

WEST CREWKERNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 9th January 2018 at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall

Members Present

Mrs Julia Borland

Mr Don Yeomans

Mr Frank Freeman

Mrs Caroline Broom

Mr Barrie Carter

Mrs Sue Osborne (South Somerset District Councillor)

Also present

Miss Jackie Parsons (Parish Clerk)

5 Members of the Public

1. Apologies for Absence

Apology received from Mr Mike Best (Somerset County Councillor)

2. Public Open Forum – Each member of the public present is entitled to speak once only, in respect of business itemised on the agenda and shall not speak for more than 5 minutes.

Mr M Wilson raised a question regarding the land at Stakers Lane, Woolminstone the land appears to have a large number of trees planted on the land, did any of the Parish Councillors know anything about it. Mr D Yeomans stated that the original owner of the land had sold it on e-bay and the new owner appeared to be a man in his 40's. He has funded and planted the trees himself and as far as Mr Yeomans could see is not contravening any laws or regulations but that is all he knows about the new owner.

Mr Henryk Ploszek advised the meeting that his neighbour had been approached by a broadband provider to site a connection box on his land. The broadband provider is gigaclear. Mr H Ploszek had also obtained information about low interest rate loans available to Parish and Town Councils from the Treasury. After discussion at the meeting, the general consensus was that the monthly tariff from the above Broadband provider was expensive and that it would be better to wait and see what happens in the near future, as apparently gigaclear have the contract to connect rural communities in Devon and Somerset.

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

The Chairman asked the individual Parish Councillors if they had any declarations of interest in any items on the agenda. Mrs J Borland, Mr D Yeomans, Mr F Freeman and Mr B Carter declared no interest in any items on the agenda. Mrs C Broom declared an interest in the hay bales at Hewish.

4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 14th November 2017.

The Minutes of the above meeting were approved by the meeting and were proposed for adoption by Mr F Freeman and seconded by Mrs C Broom.

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

Mrs J Borland had a comment to make on the planning applications. Mrs J Borland always sends in a comment to the planning authorities even if the comment is say that the Parish Council has no observations or comments to make on this application. Mrs J Borland asked that the Clerk re-word the comments after the planning application when including the planning applications on the agenda so that they reflect the above.

6. Planning Matters.

West Crewkerne Parish Council is a Statutory Consultee for Planning Applications and as such does not make the final decision on any application. Any decisions and comments made by the Parish Council will be fed into the planning process and added to the report by the Planning Officer. South Somerset District Council is the Planning Authority and will issue the final decision notice (Planning Determination) once their investigations into the application, consultation period and decision making process has been completed.

A): 17/03552/FUL. Coombe Farm Cottages, Roundham, Crewkerne Somerset TA18 8RP.

Demolish Nos 4 and 5 Coombe Farm Cottages and 4 No. replacement estate workers dwelling houses.

Still pending consideration.

B): 17/03541/LBC. Axe Farm, Axe Road, Drimpton, Beaminster, Dorset DT8 3RJ.

Internal alterations and repairs. Remove modern external door and reinstate stone wall to front elevation.

Application permitted with conditions

C): 17/03848/FUL. Land at Junction, Stalkers Cross Lane to Higher Farm Lane, West Crewkerne Somerset.

The erection of a dwelling and car port.

Application permitted with conditions

Observations and/or comments were made on the above applications by the West Crewkerne Parish Council.

7. Highway Matters

Clearance of ditches on Cinder Ash Lane Roundham

The ditches on Cinder Ash Lane have not been cleared, Clerk to write to Mr G Coleman at Coombe Farm again.

Footbridge in Clapton, letter from the Rights of Way team.

The Clerk had sent a copy of the letter from the Rights of Way Team to Mr F Freeman which set out their plan of action for the footbridge.

Maiden Beech Cross-Roads, has this been accepted as a small improvement scheme.

The Maiden Beech Cross-Roads has been accepted as a small improvement scheme.

Community Led Housing Projects

The Chairman asked Mr F Freeman if he still wished to proceed with this project, to which he replied he would.

