

West Crewkerne Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of West Crewkerne Parish Council held at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall on Tuesday 14th January 2014.

(7.00 p.m. – 8.10 p.m.)

Present:-

Members

Mrs J Borland (Chairman)
Mr F Broom
Mr H Ploszek

Mrs S Swaffield
Mr J Wyatt

Also Present:-

Mrs A Cox, Democratic Services Manager, SSDC (acting as Clerk)
7 members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence (Agenda item 1)

Apologies for absence were received from Mr S Wetherall and County Councillor John Dyke and District Councillor Sue Osborne.

2. Public Open Forum (Agenda item 2)

Mr D Yeomans expressed his disappointment to the e-mail response from the Highway Authority relating to the offer by parishioners to fill 20mm potholes in the parish with cold bitumen as a first aid measure. He also advised that the ditch at Staples Cross required clearing. Mr Ploszek advised the landowner was aware and would clear the ditch shortly.

Mrs A Pyke suggested that a strongly worded response be made to the Highway Authority as they encouraged the clearing of drains by local people without reference to Health and Safety requirements or high visibility jackets to be worn whilst carrying out the work.

Mr R Jeffery reported a large pothole outside Maiden Beech School which it was agreed would be reported to the Highway Authority.

Mr R Jeffery advised that an event would be held in the village hall in the summer to commemorate the centenary of the First World War and he asked if anyone had any photographs or memorabilia they would like to lend to bring local interest to the event.

3. Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda (Personal or Pecuniary) (Agenda item 3)

Mrs J Borland and Mrs S Swaffield declared a personal interest in Agenda item 11, Finance, relating to the consideration of a financial contribution towards the new "administration room" at Clapton and Wayford Village Hall as members of the Clapton and Wayford Village Hall Committee. They took no part in the discussion of this item.

4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th November 2013 (Agenda item 4)

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th November 2013, having been previously circulated, were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes (Agenda Item 5)

The Chairman advised that she had yet to check the footbridge over the stream, which had been reported by Mr Jeffery as slippery when wet at the previous meeting.

6. Parish Plans (Agenda item 6)

Mrs A Pyke advised that the group of interested residents now felt that the instigation and leadership of a Parish Plan should be led by the Parish Council and not themselves.

There was some debate on the issue and it was agreed that the Chairman would contact Zoe Harris, Neighbourhood Development Officer at South Somerset DC to assist with leaflets and she would check the availability of the village hall for an open community event on a Saturday morning before Easter to start the process.

7. Planning Matters (Agenda item 7)

The Chairman advised that the following planning consultation comments would be submitted to the District Council:-

- A) **13/04846/FUL MANOR BARNES, HENLEY CREWKERNE TA18 8PQ:** The erection of a single storey extension with rooms in the roof space (GR 343899/107633) – comments yet to be submitted.
- B) **13/04387/FUL 1 AXE VIEW, AXE ROAD, DRIMPTON, BEAMINSTER DORSET DT8 3RJ.** The erection of a two storey side extension, single storey rear extension, detached garage, and alterations to the out building. (GR 341339/106047) - Application permitted with conditions.
- C) **13/03398/LBC HEWISH MILL FARM, HEWISH, CREWKERNE, SOMERSET TA18 8QX.** Alterations, conversion, and restoration of the Mill and Miller's House to include replacement link extension, and two storey extension to Miller's House. (GR 341932/104942) – Parish Council had no adverse comments for approval of the application.
- D) **13/03397/FUL. HEWISH MILL FARM, HEWISH, CREWKERNE SOMERSET TA18 8QX.** Alterations, conversion, and restoration of the Mill and Miller's House to include replacement link extension, and two storey extension to Miller's House. (GR 341932/104942) – Parish Council had no adverse comments for approval of the application.
- E) **12/03886/FUL FUZZY GROUND, LAND OS 5711, CLAPTON ROAD, CLAPTON, CREWKERNE, SOMERSET. TA18 8PW.** Change of use of agricultural field to equestrian and erection of 2 No. stables/barns. (RETROSPECTIVE) (GR 342605/107132) - Application permitted with conditions.

