

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 14 September 2021.

Present; Councillors; Chalkley (Chair), Robinson (Vice Chair) De Mello, Harriison, Hewitt, Kimbley, Stennett and Walker.
Clerk to the Council; Barry Riley.

In attendance; 1 member of the public.
Chairman of the YLCA Wakefield Branch

09/274 Report from W.Y.Police Officers working on Crofton Safe Scheme

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

It was noted that a white car with a bright orange windscreen, which was thought illegal, was seen in the village, members were asked to note the registration number, if they saw the vehicle again.

Further to previous comments about utilising Safe Scheme hours (see minute 08/256), the management of traffic around the school's was considered more relevant.

09/275 Wakefield MDC District Councillors Report

District Councillor Cummings had provided a report for members, which gave an update on matters discussed at previous meetings in particular;

The Parish Council did not support the retrospective planning application for the Caravan site see minute 09/285.

Despite the missing sign being replaced (see minute 08/264), it had been removed again, a further request for another sign would be requested.

Members were informed that there had been a reorganisation of the Police for the Rural/Ward 5 area (Crofton, Ryhill and Walton), an organisation chart would be sent to the Clerk to circulate to members.

Thanks were given to the Parish Council for supporting the successful Fun Day which was also attended by visitors from Walton and Charlston. Cllr Cummings was also thanked by members for organising the event.

Cllr Barnsley commented that the newly elected member for the Ward had not yet been active.

Cllr Kimbley reported to Cllr Cummings;

That the drains by the Cottages on High Street (near the Chemist), were blocked, There was a large hole in the bus turnaround area by the Parish Council car park, despite the road having recently been repaired.

The road surface at the junction of Brand Hill and Shay Lane was breaking up.

09/276 Public Participation session

A resident informed members about the Great Big Green week (18 – 26 September), a series of events celebrating Climate Change. As she was a plot holder at the Hare Park allotments, she was seeking permission to open her plot to the general public to promote the benefits of having an allotment, this was acceptable on the condition that a risk assessment be implemented.

Members received information from the Chairman of the YLCA Wakefield Branch, about the organisation and confirmed that as a member of the YLCA, the Parish Council was also a member of NALC. He requested that members attend the Wakefield Branch meetings.

09/277 Apologies for absence

Councillors; Barnsley, Bennett, Gordon, Schofield and Walker.
Apologies were accepted.

Page 2.

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

Members were informed that Cllr Ellson had resigned, the Clerk confirmed that WMDC Electoral Services would be informed.

09/278 Declarations of Interest

None declared.

09/279 Minutes of the previous meeting

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

09/280 Matters arising from previous minutes

No matters arising.

09/281 Community Facilities

Report Parish Centre and Library

Cllr Chalkley reported that;

The defibrillator had been delivered that evening and would be installed.

Cllr Robinson commented that the deadline for the receipt of tenders for the new building was Friday 17 September, there was caution raised that the prices submitted may not be maintained for the commencement of the project, due to expected material cost increases in the future. An explanation had been given to the tenderers that an indicative cost was required to assist with funding applications

Attendance at the Library was improving following the end of restrictions.

Report Village Association

The 3 day football gala had proved very popular, with funds being raised.

Members had been circulated with the latest CVA Accounts.

Cllr Kimbley requested that the keys/locks for the metal entrance gates to the Pavilion, be changed. He also commented that the locks for the doors within the building required changing, it was agreed that this would be referred to the CVA, whose next meeting was 28 September at 8.00pm.

It was agreed that a set of keys be provided for the Guides.

Cllr Kimbley had received an enquiry for the erection of a flagpole on the building which was noted by members.

The drain cover which had recently been placed by the Parish Council, had been damaged by the WMDC grass cutting machine, the Clerk would write to them and request a replacement.

Report Allotments

Cllr Hewitt reported that;

He had contacted a number of plot holders about the lack of cultivation and had discovered some that had left without giving notification.

An enquiry had been received from a plot holder about allowing the general public to access an allotment (see minute 09/276).

The Clerk informed members that a visible survey undertaken for the tree within a plot on Hare Park allotments, had established the tree was healthy.

It was agreed that the inspection of the Hare Park allotments (see minute 08/263), would take place on Saturday 25 September at 10.00am.

Further consideration would be given to the removal of all water taps within plots on Hare Park allotments, with only the main supply point being available.

The wild garden started by Councillor Elson (see minute 09/277), would need to be returned as a vacant plot for re-issuing. Following comment from LIVE Crofton to keep the plot as a wild garden, they were requested to submit an application.

Page 3.

With regard to the provision of an entrance gate using S106 funding and Engie to do the work (see minute 05/245), the Clerk was still awaiting a response from Kevin Fisher the WMDC Service Director, Property, Facilities, Health and Safety. Cllr Cummings had been asked to remind him, the Clerk would ask her again.

Report Parish Cemetery

Cllr Robinson reported that;

Removal of the Ivy from the trees which have a TPO. had been done.

