

WEST CREWKERNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13th March 2018 at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall

Members Present

Mrs Julia Borland
Mr Frank Freeman
Mrs Caroline Broom
Mr Barrie Carter
Mr M Best (Somerset County Councillor)

Also present

Miss Jackie Parsons (Parish Clerk)
3 Members of the Public

1. Apologies for Absence

Apology received from Mr Don Yeomans (West Crewkerne Parish Councillor) Mr & Mrs M Wilson, Mrs S Osborne (South Somerset District Councillor) and Mr L Graham-Gleed who arrived partway through the meeting.

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.

Nobody from the public wish to make any comments or raise any matters not covered on the agenda.

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

Mr F Freeman, Mrs C Broom, Mr B Carter and Mrs J Borland all declared no interest in any of the items on the agenda.

4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 9th January 2018

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 9th January 2018 were approved by the Councillors present after they were proposed for adoption by Mr F Freeman and seconded by Mr B Carter.

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

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

6. Planning Matters

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 dwellinghouses.

Application permitted with Conditions

Mrs J Borland as Chairman of the Parish Council had commented on this planning application that all four cottages should be for agricultural workers only. However

the Planning Department in South Somerset District Council stated that as the original two cottages had been for agricultural workers they made the stipulation that only two of the four cottages were to be for agricultural workers. The remaining two cottages carried no stipulation.

B): 18/00151/FUL. A H Warren Trust Ltd Coombe Farm Roundham Crewkerne Somerset TA18 8RR.

Internal and External alterations and the change of use of part and existing storage building to form office/workshop/store(Use Class B1 a and c) for Solar South West Ltd.

Still Pending Consideration

The Parish Council had commented on this application that they had no objections to the proposals.

7. Highway Matters

Clearance of ditches on Cinder Ash Lane Roundham

Mr G Coleman had sent his farm manager down to look at the ditches but they were nothing to do with Coombe Farm. Mr B Carter (Parish Councillor) had subsequently found out that the "ditches" were in fact a private soak away for the two cottages opposite him. The son of one of the residents had come and dug out the soak away and surface water is running away freely.

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

The various surveys for the footbridge are progressing and the footbridge is going to be a metal replacement and the rights of way team hope to replace the footbridge this year 2018.

Community Led Housing Projects

The Councillors decided to drop this off the agenda for next time, if Mr F Freeman had any more information regarding this matter then the matter could be resurrected at a later date.

Letter to StreetClean for the road sweeper to visit Woolminstone

As far as the residents of Woolminstone were aware the road sweeper had not been back to Woolminstone. The Parish Clerk to send a follow up letter to Streetclean.

Roundham Small Improvement Scheme.

All the points that had been raised by the West Crewkerne Parish Council had been put forward by Mr M Best (Somerset County Councillor) but the small improvement scheme at Somerset County Council would not extend the gateway parameters as they were already at the maximum distance from the houses. Full drawings will now be done within the next month and the implementation process will then start. The West Crewkerne Parish Council wanted it minuted that they were disappointed that their recommendations had not been taken forward.

Hay bales opposite Hewish Church.

The hay bales have been removed and the wall is being repaired, the temporary fence is protecting the public and the stone mason whilst the wall is repaired. The Parish Council will take no further action on this matter.

Speed Indicators

There was discussion at the meeting regarding the various options open to the Parish Council and it was decided by the meeting to go for the Somerset County

Council scheme, this was proposed by Mrs J Borland and seconded by Mr B Carter. This scheme will involve paying £100 for each siting of the speed indicator device. At the meeting it was decided to ask for a speed indicator device to be sited in Roundham twice in the financial year. Mr B Carter stated that the post needed to be moved from outside the houses to halfway up by the 40mph sign. The Parish Clerk was going to a Speed indicator device talk by Dave Grabham at SALC offices in Somerton on Wednesday 14th March and would ask if the post could be moved and the device put where Mr B Carter had indicated. The Parish Clerk also to inform Dave Grabham that West Crewkerne Parish Council would like to participate in their Speed Indicator Device Scheme.

Water on the Chard Road on the B3165.

The drain and ditch had been dug out at this particular area on the B3165 and the surface water is now flowing freely through into the drain and is a great improvement on that stretch of road.

Lyminster Farm – work done in the area to improve the drainage undertaken by the Johnson Family.

The Parish Council asked the Parish Clerk to send a thank you letter to the Johnson family for the work done on the drainage. Mr H Ploszek would also like Somerset Highways to be informed that the inlet pipe that goes under the entrance to the farm needs to be replaced with an inlet pipe that is larger in diameter. This pipe was put in by Somerset Highways not by the Johnson family.

Slurry distribution in the area.

Slurry is still be sprayed illegally into hedges and on Chard Lane. The Parish Clerk to inform the Environmental Health agency.

Water on the turning to Woolminstone

Work has been done to address this situation quickly and is possibly a result of the police intervention because of accidents occurring on the B3165. Letter of thanks to the PCSO Julia Middleditch who works out of Chard Police Station.

