

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 25 January 2022.**

**Present;** Councillors; Hampshire (Chair), Bennett, de Mello, Hewitt, Stennett and Walker.

Clerk to the Council; Barry Riley.

**In attendance;** District Councillor Cummings  
3 members of the public.

a. Cllr Hampshire sought a resolution from members for a closed session under agenda item 19; to discuss the Co-Option of a former Councillor to the Parish Council, it was **RESOLVED** that the resolution be granted.

Cllr Hampshire informed members that Cllr Harrison had resigned; the Clerk confirmed he had informed WMDC.

**01/351 Report from W.Y.Police Officers working on Crofton Safe Scheme**

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

Following attendance at the Zoom meeting, District Councillor Stockhill had commented that he would send a link to the Clerk to enable him to receive the meeting agenda and the Safe Scheme report.

Cllr Hampshire queried why the Safe Scheme Officer was not attending meetings, he asked that the matter be added to the next agenda, Cllr Cummings informed members that the Police were not attending other Councils in the Safe Scheme.

**01/352 Wakefield MDC District Councillors Report**

District Councillor Cummings had provided two reports for members, which gave an update on matters discussed at previous meetings in particular; Further to the enquiry made at the last meeting concerning land at Doncaster Road members were informed that a retrospective planning application had been made for gates and fencing for a petting zoo.

With regard to the provision of a replacement grit bin (minute 12/332), a service level agreement would need to be arranged for WMDC to replenish the bin, however if the Parish Council purchased the bin, they could request a free delivery of grit for it to be replenished.

Broken glass on a footpath on High Street needed removing.

Cllr Cummings would discuss with Cllr Chalkley the arrangements for the next Family Fun Day needed to be discussed.

Members were advised that information on the latest coronavirus outbreak was available on the WMDC website, it was suggested that accessing figures could be done using a post code.

The next PACT meeting would be held remotely at 7pm on the 16<sup>th</sup> February.

Cllr Cummings was asked for the reason the Police Helicopter had been active in the village, members were informed that they were in pursuit of an individual from Havercroft.

**01/353 Public Participation session**

A resident asked if the Parish Council were to consider the inclusion of allowing waterfowl on allotments, the Clerk confirmed it would be considered.

**01/354 Apologies for absence**

Councillors; Chalkley and Schofield.

Apologies were accepted.

It was noted that Cllrs; Chalkley (Chair), Barnsley, Bennett, Stennett and Walker had

## **Page 2.**

attended the Zoom meeting held prior to the full Council meeting. Also in attendance at the Zoom meeting were District Councillors; Cummings and Stockhill and Havercroft Parish Councillor Chad Thomas, who informed members that he intended to stand for Election in May as a Conservative Candidate. Cllr Chalkley had welcomed both to the meeting.

### **01/355           Declarations of Interest**

None declared.

### **01/356           Minutes of the previous meeting**

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

### **01/357           Matters arising from previous minutes**

No matters arising.

### **01/358           Community Facilities**

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

Information had been provided to Cllr Stockhill and Havercroft Parish Councillor Chad Thomas, about the plan to replace the existing building. Following the Christmas holiday the library had experienced much 'foot-fall'. Members were informed that a meeting with of the Working Group had been arranged for the 31 January at 01.00pm prior to seeking tenders. Cllr Bennett informed members that the meeting with the space planners had been held that afternoon, they had taken information and dimensions to enable a design to be produced.

#### **Report Village Association**

Information had been provided to Cllr Stockhill and Havercroft Parish Councillor Chad Thomas, that the building was owned by the Parish Council but the CVA (Crofton Village Association), was the joint body of the Sports Clubs responsible for promoting the facilities.

There would be a meeting of the CVA on the 20 January 2021.

The bank account for the Association had still to be resolved (see minute 11/359).

Cllr Bennett informed members that servicing had been carried out on the manual shutters, the cost of the service and any subsequent replacement shutters that were needed, would be met from the existing maintenance budget for the building.

Members were informed that Crofton Juniors were not playing on the pitches due to their condition, they would be asked to contact the FA for advice.

#### **Report Allotments**

The intended discussion about a renewed Allotments Policy had not been fully attended, Cllr Bennett had offered to provide a Policy, following information that the Clerk had provided, this could be agreed at the next meeting.

Cllr Hewitt had been active allocating plots, he would meet with the Clerk to agree all changes prior to the start of the new allotment year on 01 April.

