

Crofton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on the 11th April 2023 at 7pm.

Present: Councillors; Trevor Chalkley (Chair), John Barnsley, Simon Bennett, Bob Hewitt, Esme Slater, Glenda Towns, Sylvia Walker, Dwayne Walkington,

Apologies: Kelly De Mello, Jayne Wilby.

Clerk to the Council: Rebecca Maindonald

In attendance: District Councillors Usman Ali
There were 4 members of the public present.
District Councillor Maureen Cummings offered her apologies, due to the Purdah period.

04/173	<p>SAFE Scheme.</p> <p>Report from W.Y Police Officers working on Crofton SAFE Scheme.</p> <p>The meeting discussed the statistics, with the Chair challenging their accuracy.</p> <p>The Chair confirmed that a meeting would be held at 6.30pm on Monday the 17th April at the Parish Centre. It was hoped that the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime and the Mayor would be present, as well as Police representatives. Due to constraints with space and time, the Chair stated that this meeting should be for Councillors and those present only.</p>
04/174	<p>WMDC District Councillors Report.</p> <p>District Cllr Ali updated the meeting on a number of items. He had reported the issues concerning the tree and was awaiting a response. He noted the meeting with the Police on the 17th April. He had finally managed to arranged a meeting concerning flooding on park lane, with a Council Officer. Cllr Ali noted that there had been some issues with the Church.</p> <p>Cllr Cummings had sent her apologies, due to the Purdah period. The Chair read a brief report provided by her which included ongoing concerns about the anti-social behaviour in the Village. Cllr Cummings also reported on fundraisers that had taken place for the Youth Club, which would allow them to offer free themed nights and events out during the summer.</p> <p>Cllr Bennett queried the tarmacking of Harrison Road/Church Hill, as it had been due to be completed the previous financial year but work had not commenced. He was concerned that the funding would be lost.</p> <p>It was also noted that there was a large pothole on Pontefract Road, with the junction with Doncaster Road.</p>

	<p>The road sign on which had been due to be moved Slack Lane/Pinfold Lane had been ripped off the mountings. ACTION- Cllr Ali would look into these matters and report back.</p> <p>04/175</p> <p>Public participation. A member of the public reported concerns about the anti-social behaviour. A recent incident had resulted in a cross being pulled out of the ground in the Church, with it being replaced upside down. The Police had attended and made the cross safe, then the youths returned and moved the cross again. The member of the public was concerned as people were aware of the names of the youths and was concerned about the potential for vigilantism. A Churchwarden responded that he would be writing to Wakefield Council, and hoped to have the endorsement of Crofton Parish Council. The meeting discussed the status of a footpath where it was proposed that safety lighting should be installed. It was established that it had previously been proposed that this footpath be adopted as a public right of way, but it had never been resolved. It was suggested that this could be explored again. Traffic safety was a concern, so signage for the Church was also being suggested to Wakefield Council. This was also discussed at length, particularly as parking at the Church was not felt to be adequate. A discussion about parking in general took place. Concerns were raised about the effects on traffic safety.</p> <p>A further member of the public stated that this was the only village that he had lived in that didn't have clear identification of parking or the Church. It was suggested that the sign for the Church included a no parking sign underneath it.</p> <p>The meeting noted the repair to a bench, and a vote of thanks was recorded for the anonymous person who had carried out the repair.</p> <p>Former Councillor Stennett had attended the meeting to clarify the meeting surrounding her resignation from the Council and handed copies of emails around. The Chair agreed to review the emails and respond to her.</p>
<p>04/176</p>	<p>To receive apologies for absence and approve Councillors unable to attend the meeting should give a reason. Resolved- that apologies be accepted from Cllrs De Mello and Wilby and the reasons be accepted.</p>
<p>04/177</p>	<p>Declarations of Personal and/or Pecuniary interest. None Received.</p>
<p>04/178</p>	<p>Confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 14th March 2023. It was agreed that the wording be amended for the Safe Scheme Resolution-item 03/168- to read that "the Safe Scheme only continue if it was possible to do so, until June 2023. If an annual commitment was required, it was agreed to decline." The updated minutes would be signed off at the next Meeting.</p>

