

CRICK PARISH COUNCIL.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, held at the Old School, Church Street, Crick at 7.30pm on Monday 16<sup>th</sup>.May 2011.

Present – J. Richards (Chairman) D. Tolfts (Vice Chairman) Mrs G. Nisbet, J. Goodger, Mrs M. Gibbins, P. Dunkley, R. Atterbury, Miss A. Ward, W. Simms and W. Fursman.

2 members of the public were present.

**28. Apologies.**

R. Lowe – incapacitated.

**29. Declaration of Interests.**

W. Fursman (Secretary of Crick Allotment Association) D. Tolfts, P. Dunkley, Mrs M. Gibbins (allotment tenants) declared an interest in agenda item 18 – allotments – cost of watering system/loan.

R. Atterbury declared an interest in agenda item 12 – planning – DA/2011/0325 – continued use of land adjoining Nb Linnet for domestic purposes – he is the land owner for the Crick Marina.

**30. Declaration of Acceptance of Office/ Code of Conduct forms/Notice of Registrable Interests.**

All members present completed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms. David Parry (DDC) had advised that if Councillors were re-elected and they had previously completed the Code of Conduct forms then this was sufficient for this term of office. He further advised that if Councillors had completed their Notice of Registrable Interests four years ago and member's interests had not changed over this period of time, then it was acceptable to notify DDC that the member's interests had not changed. Members declared that their interests had not changed since 2007 and the Clerk will notify DDC Electoral Officer.

**31. Appointment of Chairman.**

P. Dunkley proposed D. Tolfts to take the office of Chairman. The proposal was seconded by J. Goodger and agreed unanimously. The position was accepted by D. Tolfts. He thanked J. Richards for his time as Chairman; he had made a valuable contribution to the village in his role as Chairman. The Chair was taken by D. Tolfts who completed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman.

**32. Appointment of Vice Chairman.**

The Chairman proposed P. Dunkley for the position of Vice Chairman. The proposal was seconded by W. Fursman and agreed unanimously.

**33. Appointment to Committees.**

The following members were appointed to the Committees;  
Greens Committee – R. Atterbury, Mrs G. Nisbet, W. Fursman, W. Simms & Miss A. Ward.  
Financial Controller – J. Goodger.  
Burial Superintendent – W. Fursman & the Clerk.  
IT Centre Committee – P. Dunkley, R. Lowe & J. Goodger.  
Highway Representative – J. Richards.  
Responsible Financial Officer – the Clerk.

**34. Appointment to Village Organisations.**

The following members were appointed to the Village Organisations;  
Playing Field Committee – the Chairman, J. Richards, W. Simms, Mrs M. Gibbins and R. Lowe.  
Village Hall Committee – R. Lowe & Mrs M. Gibbins.  
Friends of Cracks Hill – W. Fursman & R. Lowe.  
Crick Parochial Charity – Mrs G. Nisbet & J. Goodger.  
Crick Educational Foundation – J. Goodger & R. Lowe.  
The Old School Trustees – P. Dunkley & J. Goodger.  
Yelvertoft Road Sports Field Steering Group – the Chairman, J. Richards, W. Simms & Mrs M. Gibbins.  
Crick Millennium Wood Charity – J. Goodger.  
Footpath and Tree Warden – W. Fursman.  
Youth Initiative Committee – R. Lowe, Mrs M/ Gibbins & Miss A. Ward.

**35. Open meeting.**

Members of the public reported numerous potholes in the Marsh and Watford Road at the junction of Watford Gated Road. (To be reported to MGWSP) The road through Watford Park has been repaired and the footpath in Watford Road itself has been re-surfaced. The Bucknills Lane footpath remains a hazard to pedestrians and J. Richards will liaise with MGWSP. Bushes are overhanging the footpath in High Street/Chapel Lane.

J. Goodger reported a number of trees that were overhanging footpaths in the village at Main Road and Bury Dyke and a dead tree opposite the Marsh needed removing. It was agreed to draw up a list of similar work for the meeting in June. W. Fursman agreed to carry out a village' walkabout'

Miss A. Ward reported that the 'village market' had been cancelled on Saturday 21/5/11 due to insurance problems. It was agreed that the market should be supported, being a village asset.

**36. Minutes of the meetings held on 18<sup>th</sup>.April and the extra ordinary meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup>.May 2011.**

The two sets of minutes had been circulated previously. P. Dunkley proposed an addition to the minutes of 18<sup>th</sup>. April – during the discussions on the Crick Boat Show, mention was made for a site visit from our MP and County Councillor to the bridge over the canal. After amendment P. Dunkley proposed that the two sets of minutes were a true and correct record of the meetings. The proposal was seconded by Mrs G. Nisbet and agreed by those present.