#### **Report Parish Cemetery**

Cllr Stennett reported that;

She had a plaque to be fitted in the casket area.

The Clerk informed members that the work on the defective memorials would take place in March (see minute 09/281 September 2021).

#### **Report Website**

Nothing to report.

#### **Report Floral Display**

Cllr Stennett informed members that there would be an increase in costs for the provision of hanging baskets for 2022.

**Page 3.**

A request had been received from WMDC requesting the number of lighting columns that would be required and the locations, this would be forwarded to the contractor, Cllr Hampshire would organise a meeting for them to discuss the provision. Comment was made that the 3 Tier planters were looking drab, the winter flower provision had been disappointing as opposed to the previous year. Cllr Walker commented that there used to be a basket provided outside the Parish Centre, comment was made that it had been agreed to remove it due to the impending building works.

**01/359 To receive reports from any outside bodies.**

Cllr Barnsley commented that he was still experiencing difficulties in arranging for the bank account for the Constable and Pinders Charity to be changed. It was noted that the Parish Council and the CVA (minute 01/358), were also experiencing a lack of service concerning any bank amendments.

**01/360 Traffic issues**

Members were informed that there had been an off road bike which had been involved in several near misses with other vehicles. It was confirmed that the Police were aware of the incident.

In response to whether the provision of Police on motorbikes would occur if the Council did not pay for the Safe Scheme was questionable.

Cllr Hewitt requested that WMDC attend a site meeting with members when the School Day was starting/finishing, Cllr Cummings would be asked to arrange this.

**01/361 Cleansing/Environment**

It had been noted that there was a potential safety issue on Oak Street, unless a number of leaves were cleared from the area, following a request by the District Councillor for a road sweeper, this had been actioned.

**01/362 Planning Notifications**

Members duly noted the applications and decisions received.

Comment was made that HS2 were still submitting applications, thought to be on the basis of introducing the route at some point in the future.

It was noted that the Wakefield District Council – Local Plan, contained information on an extension to the Bedford Farm development.

**01/363 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 January 2022;

**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	T&D Contractors	Grounds Maintn	2586.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>2586.00</b>

Members duly noted the content of the Quarterly Accounts.

Following the discussion group meeting to discuss the Precept figure. members were provided with information that would result in a small increase and would take into account funding to be provided for the Queens Platinum Jubilee. Cllr Bennett suggested that provision for funding for replacement shutters at the Sports Pavilion be included but it was agreed to not make provision for this. It was agreed that a demand be made to WMDC for £81635.

**Page 4:**

**01/364 Consider and discuss correspondence received**

Having considered the Legal Notice received from WMDC, action had been taken to remove the overgrowing vegetation overhanging the public highway. However due to the number of inaccuracies within the Notice, the Clerk was asked to respond and point out the mistakes.

**01/365 HS2**

(see minute 01/362).

**01/366 Parish matters**

Cllr Chalkley would be asked to place an article in the Beacon magazine concerning dog owners not removing their dog waste.

It was noted that an article in the magazine concerning railway provision in Crofton, had failed to mention the work the Parish Council had done to enable this.

**01367 Date of next meeting**

Resolved; that the next meeting of the Parish Council would not be held on Tuesday 08 February 2022, but on a future date, as it was considered too soon following this meeting.

A pre -meeting using the Zoom communication platform, would be arranged for the Monday prior to the next meeting.

**01/368 Members of the public and press were to leave before agenda item 19.**

It was agreed

**01/369 Matters to be discussed at the exclusion of the public and press**

Comment was made about on this year's District Council elections and that some potential candidates are more active than in previous elections. He was aware that some of the candidates have been personally approaching Parish Councillors seeking their support. Whilst it was accepted and respected that all members have differing political thoughts, he advised caution to those who have not declared any political support or membership i.e. if registered as independent, to take care that any discussions or comments are not used to compromise their position should they wish to remain independent.

Following a question put to the candidate for Co-Option and having given consideration to the response, members were asked if the matter should be referred to full Council for a decision on Co-Option, a vote was taken as follows; For 3; Against; 0 to not refer a decision to full Council. It was further agreed that a vote be taken on whether to approve the Co-Option, a vote was taken as follows; For;0 Against;5, to not approve the Co-Option. The candidate was informed of the decision.

Signed .....  
Chairman Crofton Parish Council

Date.....