- F) **13/04983/FUL MANOR GRANGE, HEWISH, CREWKERNE, SOMERSET, TA18 8QT.**
Erection of double garage and store (revised application to 12/00027/FUL) (GR 342097/108520) – comments yet to be submitted.

During discussion, it was noted that the new driveway constructed across a field 140m SW of Highfields House, Hewish on the road to Woolminstone without planning permission had been reported to the Planning Enforcement Officers.

8. To discuss and if agreed adopt the revised NALC Standing Orders (Agenda item 8)

Councillor Wyatt felt the Standing Orders were unduly onerous and lengthy and abstained from voting. All other Councillors voted to accept the revised NALC Standing Orders.

9. Highway Matters (Agenda item 9)

Mrs Swaffield asked if anyone was monitoring the proximity of the river adjacent to the road into Clapton as she was concerned that if it rose higher then it could wash away part of the road. It was noted that the Highway Authority were aware of this.

10. Reports from Councillors, Including District and County Councillors (Agenda item 10)

Mr Wyatt advised that due to the recent weather, further damage to trees in the Cemetery had occurred, necessitating the removal of two further trees in addition to those removed in 2013.

Mr Ploszek advised that the report of mud on the road between Wayford and Clapton, reported at the last Parish Council meeting, had been cleaned quickly by Coombe Farm. He further reported that the Highway Authority had advised:-

- Woolminstone Ditch Bollards - No funding or resources available this financial year.
- Resurfacing of Clapton Road and flooding - Remedial work on Clapton Road will be carried out this summer. No program dates will be available until April.
- Dunsham Lane repairs - Ditch/Drainage scheme designed, unlikely start until water levels drop. No start likely until after April. There is the ability to use funds for this scheme into the 2014/15 financial year.

11. Finance (Agenda item 11)

To agree the 2014-15 Precept:

It was agreed the 2014/15 Precept comprise of:-

£2,430	Burial Board
£1,750	Insurance and Clerk's salary
£1,000	Parish Plan
£ 500	Grants
<u>£ 60</u>	Hire of village hall for Parish Council meetings
£5,740	

Mr Ploszek advised that this figure represented an increase of 0.06% on the 2013/14 precept.

The Chairman advised that she was in discussion with a potential new Parish Clerk who she hoped could start at the next meeting in March 2014.

It was noted that West Crewkerne PC paid 7% towards the cost of the upkeep of the Cemetery in Crewkerne (this being based upon the number of properties in each parish). It was felt that as the number of properties in Crewkerne was increasing, then the 7% contribution figure should be re-negotiated in 2015/16.

It was agreed to pay the following remittance:

1. Website Domain £29.99

To consider a financial contribution towards the new “administration room” in the Clapton & Wayford Village Hall:

(Mrs J Borland and Mrs S Swaffield, having earlier declared an interest, took no part in the debate or voting on this item)

Mr Ploszek advised that one builders estimate had been received so far, quoting £2,294 to complete the works required to construct an administration room above the entrance to the village hall. The estimate detailed that £600 of the work related to materials and the rest was the labour charge. Mr Ploszek proposed that the Parish Council offer £600 towards the cost of the work. This was seconded and agreed.

(Subsequent to the conclusion of the meeting, Mr L Graham-Gleed offered 2 three drawer fireproof cabinets which had damaged locks, but were repairable, for the storage of parish records. This was gratefully accepted.)

12. Correspondence (Agenda item 12)

The following correspondence received was noted:

- A poster advertising Potato Day on Saturday 8th February at Drimpton Village Hall
- Notification that speed indicator devices would be placed at either end of the road through Clapton and at Roundham at various times during March 2014.

13. Date of next meeting (Agenda item 13)

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Tuesday 11th March 2014 at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall at 7.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

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Chairman