

## **WEST CREWKERNE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Incorporating Clapton, Hewish, Woolminstone, Roundham & Henley Manor**

### **Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 25th July 2024**

**Present:** Cllrs J. Borland, C. Broom, and J. Holt.

Also in attendance were Somerset Councillors Steve Ashton and Mike Best, and Clerk to the Council R. Richards

#### **229 Members to receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given**

Apologies were received from Cllr Archer and the reason given approved

#### **230 To receive any Declarations of Interest (pecuniary or non-statutory Interests) – None received**

#### **231 Open Forum including Somerset Councillors Reports**

*Members of the public can ask questions of, raise concerns, or make comments regarding the Parish Council. A speaker in the Open Forum may only represent his, her or their own point of view and shall not speak for more than 3 minutes. Issues raised may be referred to the Clerk to respond to within 10 working days or listed on a subsequent agenda.*

#### **232 Approve the Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held 23rd May 2024 and the Extraordinary Meeting held 27th June 2024**

**Resolved:** Members approved the Minutes of the meetings held on 23rd May and 27th June 2024

**Proposed:** Cllr Borland **Seconded:** Cllr Broom **Vote:** 3-0-0

#### **233 Outstanding Items Update**

- a) Update on the bank signatory application

Cllr Borland contacted Nat West and advised that we are still waiting for them to contact Cllrs Holt and Archer to submit their signatures

#### **234 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 reported to the Planning Officer. Somerset Council is the Planning Authority and will issue the final decision notice.

- a) Members to resolve Applications received: None received

- b) Applications Decisions received: None received

- c) Applications Awaiting Decision:

Application Reference: 24/00352/FUL Proposed Solar Farm at Land OS 8186 Dunsham Lane Wayford

Application Reference: 24/01132/FUL Ground mounted field PV arrays at Coombe Farm, West Crewkerne

#### **235 Finance**

Proposals:

- a) Members to note the July schedule of payments and approve the bank reconciliations

**Resolved:** Members noted the schedule of payment and approved the bank reconciliations for May and June

**Proposed:** Cllr Borland **Seconded:** Cllr Broom **Vote:** 3-0-0

#### **236 Document Review**

Proposal: Members to review and adopt the following policies:

- a) Councillors Code of Conduct  
b) Complaints Procedure - Updated  
c) Training Policy

**Resolved:** Members reviewed and adopted all three policies

**Proposed:** Cllr Holt **Seconded:** Cllr Broom **Vote:** 3-0-0

**237 SID Funding and Chapter 8 Training**

Cllr Borland has signed and returned the Conditions of grant form to the Police Community Trust and we are now waiting for their cheque

**238 Report from the Joint Burial Committee**

Cllr Borland informed the meeting that recent changes meant that she was now Vice Chair and Mike Best had been elected as Chair of the committee. She also reported that a large Cedar tree with severe blight had died and was being felled. The felling was to prevent the blight being transferred to other cedars within the cemetery.

**239 Highways Matters and Flooding Issues**

Recent drain flushing maintenance within Clapton, whilst welcomed, did not address the more important issue of the blocked and now barely visible gullies along the B3165 from Hewish crossroads to the junction of Dunsham Lane in Clapton. **Action:** Cllr Borland will contact Lee Norman.

The installation of a new 'no fly tipping sign' was reported by Cllr Borland.

**240 Public Rights of Way**

Ideally WCPC need a Parish Paths Liaison Officer. **Action:** Clerk to post a request for volunteers on the Councils website, create a poster for the local notice boards and flyers for distribution at the coffee mornings held in the village hall. The ideal candidates would be residents who walk the footpaths on a regular basis.

**241 Clerk's Report and Correspondence**

- AGAR submitted to the External Auditors and relevant documents posted on the council's website
- Email sent to Dan Cox, Somerset and Avon Police, asking if he could help chase up our SID funding
- Email sent to the Police Community Trust chasing SID Funding. A decision was finally made that we can fit these on a permanent basis so the application has been approved and we should receive a cheque soon
- Letter sent to Matthew Chubb Almshouses Charity informing them that WCPC are waiving their rights to provide a trustee
- Bank signatory mandate completed online and submitted to Nat West
- Chapter 8 Training investigated with the Tess Group, Symmons & Madge and NRSWA
- Responses sent for two planning applications considered at the Extraordinary Meeting held in June
- Laptop sent for repair and returned

**Confidential Items**

*Proposal: Under Standing Orders 3d and 10xi the Parish Council resolves that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted (legal, personal, or commercial), the press and public be excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.*

**242 Members to decide if there is a suitable location for a grit bin in Hewish**

The matter was discussed and agreed there was no space to fit a grit bin. Cllr Borland has about 6 bags of grit which Cllr Holt will collect and use as and when required.

**243 Date of Next Meeting:** 26th September 2024

Meeting Closed at: 7.32pm

Approved by West Crewkerne Parish Council on: 26th September 2024 - Minute No: 246

Signed: ..... Chairman