

CRICK PARISH COUNCIL.

Minutes of the ordinary Parish Council meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 16th January 2012 in the Old School, Church Street, Crick.

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

9 members of the public were present.

223. Apologies.

No apologies were received.

224. Declaration of Interests.

J. Richards declared an interest in agenda item 14 – CSFA/Crick Parish Council – he is on the Committee of CSFA.

R. Lowe declared an interest in agenda item 7 (iii) – Crick Primary School – a request for funding – he is a School Governor.

W. Fursman declared an interest in agenda item 16 – report on a tree at the allotment gate. He is the Secretary of Crick Allotment Association.

225. Open meeting.

A resident from Manor Farmhouse, Yelvertoft Road, Crick informed the meeting that the proposals of Ben Bailey Homes for a housing development on land at and to the rear of Manor Farmhouse had been withdrawn. Future developments on the site could include the shed with the corrugated roof with a bungalow in front of the shed.

A resident from Clifton-upon-Dunsmore, Rugby, informed the meeting that it was his intention to operate a mobile fish and chip business in Clifton-upon-Dunsmore, Crick, Lilbourne, Yelvertoft and West Haddon serving each village on one evening a week. He was aware of the problem of litter from the business. The members welcomed the introduction of the business.

One resident welcomed the new bollards protecting the grassed area in Chapel Lane, Crick. She reported branches overhanging the A428, opposite the weighbridge lay-by. The Chairman agreed to investigate and remove the offending branches.

Another resident requested policing to the double yellow lines at High Street/Main Road. The PCSOs and local police are aware of their existence.

226. Minutes of the meeting held on 19th.December 2012.

The minutes had been circulated previously. R. Atterbury proposed that the minutes were a true and correct record of the meeting. P. Dunkley seconded the proposal and the proposal was agreed unanimously.

227. Outstanding items for 2011.

Yelvertoft Road fields – transfer of land by NCC – the Clerk had not received any report from NCC Estates Team. He had sought assistance from County Councillor Mrs Boardman but W. Fursman reported that the family were in New Zealand.

S. 106 Agreement – Gallagher Homes development - adoption of the DWH Estate – designation of the Yelvertoft Road footpath – the Clerk reported that there were no developments on the three items.

Update on the meeting with Chris Heaton-Harris MP – footpath over the Grand Union canal and parking in the centre of the village. The Chairman had received a response from the MP regarding the parking outside the Coop Store. He is to try to arrange a meeting with David Farquhar, the Assistant Director of Highways at NCC and some members of the Parish Council. P. Dunkley reported that customer's cars are now parking in the goods vehicle entrance to the store thus blocking the pavement completely. J. Richards had spoken with Steve Ellis (DDC Planning) and he is willing to assist to resolve these problems. The Chairman reported that no progress had been made on the bridge over the Grand Union Canal.

228. Circulations.

The following documents were circulated via the IT Centre;
DDC – notes from the Junction 18 Liaison Forum held on 13/12/11. DDC – notes from the Parish and Town Council meeting held on the same date. Clerk & Council' Direct' magazine and the CPRE newsletter. J. Richards reported that funding by NCC had been found for the Speed Watch scheme and cameras will be provided for volunteers under the auspices of the Community Safety team.

229. Correspondence for response.

The Planning Design team for DIRFT III wish to seek comments on the draft reports, plans, the draft Environmental Statement and Order documents that have emerged from their work in 2011. There will be a period for consultation and comment. The material will be available on-line on the DIRFT III website – www.dirftiii.com

The Highways Agency has responded to the Council's request for grass cutting at Junction 18 of the M1. The Agency will only cut grass to maintain safety and visibility and do not cut grass for aesthetic purposes.

The Head of Crick Primary School has written with a request for funding for a field trip to Everdon Field Activities Centre for Year 4. The cost of travel is £230.00. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to fund the travel costs.

Aone+ Highways Services is to carry out resurfacing works on the A5 between Weedon and Kilsby from 14/1/12 and 7/2/12. The work will be carried out overnight and the road will be fully closed from 2000 to 0600hours. (Contact – Dave Wilson 07540 701538)

P. Dunkley has agreed to attend a CPRE event – ‘Supporting Communities and Neighbourhoods in Planning’ on 1/3/12 at Great Houghton Village Hall.

230. Planning.

DA/2011/0842 – consent has been granted to carry out work to trees, subject of TPO, at 22 Boat Horse Lane, Crick.