Letter to StreetClean for the road sweeper to visit Woolminstone

The meeting would like Streetclean to sweep the whole of Woolminstone not just certain roads. The Clerk to write to Streetclean requesting the above.

Roundham Small Improvement Scheme.

Mr M Best (Somerset County Councillor) had sent an e-mail to all the Parish Councillors detailing the plan of action on this scheme.

Hay bales opposite Hewish Church.

The Hay bales opposite Hewish Church have been moved but a temporary steel fence has been erected on the land. The Clerk to write to Mrs Taylor thanking her for moving the hay bales and asking the name of the person and department who gave her permission to erect the fence and for how long?

Speed Indicators

All the Councillors had received the memo regarding the cessation of the Speed Indicators. The meeting felt that it was not viable for a small parish to purchase a speed indicator but to explore neighbouring parishes view and Crewkerne Town Council's views on the matter.

Water on the Chard Road on the B3165.

The above should read water on the Clapton road part of the B3165. There is water going across the road which is freezing in wintery conditions and up to the date of the Parish Meeting there had already been two accidents at this particular spot where car has hit the ice and slid. The problem is there is a blocked drain and the water is not able to flow down the drain and therefore goes straight across the road. The Police Constable support officer came to the meeting to air her concerns over this stretch of road, she will send an e-mail to Somerset Highways as will the Clerk for the Parish Council, asking for the drain to be cleared before a fatality occurs on this stretch of road.

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

No reports from the following Councillors, Mrs J Borland, Mr D Yeomans, Mr F Freeman, Mrs C Broom and Mr B Carter.

Mrs S Osborne (South Somerset District Councillor)

The Boundaries' Commission has set out the proposed new boundaries for this area, so the meeting might like to look at the proposals.

The South Somerset District Council has to come up with a new Local Plan up until 2020 as the current one is out of date with regard to housing stock. There are proposals put forward by a private enterprise to create a garden town between Yeovilton and Ilchester.

The Financial grant for the precept year 2018/19 is very little and for the next precept year will be Nil. The Budget setting for South Somerset District Council will take place in February 2018.

There are proposals that are up for discussion, for Somerset County Council and Devon to become a combined authority. Somerset County Council would be the administrative authority. Mrs S Osborne has reservations about this proposal as it introduces another layer of Management.

9. Finance

A) To pay:-

1. Clerk Salary – Included in the Clerks Salary are the purchase of inks for my printer and the cost of the repair to the West Crewkerne Parish Council 's laptop. Salary £137.05, Laptop repair£54.00 and inks £79.92- Cheque No.
2. HMRC - £34.40 – Cheque No.
3. Purchase of a new laptop for the Parish Clerk's use on Parish Council Matters. The specifications of the new laptop in comparison with the present laptop.
The Clerk stated that the friend who was considering supplying the laptop had not come back to her with Specifications and price, so could this matter be postponed to the next Parish Council Meeting.
4. The maintenance of the West Crewkerne Website and the cost of doing so.

Again the Clerk stated that the friend had not come back to her with any proposals. However Mr H Ploszek had done some research on website providers and had come up with a list of providers for the Parish Councillors to consider before the next meeting.

10. Precept.

The setting of the precept for 2018/19.

The Clerk explained the precept and a discussion followed. The precept was accepted and was proposed for acceptance by Mr D Yeomans and seconded by Mr F Freeman.

11. Correspondence

Somerset Waste Partnership October and November and December Recycling over the Christmas and New Year Period.

Road Closures at Dinnington, Ilminster and Lang Road in Crewkerne

Wessex Regional Flood and Coastal strategy for 2017 to 2021 and beyond.

Speed Indicator Devices

Footpath in Clapton to Frank Freeman only.

School admissions consultation document to Julia and Henryk only

Somerset Local Authorities Civil Contingencies Unit.

The Parish Councillors all confirmed they had received copies of the above correspondence.

12. To confirm that the next meeting of the West Crewkerne Parish Council will be

held on the 13th March 2018 at the Clapton and Wayford Village Hall at 7.00pm.

Confirmed and the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Chairman

DRAFT