**37. Circulations.**

The following documents were circulated via the IT Centre;  
Clerk & Council magazine, Yelvertoft PC minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup>.April 2011 & Rural Services Network newsletters.

**38. Correspondence for information.**

DDC is to hold a renewable energy event on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>.May from 5-8pm at the Icon.

DDC – car boot sales are to be held on the first Saturday of every month from 8am to noon at Daventry Country Park.

Friends of St. Margaret's Church have sent a thank you letter for the donation to the restoration of the Church.

**39. Correspondence for response.**

DDH have joined forces with Cummins who offer an 'Every Employee Every Community Scheme' whereby employees are given four hours paid time to devote to community projects. Members agreed that the scheme should be borne in mind for future projects.

Airvolution from Farnham is due to apply for planning permission for two wind turbines on land between Watling Street and the M1 motorway. The company is to hold a public consultation event at the Old School between 3.30 – 7.30pm on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>.May 2011. The Chairman requested members and the public to attend the event and air their views.

NCC is proposing new mobile library routes in Crick. The library will visit on a Saturday with the first stop being at Ellen Close from 11.20 to 12.20 and the second at Bury Dyke from 1310 to 1515hrs. A short discussion revealed that members would wish more stops with less duration at Bury Dyke (Pmn -The suggestion is being considered by the Principal Librarian)

The tenant for the grazing at the Yelvertoft Road fields has paid the rent for 2010/11, the sum of £1,120.00. He has made a request to have weights placed on the two gates, one by the canal and the other gate further towards the village. Walkers are leaving these gates open and animals are straying onto the footpath. J. Goodger remarked that the current fencing is sheep fencing and electric fencing should be in place when cattle are being grazed. He proposed that weights be attached to the gates and the gate on footpath EM4 to Cracks Hill. R. Atterbury further proposed that the main gate to the fields, off Yelvertoft Road, be repaired. The proposals were seconded and agreed. A local contractor will be contacted.

A resident from Yelvertoft Road, Crick, impressed by the publications by J. Goodger, on walks and heritage in the village, has suggested the publication of a 'heritage trail pamphlet' Northamptonshire Enterprise Ltd will print 2000 copies, free of charge and distribute them to various tourist offices. The resident further requested an update of the listed buildings within the village. J. Goodger informed the meeting that Crick Village Design Statement contains details of listed buildings. He agreed to liaise with the resident regarding the pamphlet.

DDC is to hold a Parish and Town Councils meeting on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2011 at 6.30pm in the Council Offices. The Chairman and J. Richards agreed to attend.

#### 40. **Planning.**

DA/2011/0219 – Listed Building Consent has been granted for the installation of a satellite dish at 32 Lauds Road, Crick.

DA/2011/0951 – planning permission has been granted for kitchen rendering and replacement summer house at 17 Oak Lane, Crick.

DA/2011/0154 – planning permission has been refused for a first floor rear extension at 4 Thornton Close, Crick – the refusal was on the grounds of privacy issues with nearby houses.

DA/2011/0132 – planning permission has been refused for outline application for one dwelling at 27 Watford Road, Crick – the application will result in the proposal extending the boundary of the village into the open countryside and would be visually intrusive.

DA/2011/0166 & 0167 – refusal of planning permission and Listed Building Consent for the conversion of a barn and outbuilding to a dwelling including the construction of a linking extension. The extension would result in substantial harm to a Grade II listed barn.

DA/2011/0325 – an application for the continued use of land adjoining the residential mooring for domestic purposes to the narrow boat Linnat at Crick Marina. The plans were inspected and no objections were raised.

RBC has forwarded the outline application of the Rugby Radio Station site – comments are to be received by 14/6/11. R. Atterbury proposed that the plans should be on display at the wind farm event on 18/5/11. The proposal was agreed.

41. **NCC – proposed additional grit bins.**

J. Richards reported that he had a meeting with Councillor Mrs Boardman to try to resolve the issue of additional grit bins. She is raising the issue with Nick Gore (NCC). The Councillor has yet to reply. The item will remain on the agenda.

42. **Streetlights – part time lighting.**

The Clerk had yet to further the matter with Central Networks. He reported that NCC is proposing to reduce a number of their streetlights as part of their budget cuts (Pmn – an enquiry with NCC revealed that the fuses on some of the lights have been removed – a sticker is placed on the light to show that it is not faulty)

43. **Community Funding – ratification of the overseeing panel’s recommendations.**

The Chairman of the overseeing panel, Sarah Alexander, has made a request to refer to the fund as Butchers-Gazeley Community Fund. The request was agreed unanimously.

