

WEST CREWKERNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 10th November 2015 at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall

Members Present

Mrs Julia Borland

Mr Don Yeomans

Mr Frank Freeman

Mrs Caroline Broom

Mr John Dyke Somerset County Councillor

Also present

Miss Jackie Parsons (Parish Clerk)

3 Members of the Public

Meeting commenced at 7pm

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Mrs Sue Osborne

2. Public Open Forum

Nobody had anything to speak about that was not covered elsewhere on the Agenda.

3. Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda (Pecuniary or non-statutory interests).

Mr D Yeomans declared an interest in 6C.

No other declarations of interest from any of the other Councillors.

4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 8th September 2015.

The Minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record by the meeting. Proposed by Mr D Yeomans and seconded by Mr F Freeman.

5. Matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda.

Mrs Borland raised the matter of a Welcome Pack for the Parish, she had not received any copies of other Parishes' booklets. Mr J Dyke gave her one from Misterton Parish Council and Mr H Ploszek gave her a copy of a booklet from Hinton St George. Mrs J Borland asked the Councillors and the meeting if this was something that should go to all Parishioners in West Crewkerne Parish or just to new people moving into the Parish. All the Councillors and members of the Public at the meeting felt it should go to everyone in the West Crewkerne Parish. The Parishioners also need to be made aware that there is a parish Website. Mr J Dyke suggested that a map of West Crewkerne Parish be included in the Welcome Pack because some residents are unaware that they are in West Crewkerne Parish. This

was seconded by Mr F Freeman. Mrs J Borland felt that a sub-committee should be set up to deal with the Welcome pack for the Parish. However, Mrs J Borland said she would be unable to participate in the formation of the Welcome Pack as she already serves on several committees and could not spare any further time. Mr D Yeomans and Mr F Freeman agreed to take on the task of producing a brochure for the Parish.

Mr H Ploszek would like the new Somerset County Council telephone number to amend the current number on the Parish Website. The Clerk agreed to forward the number to him.

6. **Planning Matters.**

A): 15/00220/FUL, A H Warren Trust Ltd Coombe Farm Roundham Crewkerne Somerset TA18 8RR. Demolition of existing stables and store building, erection of building to provide function room, café and retail unit. (GR341040/109531). There was no indication on the S.S.D.C. website that any decision had been reached on this planning application. The planning application did not appear as an item on the next Area West Committee meeting.

B):15/00480/FUL, Unit D, Lower Coombe Farm, Roundham, Crewkerne Somerset TA18 8RL. Alterations and extension of existing agricultural storage building. Temporary change of use to Use Class A1 (retail – to include the sale of guns and clothing) (GR341615/109700).

Application withdrawn 8th September 2015.

C): 15/04159/PAMB, Barn at Junction Stalkers Cross Lane to Higher Farm Lane West Crewkerne, Crewkerne Somerset. Prior approval for the change of use of agricultural buildings into two dwellings (GR340962/107962)
This application is a retrospective planning application as approval has already been given for the conversion of the Barn into a dwelling.

D): 15/04210/TPO, Hillside Farm Hewish Crewkerne Somerset TA18 8QS. Application to fell 1 No conifer tree within the SSDC Tree Preservation order (WECR 1) 2010 (GR34945/108597)
This planning application has been approved by the date of the Parish Council Meeting.

E): 15/04252/FUL, A H Warren Trust Ltd Roundham Crewkerne Somerset TA18 8RR. To demolish existing partially demolished storage unit and erection of replacement units and office (Use Class B1/B8) (GR341040/109531)
The Parish Council has no objection to this planning application.

F): 15/04459/FUL, Middle Manor Henley Manor Henley Crewkerne Somerset TA18 8PQ. Installation of garage doors to existing garage opening (GR343947/107686)
The Parish Council has no objection to this planning application.

7. **Highway Matters.**

Information gained by Mrs J Borland and Mr F Freeman from a meeting with Mr M Fear Highways Department Somerset County Council.

Mrs J Borland and Mr F Freeman met with Mr M Fear to raise Highway Matters raised by the residents of West Crewkerne Parish. They asked about the clearing of ditches and Mr M Fear stated that it was the responsibility of the landowner to keep the ditches clear. He would prefer the Parish Council to get the ditches cleared by diplomacy but if it comes to no avail, the local council (South Somerset District Council) can write to the landowner.