DA/2011/0856 – refusal of Listed Building Consent for solar panels on a barn at Woolcombe Adams Farm – ‘it is considered that the proposal would result in less than substantial harm to the significance and setting of the group of heritage assets comprising the listed barns and farmhouse’

The owner of the farm is appealing against the decision of DDC.

DA/2011/0767 – planning permission has been granted for the change of use of a field to leisure and recreation use for up to 45 days a year, together with a driveway on land adjacent to Crick Marina and Crick Lodge Nurseries.

DA/2011/0952 – planning permission has been granted for a two storey extension at 57 Watford Road, Crick.

DA/2011/1023 – an application for a first floor extension and loft conversion at 26 Watford Road, Crick. The previous application – DA/2005/0842 expired in September 2010. The plans were inspected and members did not raise an objection.

DA/2012/0004 – an application for the construction of a livestock building at Filbert Lodge, Yelvertoft Road, Crick. The plans were inspected and no objections raised.

Members requested an update from DDC Enforcement for Springwater Farm and Papillion Fields. It was noted that the latter was now ‘for sale’

231. Crick IT Plan.

J. Goodger informed the meeting the laptop was updated and a new printer installed. The Chairman’s message on the website has been updated. Information is being sought for an alternative website provider and the appointment of a webmaster. It was agreed to discontinue the internet provider, breathe, formerly Zetnet, in March 2012.

232. Grant aid to village groups and organisations.

Following the budget meeting in November 2011 J. Goodger proposed that the Council should formalise a policy on giving grant aid to village groups, clubs and organisations. A paper on the subject had been circulated but it became apparent that not all members had received a copy. After some discussion, members agreed to raise the subject again at the meeting in February.

A copy of the discussion paper will be distributed with the minutes. R. Lowe advised that if the groups all submitted the request for grant aid prior to the budget meeting, then there may be insufficient members to make a decision, there being too many members with declared interests.

233. Review of burial ground fees.

R. Atterbury had circulated the burial ground fees for the Welton Road Cemetery, Daventry. These showed that a burial in an earthen grave 9ft x 4ft to be £215.00. The fee for Crick Burial ground was £90.00. The last review of the charges was made in 2005. It was agreed that an increase was overdue. R. Atterbury proposed a 10% increase. The proposal was seconded by Mrs G. Nisbet. R. Lowe proposed a 20% increase. This proposal was seconded by P. Dunkley. A vote was taken and four members voted for 10% increase and six voted for 20% increase. It was agreed that all fees for the burial ground be raised by 20%. A copy of the charges will be made to the Funeral Directors who deal with Crick Parish Council.

234. Work required to trees on Main Road.

W. Fursman reported that a dead tree needed removing from the verge on Main Road, opposite the Marsh. The other trees on the verge need pollarding. The remaining trees are on the householder's land. J. Goodger proposed the sum of £500 be set aside for the work. This proposal was seconded by R. Lowe and agreed unanimously.

235. Queen's Diamond Jubilee 2012.

At the November meeting members did agree to purchase a mug to every child, under the age of 16, to commemorate the event. Norfolk China has quoted the sum of £2.60 each to supply 400 china 'Windsor' commemorative mugs and £2.25 each for 500. Members agreed to apply for 500 mugs. Parents will be asked to apply for a mug for their children via Crick News or Crick Primary School.

236. CSFA/Crick Parish Council – lease document & VAT refunds on work to the sports field.

The lease document for a period of 25 years has been received from Brethertons Solicitors. The final version is a copy of the agreed draft document.

The two representatives of CSFA, who were at the meeting, agreed that the lease document was suitable. The insurance broker, Came & Co, has confirmed that the CSFA land is covered on the Council's insurance but as progress is made the company will need updating.

Earlier the CSFA made a request to the Parish Council to finance Northamptonshire County Council in the processing of a Traffic Regulation Order application to move the 30mph speed limit to cover the proposed site entrance. The request was for £2,750.00. NCC had applied a time limit to the application.

The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council, at an earlier meeting, had pledged £20,000 to CSFA and in view of the time factor, this sum of money for the Traffic Order should form part of the pledged amount. The proposal was seconded by W. Simms and agreed by everyone. (Cheque No. 694 refers)

J. Goodger had yet to receive confirmation or otherwise from NCALC regarding the Council being able to obtain refunds of VAT from work to the sports ground. He proposed that the constitution and the formation of a sub-committee to enable VAT to be refunded be included on the agenda for February. The members agreed to the proposal.

237. Best Village competition 2012.

Northamptonshire ACRE will be sending out entry forms for the 2012 competition at the end of the month. The closing date is 28th. March 2012. J. Richards agreed to 'champion' the competition. He was thanked by the remaining members.