The overseeing panel had met on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>. May 2011. A copy of their recommendations had been circulated, to members, prior to the meeting. The overseeing panel consisted of Sarah Alexander, Robert Cave, Rob Chamberlain, Tom Marks and Colin Mynott. Terms of reference for the panel had been suggested and the panel had adhered to the terms in reaching their decisions.

The total fund value was £40,000 and the funding recommended (currently) is £28,850.

Funding was recommended for approval to the following organisations/groups;

Crick Scarecrow Festival - £500.

Crick Old School Trustees - £2,500.

Crick Community 1<sup>st</sup>. Responders - £2,100 – an increase from £600 – the panel recommended funding for a second defibrillator machine & encourage the group to increase the responders to 12.

Crick History Society - £750.

Crick Pre-School - £10,000.

Crick Millennium Wood Charity - £5,000 – decreased from £7,800.

Crick Primary School - £5,000.

Crick Scout Group - £3,000.

The Overseeing Panel recommended three applications to be declined, Crick Skate Board Park, Crick Sports Field Association and Friends of St Margaret’s Church. Their applications were for general funding and not for a specific initiative.

The members thanked the Panel for their deliberations and recommendations and it was agreed to follow their recommendations. The Chairman was disappointed that some funding had been carried over. Mrs G. Nisbet was surprised that the Village Hall Committee had not applied for funding.

After discussion, the members agreed that all three applicants should re-apply within the next month but to apply for funding for a specific project, not for general funding. The applications would be sent to the Panel members for recommendations for the outstanding funding, the sum of £11,150. It was further agreed that there was a need for public relations in relation to the fund, the recipients and the Butchers/Gazeley employees. Mrs G. Nisbet and Mrs M. Gibbins agreed to sign the cheques for the applicants.

**44. Scarecrow weekend.**

Mrs M. Gibbins informed the meeting that the planning for the weekend event was progressing along. The market, it is hoped, will be held on the school playing field and the number of stall holders is increasing. The media interest in the event is increasing. DHL has agreed to sponsor the music festival. Catteralls Coaches will provide the transport for the 'scarecrow tour'. The Parish Council insurer has agreed to provide insurance cover.

**45. Noise and odour nuisance – BPC Ltd.**

Angela Murphy (BPC Ltd.) has requested a meeting with the Parish Council to discuss the noise and odour nuisance. Members agreed to invite her to the meeting in June. BPC Ltd. has addressed all the problems and a letter from the company is awaited, a copy of which will be displayed on the notice board and a copy given to Mr. Cox of Southfield Drive, Crick.

**46. Allotment – cost of new watering system/grant to the Association.**

The four members who declared an interest in the agenda item left the meeting. Before doing so W. Fursman circulated the 2010 accounts for Crick Allotment Association, showing that £2,216 had been spent on the new watering system. As the Chairman had declared an interest, the Chair was taken by J. Richards. In July 2010 the Parish Council loaned the Association £1,000 towards the cost of a new watering system. The Association had requested to make the loan into a grant. R. Atterbury, at the April meeting, had proposed making a grant of £750 leaving the allotment tenants to make a contribution of £250. Having seen the Association's accounts, J. Goodger proposed to make the loan into a grant of £750, as proposed at the April meeting. The proposal was seconded by Mrs G. Nisbet and agreed by those members present. The four members returned to the meeting and the Chairman returned to the Chair.

**47. Car wash facility at the Wheatsheaf P.H.**

R. Atterbury reported that he had contacted DDC Enforcement Officer, who was due to visit the site in due course. (Pmn – DA/2010/0806 – refusal of planning permission for a change of use of part of the car park to a hand car wash facility – car wash is still operating on 20/5/11 – DDC Enforcement is aware)

**48. Cooperative Store – update on parking facilities.**

J. Richards reported that the Heart of England Cooperative has submitted plans to DDC and NCC Highways for the improved car parking facilities at the Crick Store. NCC has requested full size hard copies of the drawings. He suggested that the Parish Council should also receive copies as this will save time to enable DDC to come to a decision. The Clerk will write.

**49. Yelvertoft Road Fields – land transfer – update.**

J. Goodger had not received any update from NCC Legal Services. Members agreed to involve our MP and County Councillor, with this issue and the footbridge over the canal. W. Simms queried the time left on the grazing agreement with Mr. Lord as CSFA may wish to start to level the land.

**50. Renewal of Parish Council insurance 2011/12.**

J. Richards reported that he had been in contact with Zurich Municipal Insurance for an alternative quotation for the 2011/12 insurance. The company did respond but did not give a quotation for the cost. He proposed to form a sub- committee of the Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Clerk to consider their quotation but bear in mind that our current insurer, Aviva, require payment by 1<sup>st</sup>.June 2011.