04/179	<p>Matters arising from the previous minutes. There were no matters arising discussed.</p> <p>Discuss Coronation/Jubilee Spend.</p>
04/180	<p>Memorial Centre of Village. Resolved- that a short meeting would be arranged later in May to discuss and decide on a memorial. All suggestions should be sent to the Clerk or Chair.</p>
04/181	<p>Jubilee Tree The meeting discussed the type of tree, the budget and the location. It was agreed that Cllr Walkington would continue looking. It was noted that there were sufficient funds in the budget.</p> <p>Community Facilities:</p>
04/182	<p>Report Parish Centre and Library It was noted that the previous Clerks telephone number remained on the front of the Parish Centre. The Library AGM was due to be held at 2.30pm the following Tuesday.</p>
04/183	<p>Report Village Association It was noted that work had been undertaken on the alarm system. PHS were now active and contacted the Chair prior to their visits. Quotes for the repair work following the break in had now reached a level where a claim was required for Insurance. There would be an excess to pay. It was suggested that anti-crime paint could be used.</p>
04/184	<p>Report Allotments. Further rent from plot holders was handed over. There were approximately 16 still left to pay. It was agreed that not sending letters to all plot holders this year had been a success, particularly due to the savings on postage. Reminders may be sent as a final resort.</p>
04/185	<p>Report Parish Cemetery The Chair reported that he had visited the Cemetery with the Gravedigger and the Clerk, the previous Saturday to resolve inconsistencies with plot allocation.</p>
04/186	<p>Report Web Site This was progressing well.</p>
04/187	<p>Report Floral Displays The plug plants had been ordered and the invoice had arrived. Following discussion, the Chair agreed to have a walk around with Cllrs Walkington and Slater to establish the best location for planting. There would be no cut off date for hanging baskets. It was noted that 7 plaques had been ordered so far for floral displays and that there was no cut off dates for hanging baskets.</p>

04/188	<p>To receive reports from outside bodies: Constable and Pinders Charity (Cllr John Barnsley) Cllr Barnsley confirmed that efforts were continuing to change the trusteeship with Barclays. It was hoped to get this resolved. The meeting went on to discuss the ownership of Pinders.</p>
04/189	<p>Cleansing and Environment: It was noted that there was a blocked drain in the layby near Meadowfields drive.</p>
04/190	<p>Planning: The meeting noted the demolition of a commercial property on Wheelan Road and the construction of a dwelling. Concerns were discussed with a Cllr agreeing to circulate the details.</p>
10/191	<p>Safe Scheme The Chair confirmed that he had sent an email into the scheme which had explained the Councils position. It was noted that there was still no police presence at the meeting.</p>
04/192	<p>Finance/Accounts (Cllr Simon Bennett acting RFO) To receive bank reconciliation and report on receipts, payments, balances. It was noted that up until the last quarter, the sum of £4,421.37 had been spent on the safe scheme, instead of the £6,000 which had been budgeted for. There had been some issues with HMRC as the security telephone number used had been the previous Clerks. Correspondence had been received from Octopus, confirming eligibility for a refund and a Credit noted had been received. The exact position would be confirmed once all invoices and credit notes had been applied and a statement had been produced. The Acting RFO confirmed that the sum of £1,295.25 had been collected so far for Allotment fees.</p>
04/193	<p>To approve accounts for payment. The following were discussed and agreed-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police- £2035.76 APT Shutters- £342 YLCA- £953 Parish Council Election- £136.09 Rates- £673.65 Rates for the Sidings- £5134.74 Open Country (Plug Plants)- £108
04/194	<p>To receive a request for the continuation of grant funding for the Fun Day, at the Sidings, which is being held on the 15th August 2023. Resolved- That the request for £550 to support this event be approved.</p>

04/195	<p>Approval of Accounting Statement for 2022/23, Consideration and approval that appropriate risk assessment are carried for income and expenditure and approval of Auditors for Audit processes.</p> <p>The appropriate forms were discussed, after discussion filled in and completed, they were agreed.</p> <p>The acting RFO reported that the Yorkshire Internal Audit Services, with it being agreed to use them again at a cost of £315.00. The cost had previously been £310. The meeting were happy to refund him any travelling and parking costs incurred due to the Audit. The meeting were also happy to purchase stationary items including paper and files.</p> <p>The Acting RFO then proceeded to talk through the Annual Internal Audit Report 2022/23, line by line.</p> <p>All appropriate processes had been completed.</p> <p>Resolved- that the Internal Audit cost of £315.00 be accepted.</p>
04/196	<p>A vote of thanks was recorded for Cllr Bennett, the Acting RFO for all of his work.</p> <p>To receive items of Correspondence.</p> <p>The meeting noted the contents of an email dated the 7th April 2023, concerning a request to use the Sidings for car parking and the club house facilities for the Walton Library Fun Run on the 1st May.</p>
04/197	<p>Resolved- that the Walton Library Fun Run scheduled for the 1st May 2023 be able to use the Sidings.</p>
04/198	<p>Parish Matters (Including Traffic Issues)</p> <p>The meeting discussed the issues with the trees that had been previously reported.</p> <p>It was confirmed that an inspection was due to take place at Coppers lake, by WMDC. Confirmation hadn't yet been received. It was agreed that the Chair would try to establish further details in order that the Council be represented. The Chair reminded Councillors that if they attended meetings o behalf of the Council, they should ensure that there was a minimum of two Councillors in attendance and that they should report back to the next meeting. This was to ensure that there could be no misunderstandings.</p> <p>To agree date of the next Parish Council meeting-</p> <p>Due to the Statutory Election dates, it was agreed that the next meeting should take place on Tuesday the 16th May 2023. A week later than normal.</p> <p>RESOLVED- that the next Parish Council Meeting would be held on Tuesday the 16th May 2023 at 7pm in Crofton Parish Centre, High Street, Crofton.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9.35pm.</p>

Signed.....Date.....
Chairman Crofton Parish Council