

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 09 November 2021.**

**Present;** Councillors; Chalkley (Chair), Barnsley, Harrison, Hampshire, Hewitt and Walker.

Clerk to the Council; Barry Riley.

**In attendance;** No others.

a. Cllr Chalkley asked members to observe a minute's silence as a mark of respect following the death of Cllr Kimbley. He was thanked for the work and commitment he gave to the Parish Council and the CVA.

b. Cllr Chalkley informed members that Cllr Robinson had resigned.

c. Cllr Chalkley welcomed new Parish Councillor Martyn Hampshire.

**11/312 Report from W.Y.Police Officers working on Crofton Safe Scheme**

Members were circulated with the Safe Scheme report for October 2021.

Cllr Chalkley expressed his dissatisfaction with the scheme, noting most patrols being conducted between 3.00pm – 7.00pm were not effective and should be conducted after 08.00pm. Information about speed checks being conducted in Walton Crofton and Notton were questionable and incidents that had occurred in the village (smashed windows at business premises), were not recorded.

PACT meetings were being held in Walton and Havercroft, but not in Crofton which was the largest village in the Ward area.

Further comment was made on whether the scheme offered value for money and if it was being implemented correctly as requests made for areas to be patrolled were not acknowledged.

**11/313 Wakefield MDC District Councillors Report**

Following information received that District Councillor Cummings would be unable to attend the meeting, she had provided a report to the Clerk to be circulated to members. Cllr Chalkley was able to access the information and gave information on the content, such as the potholes on the Meadowfields Estate had been filled.

The overgrowing grass causing a disappearing footpath had been attended to.

A 21 day notice had been issued concerning the hedge obstructing the footpath at Springhill Mount/Avenue (see minute 10/294). There would also be an additional garden waste collection.

**11/314 Public Participation session**

Members received a request from Revd Louise Tiniswood, who wanted to use the Parish Centre for an infant group. Members were informed that they had produced a risk assessment and all volunteers had a DBS check. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Working Party would give further consideration to the request, a review of the existing Risk Assessment for the building would be conducted to ensure the building was suitable to be used by the group.

**11/315 Apologies for absence**

Councillors; Bennett, de Mello Gordon, Schofield.

Apologies were accepted.

Following the resignation of Cllr Robinson, the Clerk confirmed that WMDC Electoral Services had been informed.

It was noted that Cllrs; Chalkley (Chair), Barnsley, Bennett, De Mello, Hampshire, Stennett and Walker, had attended the Zoom meeting held prior to the full Council meeting.

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### **11/316           Declarations of Interest**

None declared.

### **11/317           Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed by the Chair of the meeting.

### **11/318           Matters arising from previous minutes**

No matters arising.

### **11/319           Community Facilities**

#### **Report Parish Centre and Library**

Cllr Chalkley reported that;

The public information event for the new building would take place on Wednesday 17 November at 5pm and Saturday 20 November at 10.00am, Comment was made about if there had been sufficient publicity for the event, it was considered there had.

A discussion had taken place on how the building would be financed, it was considered that if no grants were obtained, then the funding from borrowing would result in a small change to the Precept demand.

Membership of the Library had increased due in part to the new housing developments.

#### **Report Village Association**

Cllr Bennett reported that

Following the death of Cllr Kimbley, the bank account would need to be changed, as this was likely to prove problematic, it was suggested that an interim measure be introduced which would result in incorporating accounting procedures within the Parish Council finances, The Clerk would liaise with Cllr Bennett concerning this..

#### **Report Allotments**

Following circulation of the Allotment Policy, it was agreed that it should where possible, include any bio-diversity principles. As the document was based on the WMDC Allotment Policy, it was also agreed it needed to be amended to reflect the local area requirements. A separate meeting would be arranged to discuss the changes required.

The Clerk informed members that he had received an enquiry from the partner of an allotment holder, about having ducks on the plot, they had been told it was against Allotment Policy, the matter had been referred to WMDC, who had been informed it did not comply with Statute.