The Clerk stated that Mr M Warner had telephoned her regarding her letter about the ditches when she was out. She had telephoned him back on his mobile but he had not returned her telephone call.

Mr R Johnson had telephoned Mrs J Borland and stated that the ditches were not his responsibility. Mrs C Broom stated that the farm was not owned by Mr R Johnson he only grazed some sheep on the land. Mrs C Broom would find out which of the Johnson's owned the land and let the Clerk know so she could address her correspondence to the correct recipient. The ditch outside Mr F Broom's farm needs to be cleared in preparation for the winter rains. Mrs J Borland asked Mrs Broom if she could bring the matter up with her brother-in-law.

Mr D Yeomans asked if road cleaning had stopped?

Mr D Yeomans also asked if it is river water that is coming out on the highways who does one contact initially, the River Authority or the Highways department of Somerset County Council? According to Mr M Fear it would be the responsibility of the River Authority. The Highways Authority are not aware of problems until members of the public report those problems. At Staples Cross there are no drains until the first corner, the gullies are maintained by Somerset County Council.

Mrs J Borland and Mr F Freeman asked whether road signs are being cleaned any longer. The answer was no due to budgets cuts.

Mr J Dyke stated that Cathole Bridge Road was going to be resurfaced. Mrs Borland stated that Clapton was going to be resurfaced next year.

Roundham Residents' traffic concerns regarding the A30.

Mr B Carter spoke on behalf of the residents of Roundham. He said that the speed and noise had increased tremendously over the years. Residents of Roundham felt isolated from their neighbours because there were no pavements to walk on to visit neighbours and it was far too dangerous to walk on the roads. Mr J Dyke stated that he had discussed with Mr Carter, Mr D Yeomans and Mr C Fletcher of Somerset County Council the problems of Roundham and he proposed to submit Roundham as a project under his Small Improvement Scheme. Nobody on the West Crewkerne Parish Council had any objections. Mr J Dyke stated he proposes to put forward proposals for a big vehicle permanent sign and bring in the lack of pavements in the hamlet. Mr C Fletcher will also reiterate the proposals in a report he is also putting in. Mr J Dyke stated a word of caution, although there is no cap on the cost of the scheme put forward there are still monetary limits. The schemes are submitted to a project board which can take several months to reach a decision.

A request to the Police for clarity of on road parking.

The Clerk read out a passage from the Highway Code regarding on-road parking. Mrs C Broom stated that on the Clapton Bridge to Oathill road, the cars from the houses park there. The parking is on a bend and traffic approaching the parked cars has to pull out into the opposite traffic lane which is very dangerous because you cannot see the traffic coming in the opposite direction. Mr F Freeman will look into the problem and take it up with the Police if necessary.

The clearing of ditches in Woolminstone to enable the drains to be cleared by Somerset County Council, the follow up action to be taken by the Parish Council. The Parish Councillors would like the Clerk to follow up the letters to the farmers regarding the clearing of the ditches.

Temporary closure of Cathole Bridge Road from 4th January 2016 for 26 days
The Highways department notified the Clerk of the above closure.

8. Reports from Councillors, including District and County Councillors.

Mr J Dyke (Somerset County Councillor) stated that the money that the Council has to spend is reducing. Budgets will probably be set next February. This year £800,000 has been cut off of the homeless budget.

Andrew Hutchings-one of the Trustees of Wayford Woods and Governor of Wadham School received a citation from the Chairman's awards from Somerset County Council.

Mr J Dyke has been appointed as representative on the Devon and Somerset Fire Authority. There are 85 stations and a budget of £72 million and they have to find ways of saving money. So they are looking at joint ventures with the Police and Ambulance services. The fire service has created a training Company called Red 1 Ltd which has made approximately £400,000 to put back into the fire service.

Mr F Freeman, Mrs C Broom and Mrs J Borland had no reports to make.

Mr D Yeomans stated that the Broadband in cabinet 19, that connects Hewish and Woolminstone area, has been upgraded for fast broadband. However Woolminstone will not receive a better service because of the line distance from the cabinet. The second phase of the Broadband rollout no provider is willing to take on the work.

9. Finance

A. Consider the half yearly accounts for the Parish Council

The half yearly accounts were presented to the meeting and agreed.