**51. Accounts for payment and account balances.**

The following invoices had been received for payment; P. Dunkley proposed that payment be authorised, the proposal was seconded by Mrs G. Nisbet and agreed unanimously;

Cheque No. 614 – BT – IT Centre telephone account - £54.83.

No. 615 – mh-p Ltd – upgrade of website - £36.00.

No. 616 – Breathe Internet Ltd. – IT Centre account - £70.45.

No. 617 – Sublime Science Ltd. – science workshop for scarecrow week-end - £202.00 – deposit of £50.00 paid in advance.

No. 618 – CPRE membership – 2011 - £29.00.

No. 619 – R. Candelent – salary – March/April/May - £1,356.81 + expenses 14/2/11 to 8/5/11 - £263.53 of which entered on accounts under admin - £37.50 – deposit for circus for scarecrow week-end and £35.00 – entry fee for VofY competition.

No. 620 – S. Hartwell – schedule grass cuts – April/May - £2224.80.

Income - £4.87 bank interest, £270 burial fees, £812.24 – payments for 2 benches, DDC – 1<sup>st</sup>. half precept £28,875, £1120.00 – 2010/11 payment for field rent.

Bank balances – current account £30,844.31 (28/4/11)

Investment account - £41,092.

**52. Annual Return 2010/2011.**

All Councillors had been circulated with the income and expenditure accounts for 2010/11 and sufficient information to enable the Parish Council to complete the Annual Return for 2010/11 plus a copy of a letter to the External Auditor, detailing differences of £100 or more between the accounts for 2009/10 and 2010/11.

Annual Governance Statement 2010/11 – the Chairman and members of Crick Parish Council acknowledge that the members are responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts and the Council's internal controls. The members confirmed to the best of their knowledge and belief; with respect to the Council's statement of accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup>.March 2011.

The Clerk read through the Annual Governance Statement, page 3 of the Annual Return and requested that the statement be agreed or otherwise.

1. The Council has prepared its statement of accounts in the way prescribed by law.
2. The Council has made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.
3. The Council has only done things that it has the legal power to do and has conformed to the Codes of Practice and standards in the way it has done so.
4. The Council has, during the year, given all persons interested an opportunity to inspect papers and ask questions about the Council's accounts.
5. The Council has considered the financial and other risks it faces and has dealt with them properly.
6. The Council has arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether these meet the needs of the Council and reviewed the impact of this work.
7. The Council has responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.
8. The Council has disclosed everything it should have about its business activities during the year including events taking place after the year end, if relevant.
9. The Council is not responsible for Trust Funds.

The Chairman concluded that the Parish Council has a successful and sound financial year and proposed that the Annual Governance Statement be agreed for each item 1-8. the proposal was seconded by W. Simms and agreed unanimously.

The notice of appointment of the date for the exercise of elector's rights will be displayed from 2/5/11 to 15/5/11. The Councils records will be made available from 16/5/11 to 13/6/11.

**53. Agenda items for the meeting on 20<sup>th</sup>.June 2011.**

A new course for firework operatives with Kimbolton Fireworks– W. Simms.

A428 weighbridge lay-by – hazard to health – P. Dunkley

DIRFT III wish list for Prologis Ltd (footbridge over the canal/bypass – new exit slip road from Yelvertoft Road/dual carriageway of A5 from Lilbourne junction to A5/A428 link road/funding for new playing field/purchase of Bury Dyke field/purchase of allotment land)

54. **Open meeting.**

A member of the public raised concerns over the footpath from the bypass bridge to the footpath entrance in Yelvertoft Road; the gravel boards have become loose and are a danger to pedestrians. The path needs a tarmac surface with edging.

J. Richards had attended a meeting on the Rugby/ Northampton bus route (No. 96) a two hourly service will be maintained, via Crick, West Haddon, Long Buckby and Northampton. Catteralls buses will also operate a 'demand responsive transport system' in an area between Welford and Preston Capes, using two 14 seat mini buses. J. Richards will send a response.

The asbestos sheets remain in the hedgerow on the Yelvertoft Road footpath. DDC will be reminded to collect.

The posts are still needed on the Chapel Lane green to prevent cars parking on the green.

The PCSO has received a number of complaints of nuisance being caused by youngsters partying on Cracks Hill, creating damage and leaving litter. A meeting is being arranged with DDC to try to resolve this problem.

No other issues were raised; the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.40pm.

Signed.

Chairman.

20.6.11.