#### **Report Parish Cemetery**

Members gave consideration to the letter received from BRAMM concerning an enquiry from a local Memorial Mason who had been informed, that membership of their organisation was not sufficient for work to be conducted in the cemetery as only masons who complied with the requirements of Crofton Parish Council's current cemetery rules could be used. The Clerk would confirm this to BRAMM and also confirm that the Parish Council as the burial authority and landowner would uphold its right to decide who was able to conduct work on their land.

#### **Report Website**

The Working Party had met and discussed how the site could be changed to make it more accessible for all users.

#### **Report Floral Display**

Cllr Chalkley commented that the works to upgrade the Winding Wheel (see minute 04/222), were near completion.

Due to recent resignations, there would be a requirement for Councillors to join the Working Party, however this could be decided in the new year.

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**11/320 To receive reports from any outside bodies.**

Cllr Barnsley informed members that the Constable & Pinders Charity had contributed £250 to the restoration of the Miners Winding Wheel (see minute 11/319).

**11/321 Traffic issues**

Cllr Barnsley voiced his concerns that the current traffic problems being experienced in the village would only get worse (see minute 04/224).

Cllr Walker informed members of her experience when using a mobility scooter on the local footpaths and the hazards and obstructions she had encountered. It was thought the same problems must impact on users of prams and asked what could be done to improve the situation. It would need action to be taken at National level, which would take time to bring to fruition if at all.

The Police had recently been active in issuing parking tickets, but it was thought that if such action carried out on a regular basis, it would have little impact.

**11/322 Cleansing/Environment**

Members were informed, that Cllr Bennett had attended the NALC Training event about levelling up the environment through biodiversity net gain. The event provided an assessment of the biodiversity crisis and how planning and environmental legislation will impact local councils and communities. Members were asked to consider what action could be taken to improve biodiversity and level up the environment.

**11/323 Planning Notifications**

Members duly noted the applications and decisions received.

Members were informed that Cllr Bennett was the only member of the public to be invited to comment on the public consultation for the WMDC Local Plan 2036, a letter in support of his comments would be submitted by Cllr Chalkley.

**11/324 Financial matters**

Members were in agreement with the content of the monthly payments and receipts and bank reconciliation report for appropriate governance.

The Clerk provided members with a list of invoices for payment for the month of November 2021;

**Resolved:** that the following be approved and passed for payment:

<u>Cheque/S/O/Bacs:</u>	<u>Payee:</u>	<u>Details:</u>	<u>£</u>
BACS	WY Police	Safe Scheme	1500.00
DDebit	PHS	Hygeine Supplies	4613.24
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>6113.24</b>

**11/325 Consider and discuss correspondence received**

No correspondence for discussion.

**11/326 HS2**

There had been no further response from the Government concerning the cancellation of the Birmingham to Leeds section of HS2, however it was understood that the City of Leeds would be granted a tram system if not granted a link to HS2.

**11/327 Parish matters**

Cllr Hewitt informed members that the Christmas Tree had now been ordered from the Methley Estate (see minute 10/308).

Cllr De Mello had noted a problem with a kerbstone at the Parish Council car park, the matter would be referred to Cllr Bennett for comment.

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Members were informed that the funeral of Cllr Kimbley would take place the following day (minute a.).

The Remembrance Day service would be taking place on Sunday 14 November at the Parish Council car park following the Church service.

Cllr Walker enquired if a local singing group would be able to sing at the Christmas Light switch on, members were agreeable to the request.

**11/328            Date of next meeting**

Resolved; that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Tuesday 14 December 2021 at 7pm in Crofton Parish Centre, High Street, Crofton.

There would be a Zoom meeting held prior to the full Council meeting.

**11/329    Members of the public and press were to leave before agenda item 19.**

It was agreed

**11/330            Matters to be discussed at the exclusion of the public and press**

Nothing discussed.

Signed .....

Chairman Crofton Parish Council

Date.....