8. Reports from Councillors, including District and County Councillors.
Mr M Best (Somerset County Councillor) stated that Council tax bills are starting to be issued and have gone up by an average of 5.9%. The Council tax is the only way that councils are going to raise revenue as Central Government funding ceases in 2019. There is a consultation started on local libraries and Parish Councils and the public need to support their local libraries. West Crewkerne Parish Council supports the Crewkerne library. Brass plaques in Crewkerne Cemetery have been stolen and families are being advised to replace brass plaques for loved ones with plastic ones. Mr M Best also stated that there is a planning application in for a 130 houses to be built at Kithill Crewkerne with the access road coming out on the road leading to Maiden Beech Cross-Roads, so he will be keeping a watch on this application with regards to the traffic impact on the Maiden Beech cross-roads.
No reports from Mr B Carter, Mrs C Broom, Mr F Freeman and Mrs J Borland all West Crewkerne Parish Councillors.
9. Finance
 - A) To pay:-
 1. Clerk Salary of £134.83 Cheque No. 285

2. HMRC - £33.80 Cheque No. 282

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 she had not heard from the friend who was obtaining this information so she had e-mail Mr M Best at South Somerset District Council asking if he was able to obtain a new laptop. Mr M Best stated that at South Somerset District Council they get given an allowance to purchase their laptop and do not purchase in bulk anymore. Mr M Best stated that P C World had some very good offers on laptops at present. The Clerk would look into the matter.

4. The maintenance of the West Crewkerne Website and the cost of doing so.

The Clerk asked Mr H Ploszek if he had looked at the website designer she had forwarded to him but he had not received the e-mail. Mr H Ploszek thought that the details that Mr D Yeomans had researched looked very good. The meeting decided to wait until Mr D Yeomans was at the next meeting to discuss. There is going to be a cost involved in the setting up of the website in the region of £500 to £700 and once set up the website will have to be maintained. Mr M Best (Somerset County Councillor) stated that Katie Pritchard had set up Crewkerne Town Council's website and he was sure she could be approached for some ideas or help with West Crewkerne Parish Council's website. Mr F Freeman proposed that the Parish Clerk contact Katie Pritchard through Mr M Best and this was seconded by Mr B Carter.

5. To pay Mr H Ploszek for the maintenance of the current website £29.99. Cheque No.283

6. To pay a small grant of £120.00 to the Clapton and Wayford Film Society for the hire of a film to enable them to put on a free film evening to showcase their new state of the art equipment to other societies and the residents of West Crewkerne. Cheque No.284

10. Data Protection changes to the law from May 2018 and the Transparency Code from May 2018. The implications and costs for the West Crewkerne Parish.

The Clerk stated that the West Crewkerne Parish Council did fulfil the conditions of the Transparency Code because they had a website in place even though we were looking to upgrade it.

The Data Protection Act had not yet gone through Parliament and so was not yet law. However the changes were supposed to take place from May 2018. The Government have stated that they did not want Parish Clerk or Responsible Finance Officer to be the Data Protection Officers which causes a problem for small Councils. The Clerk stated she had received quotes from Companies offering Data Protection services from £650 to £850 per year which really is unsustainable for a small Council. The Clerk stated that SALC were going to put a course together on the new Data Protection Law when they had got clarification from the government on a number of points. The Clerk asked the Councillors to have a glance at the memo with the Data Protection Act attached because there are ramifications for Councillors if the law is

broken. The Clerk also stated that the Society of Local Council Clerks hoped to issue a précised form of the Act for Clerks by the end of March 2018.

11. Broadband through Clapton by Gigaclear.

Mrs J Borland stated that talking to a member of the Clapton and Wayford village hall committee Gigaclear had stated that they were bringing fibre broadband to Clapton by June 2018. They were looking at siting a box outside the Village Hall but no representation from Gigaclear has been made to the village hall committee. Mrs J Borland asked the meeting if they felt that a representative from Gigaclear should be invited along to the next Parish Council meeting to explain the timescale and the plans to bring fibre optic broadband to the Parish of West Crewkerne, the meeting was in agreement. Mrs J Borland will follow up.

12. Correspondence

Somerset Waste Partnership Briefings and February Briefing

Flood Warden Newsletter

Boundary Commission for South Somerset District 2 Memos.

Somerset Libraries Service

Great British Spring Clean

Speed Indicator Reports for Clapton and Roundham

Footbridge at Clapton to Frank Freeman only.

NALC Newsletter

Cemetery enquiry from Streetscene to Julia Borland only.

Consultation Document on the proposed dualling of the A303 Sparkford to Ilchester

Consultation Document on the A358 Taunton to Ilminster dualling scheme

Views on your landscape – Dorset AONB

Notification of footpath closures

Website Design

Consultation on Crime and poor performance in Waste Sector

St Margaret's Hospice's Newsletter

All the Parish Councillors confirmed they had received the above memos.

13. To confirm that the next meeting will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting and the West Crewkerne Parish Council Meeting on the 8th May 2018 at the Clapton and Wayford Village Hall at 7.00pm.

The Annual Parish Meeting and the West Crewkerne Parish Council Meeting confirmed for the 8th May 2018.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Chairman

After the formal meeting had closed there was posed two questions regarding specific conditions on two previous allowed planning applications. The Chairman stated she would contact the planning department at SSDC for clarification of the current state of these conditions.