knight proposed that the PC should request a precept of £13,000 for 2021/22, which is the same as in the current year. This was seconded by Cllr Garland and approved unanimously

8. **PARISH MEMBERS’ ALLOWANCES** - the Chairman referred to the Parish Remuneration Panel’s report and reminded members that previously they had agreed only to pay expenses when appropriate. It was proposed by Cllr Knight and seconded by Cllr Jones and unanimously agreed that the PC continue this policy and will not pay the basic allowance but will pay travelling and subsistence allowances in accordance with the recommendations contained within the Panel’s report.

9. **REPORT ON COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS** – County Cllr Reynolds had provided a report to the Clerk and both he and District Cllr Chapman are in discussions with HS2 and if any problems arise in Cropredy they will be referred to them. The OCC budget is likely to see a rise of between 3 & 5%, 2% to cover inflation the rest on social care, the big expense in Oxfordshire although, of course, in 2020 a lot of time, money and energy has been spent dealing with the coronavirus epidemic. There is a test centre, by appointment, at Woodgreen Leisure Centre, which is being little used and saves a journey to Oxford.

10. **REPORT ON DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS** – District Cllr Chapman had nothing new to report on this occasion.

11. **20S PLENTY FOR OXFORDSHIRE** – a campaign is being organised within the county to have the speed limit reduced to 20 mph in residential areas in Oxfordshire. Cllr Knight has discussed this with the traffic engineer and this will be kept under review. County Cllr Reynolds had reported that County has had a change of heart and may be prepared to bring in the reduced limit in villages and residential areas in towns but there is no money for this project at present and there is doubt that the Police would have the resources to enforce the restriction.

12. **Correspondence: OCC** – Entry to Primary school – September 2021; **CDC** – Cherwell Parish Bulletin; Parish Liaison Meeting; Statement of Licensing Policy Consultation; **OALC** – October & November Members’ Updates; **Community First Oxfordshire** – newsletter; **OPFA** – Coronavirus update; **CPRE** – monthly newsletters; **Rural Services Network** – Rural Bulletins; **Healthwatch Oxfordshire** – Briefings;

13. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS NOT OF A CONFIDENTIAL NATURE** – there were no further matters arising on this occasion.

14. **ANY MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ATTENDING THE MEETING** – no matters were raised.

15. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** via Zoom will be held on Monday 8 February 2021 at 7pm.

There being no further matters the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm.

Chairman
8 February 2021