Two signs had been ordered to replace those vandalised and one had now been fitted. The other would be done when the post was repaired.

Quotes were being obtained for the work required to provide future burial space (see minute 08/263).

The provision of plinths for cremated remains was still to be arranged due to material supply problems.

There was a damaged fence panel which would need attention, an enquiry would be made to a suitable contractor.

A replacement lock would be provided for the garage, as duplicate keys were proving difficult to obtain.

The Clerk reported that the contractor appointed to repair the damaged headstones, had reported staff absence was causing a delay to work commencing.

Cllr Stennett reported that there were damaged trees in the beck, Cllr Chalkley offered to inspect the area.

Cllr Robinson commented on the amount of soil being deposited in the cemetery. thought to be resulting from the digging of graves, it was agreed to discuss this at a future meeting.

Report Website

Nothing to report.

Report Floral Display

Cllr Robinson commented on the buying and planting of spring bulbs in the grassed area next to the Parish Council car park. He also commented on a number of other areas within the Parish Council's control; that should also be considered and for consideration to also be given to buying a wild flower mix. Following discussion members gave their approval to spend £50 per year on bulbs & seed.

The following suggestions were discussed for the future direction of floral displays in the coming years; the coverage of arterial routes into the village, remain with the existing provision, add to Slack Lane or go further into the estates. All suggestions would be subject to the suitability of the lampposts.

09/282 To receive reports from any outside bodies.

Nothing to report.

09/283 Traffic issues

See minute 09/284.

09/284 Cleansing/Environment

The drains on High Street near the Chemist were blocked (see minute 09/275).

It had been noted that the vehicle transporting the straw from the local farm was not covered with a tarpaulin, this caused much debris to be air born and settle in the drains, the Clerk would write to the farmer about the matter.

Comment was made about the amount of overgrown vegetation on the footpath at Spring Lane and Cllr Robinson had noted an increase in vermin searching for food on the Redrow Estate following the corn fields having been cut. Cllr Chalkley would report these issues to Cllr Cummings.

Page 4:

09/285 Planning Notifications

Members duly noted the applications and decisions received. In response to District Councillor Cummings report (see minute 09/275), concerning WMDC Enforcement Reference 20/433 - Bridge Gate Farm, Shay Lane, a retrospective planning application had been received. It was agreed that information would be supplied to Cllr Cummings to submit an objection on behalf of the Parish Council.

09/286 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 September 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	R.Hampshire	Windows/Cladding	18.00
BACS	YLCA	Training	22.50
BACS	PKF	External Audit	480.00
		Total	520.50

Following a review by members to the Financial Risk Management, the Clerk was asked if **Subject: Council Assets**, was sufficient wording to cover all Council property and land, following discussion this would remain unchanged. An amendment would be made to **Subject Clerk:** to add, support from the YLCA. Cllr De Mello also noted that to comply with GDPR, that the wording in **Subject: Council Records**, should reflect that the records stored on the Parish Council's laptop and Clerk's computer, are kept secure by means of a password/pin number, The Clerk would amend the document to reflect this.

09/287 Consider and discuss correspondence received

Members had noted the content of the information sent.

The Clerk would use the main content from the LGA Model Councillor Code of Conduct 2020, to prepare a code for Crofton Parish Council members. It was confirmed that the Monitoring Officer at WMDC was the Monitoring Officer for such purposes, this would be noted in the document and be circulated and resolved at the next Parish Council meeting.

09/288 HS2

Members had been informed that following a recent house sale within the village, the purchaser's Surveyor had informed them that the Birmingham to Leeds section of HS2 had been cancelled, comment was made about the doubt concerning this statement.

09/289 Parish matters

Representatives from LIVE Crofton were seeking confirmation that the Christmas light switch on would take place this year, it was agreed that it would, but subject to any COVID 19 restrictions being removed. this would enable the provision for more groups to attend. The agreed date was the 07 December, the Clerk would arrange for the lights as in previous years, Cllr Hewitt would order a tree.

Cllr Chalkley informed members that he was not planning for the Remembrance Day parade to be the same as in previous years, but a shortened service whilst doubt about COVID 19 remained.

In response to LIVE Crofton seeking permission to erect a Poppy wall on the

Page 5:

fencing by the Council car park for Remembrance Day, there was no objection to the request or to publicise it, but the Parish Council would not be responsible for the display.

Cllr Hewitt had noted that the WMDC Dog Warden, was seated in the vehicle for a while playing games on a computer, instead of patrolling the area.

09/290 Date of next meeting

Resolved; that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Tuesday 12 October 2021 at 7pm in Crofton Parish Centre, High Street, Crofton.

There would be a Zoom meeting held prior to the full Council meeting on Monday 11 October at 7pm.

09/291 Members of the public and press were to leave before agenda item 19.

It was agreed

09/292 Matters to be discussed at the exclusion of the public and press

Nothing discussed.

Signed
Chairman Crofton Parish Council

Date.....