238. Quotation for the churchyard tree and report on the tree at the allotment gate.

The Clerk had received two quotations to reduce the Yew trees in the churchyard, both did not include VAT. The quotations were £765 and £270. The Chairman proposed the lower figure. Mrs G. Nisbet seconded the proposal and it was agreed unanimously.

Heartwood Tree Services had examined the Ash tree at the allotment gate. The tree has a major weakness of the structural integrity to the main stem of the tree and the company recommend the tree be felled. The company quoted the sum of £695.00 + VAT. In view of the difference between two quotations for the Yew trees, Mrs M. Gibbins proposed the Council obtain another quotation. This was agreed and W. Fursman will seek a second quotation.

239. Quotation to extend the burial ground concrete memorial strips and installation of the new bin by the Coop Store and replacement in the pocket park.

S. Hartwell has quoted £277.00 + VAT to extend the headstone plinths and £136.50 to site the new bins. R. Lowe proposed that the quotation was very reasonable. The proposal was seconded and agreed.

240. DDC Environmental Services – litter at the weighbridge lay-by and problems with dog fouling.

Alan Lovell (DDC Enforcement) has visited the lay-by and the refuse bins are more than adequate. The problem is that many users of the lay-by do not bother with the bins. The problem of using the verge as a toilet and litter is a priority and the problem will be raised at the next Joint Action Group and Junction 18 Liaison Forum. Paul Knight (DDC) has made a request regarding dog fouling. If there is a problem area within the village and someone is aware of the time and day that dog walkers are failing to pick up he will ensure the area is targeted by the Dog Warden.

99.

241. Increase in insurance cover – update of the asset register.

The Council Asset Register has been updated and a copy has been sent to Came & Co. The company has queried one or two items that are not covered; the War Memorial, vehicle activated signs, the hand rail on the burial ground steps and a query raised on the contents of the office. The policy now includes the two new litter bins and an extra dog waste bin. To include the above mentioned items on the policy, the additional premium would be £130.83. This is calculated on a pro rata basis. The cost to include the items until 31/5/12 would be £51.26. After discussion, members agreed to include all the items on the policy. The IT Centre and contents total to be insured at £3,640.00.

242. Accounts for payment and account balances.

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

Cheque No. 687 – Shaw & Sons – book of receipts for internment fees - £23.82.

No. 688 – James Best – supply and install IT equipment – 3 invoices – total - £260.00.

No. 689 – E.D. Tolfts – Chairman’s allowance for 2011/12 - £300.00.

No. 690 – Heartwood Tree Services Ltd – removal of a dangerous Ash tree on A428 at the allotment site - £834.00.

No. 691 – P. Dunkley – keys to the Old School (broken lock) - £55.00.

No. 692 – mh-p – website hosting and domain renewal – 2012/13 - £91.18.

(J. Goodger requested deferred payment until he had checked details with mh-p)

No. 693 – NCC Crick Primary School- subsidy for the trip to Everdon - £230.00.

P. Dunkley informed the meeting that the life of the battery on the VAS (mobile) had expired and he had ordered a new battery from Westcotec Ltd. R. Lowe proposed that the sum of £100 be authorised to be spent on a new battery. The proposal was seconded and agreed. (Cheque No. 694 refers)

The account balance on the current account (30.12.11) - £28,098 – confirmed by Cooperative Bank Statement No. 86. The balance on the deposit account remains at £41,403.

Income –Crick PFA has donated the sum of £700.00 towards the cost of the 2011 playing field mowing. £30.00 fee for an ashes plot.

243. Agenda items for the meeting on 20/2/12.

The Chairman reported that there are certain proposals for the land that was to be the site of the new surgery on Main Road. He invited Mrs G. Nisbet, R. Lowe & P. Dunkley to a site meeting on 19/1/12.

The ditch running past Swainson Close needs clearing, it is blocked and stagnant.

Hire of a skip for the clearance of the churchyard (Pmn – hired 23/1/12)

Future of the Red Sky warehouse, Eldon Way.

Safety of the brick wall (Church Street) at the Wheatsheaf public house.

244. **Open meeting.**

A member of the public queried if there was a time limit to parking of vehicles by the Coop store, unfortunately there is not a limit.

Complaints were received of anglers parking their vehicles on the grass verge, between the pocket park and the canal. It was agreed that this was a highways problem and the issue will be raised at the meeting with Mr. Farquhar (NCC Highways)

No other matters were raised; the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

Signed.

Chairman.

20.2.12.