B. Consider the precept for the next year for West Crewkerne Parish.

The precept was presented by the Chairman of the Parish Council for consideration.

The Chairman by way of explanation stated that the contribution towards Crewkerne Cemetery still needed to be included for next year's precept until such time as the Parish could be consulted on whether the contribution should be continued.

C. To pay the Clerk's Salary – £54.24

D. To pay HMRC - £13.60

E. To pay the grant of £500 to the Village Hall as agreed previously – Dealt with

F. To pay SALC for Councillor's Course – £20.00

10. **Crewkerne Burial Board**

Mrs J Borland stated that she had been on the Crewkerne Burial Board for ten years and in that time West Crewkerne Parish had supported the Cemetery very well. Mr D Yeomans stated that West Crewkerne Parish had paid 51% of their precept to the Burial Board amounting to over £32000 since 1995. This was for maintenance, upkeep and day to day running of the Cemetery. Mr D Yeomans felt that the contribution from West Crewkerne Parish ought to be reviewed, as over 75% of the population nationally decide they want to be cremated after death. The Parish could look at purchasing a plot of land as a memorial garden for the Parish. Mrs J Borland stated that with the number of houses in Crewkerne increasing and the number of houses in West Crewkerne remaining largely static then the 7% (of the total cemetery precept) paid by West Crewkerne required reviewing. A consultation should take place with all West Crewkerne residents in regard to the future joint status with Crewkerne over the cemetery, Mr H Ploszek stated that some residents are unaware that they qualify for a 50% reduction on the cost of a burial plot at Crewkerne Cemetery. This could be something to consider including in the Parish booklet.

11. **Correspondence**

Speed Indicator Devices report for September 2015.
Temporary Closure of Cathole Bridge Road
Somerset Waste Partnership, October & November recycling figures.
Area West Council Meeting on the 18th November 2015.
All the above correspondence forwarded to the Parish Councillors.
Mr D Yeomans will filter correspondence received from the Clerk to Mr H Ploszek for inclusion on the Parish Website.

11A. **Co-Option of member of the Parish as a Parish Councillor.**

Mr B Carter was Co-opted on to the West Crewkerne Parish Council with the full agreement of all the existing Parish Councillors.

12. **To confirm that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 12th January 2016 at Clapton and Wayford Village Hall at 7.00pm**

It was confirmed that the next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th January 2016 at Clapton and Wayford Village Hall at 7.00pm.

Chairman

West Crewkerne PC - Half Yearly Review of Accounts – as at 30th September 2015

RECEIPTS		Precept	Interest	Total
10/04/2015	Precept/SSDC grant	6370.00		6370.00
30/04/2015	Interest		0.41	
30/05/2015	Interest		0.37	
30/06/2015	Interest		0.38	
30/07/2015	Interest		0.36	
28/08/2015	Interest		0.33	
30/09/2015	Interest		0.36	
	Total	6370.00	2.21	6372.21

PAYMENTS		Training	Grants	Admin	B Board	Insurance	Salary/Tax	VAT	Total
28/04/2015	Insurance					243.80			243.80
28/04/2015	Clerk salary/tax						111.67		111.67
28/04/2015	Burial Board				2820.00				2820.00
08/09/2015	Clerk salary/tax						361.16		361.16
08/09/2015	Hall hire			57.50					57.50
08/09/2015	Training courses	154.95							154.95
08/09/2015	Books			150.00					150.00
08/09/2015	SALC subscription			180.19					180.19
	Total	154.95		387.69	2820.00	243.80	472.83		4079.27

BUDGET	Precept	30/09/2015	To Pay
Burial Board	2500.00	2820.00	
Grants	700.00	.00	700.00
Insurance	250.00	243.80	
Clerks Salary & Exp	1300.00	472.83	827.17
General Admin	300.00	387.69	
Training for new council	225.00	154.95	70.05
Election	250.00	.00	
Storage cabinets	500.00	.00	
Total	6025.00	4079.27	
VAT		0.00	
Total Inc VAT	6025.00		

Balance 30/09/2015	6372.21	
Budget Items to pay	1597.22	
Total	4774.99	
Allocated Reserves	(500.00)	(Provision for storage cabinets)
Unallocated Reserves	4274.99	