

These are the unadopted Crookham Village Parish Council Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 14 May 2012 held in the Zebon Copse Centre, Danvers Drive, Zebon Copse. Please refer to the Minutes of the June 2012 meeting for any amendments.

Present: Cllr. Simon Ambler (Chairman)  
Cllr. Julia Ambler  
Cllr. Philip Ashton  
Cllr. Peter Crawley  
Cllr. Colin Lethbridge  
Cllr. Robert Ney (after Min. 056/12)  
Cllr. David Jackson  
Cllr. Brian Watt  
Mrs. Angela Sayers (RFO)  
Mrs. Carol Leversha (Clerk)

In attendance: Ward and County Cllr. Jenny Radley, Ward Cllrs. Richard Appleton, Chris Simmons,  
Alan Oliver and Tony Clarke.

**Min. 053/12 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Nominations were invited for the position of Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr. Simon Ambler was proposed by Cllr. David Jackson and seconded by Cllr. Colin Lethbridge. There were no other nominations. Cllr. Simon Ambler was duly elected Chairman of the Council and signed his acceptance of office form.

**RESOLVED: Cllr. Simon Ambler elected as Chairman.**

**Min. 054/12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

**Min. 055/12 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

Nominations were invited for the position of Vice-Chairman. Cllr. David Jackson was proposed by Cllr. Simon Ambler and seconded by Cllr. Philip Ashton. There were no other nominations. Cllr. David Jackson was duly elected Vice-Chairman and signed his acceptance of office form.

**RESOLVED: Cllr. David Jackson elected as Vice-Chairman.**

**Min. 056/12 CO-OPTION TO FILL NETHERHOUSE WARD VACANCY**

Robert Ney had advised the Clerk that he wished to be considered for this vacancy. Cllr. Julia Ambler proposed Robert Ney and this was seconded by Cllr. Colin Lethbridge. There were no other applicants. A vote was taken.

**RESOLVED: Robert Ney was duly co-opted to the Council and signed his declaration of acceptance of office form.**

**Min. 057/12 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE PLANNING CTTEE**

Cllr. Jackson gave a very full briefing of what was involved in being a Member of the Planning Cttee so that Members volunteering to serve would understand what was involved.

Cllr. Appleton said it was possible for the District Ward Member to speak on behalf of the Parish at Hart Planning Committee meetings if the Parish chose to involve him. The following Cllrs. agreed to serve on the Planning Cttee – Cllrs. David Jackson, Brian Watt, Philip Ashton and Robert Ney. Cllr. Peter Crawley offered to be a deputy if required.

**Min. 058/12 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF PLANNING CTTEE**

Planning Cttee Members were invited to elect a Chairman of the Planning Cttee.

Cllr. David Jackson was proposed by Cllr. Ney and seconded by Cllr. Ashton. There were no other nominations.

**RESOLVED: Cllr. David Jackson was duly elected Chairman of the Planning Cttee.**

**Min. 059/12 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE FINANCE CTTEE**

Cllr. Julia Ambler gave a very full briefing of what was involved in being a Member of the Finance Committee so that Members volunteering to serve would understand what was involved. The following Councillors agreed to serve on the Finance Cttee – Cllrs. Julia Ambler, Colin Lethbridge, Peter Crawley, and Philip Ashton. Cllr. Jackson offered to be on call if required. The Chairman of Council is an ex-officio Member.

- Min. 060/12 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE FINANCE CTTEE**  
 Members were invited to elect a Chairman of the Finance Cttee.  
 Cllr. Julia Ambler was proposed by Cllr. Colin Lethbridge and seconded by Cllr. Peter Crawley. There were no other nominations.  
**RESOLVED: Cllr. Julia Ambler was duly elected Chairman of the Finance Cttee.**
- Min. 061/12 FINANCE – ANNUAL RETURN**  
 The Chairman advised that this item had to be dealt with on a page by page and paragraph by paragraph basis by Law. He read out everything on the form – Cllr. Jackson asked the RFO if in her opinion and the opinion of the Honorary Auditor we had complied with the first statement read. The RFO confirmed that this was so. Members confirmed that they agreed with what had been read by the Chairman.  
**RESOLVED: The Annual Return was agreed and duly signed by authorised signatories.**  
 The RFO presented cheques for signature and requested permission to remove/add the councillors to the signatures for cheques.  
**RESOLVED: The authorised signatories in the current mandate be changed in accordance with Section 5 of the bank mandate. (Cllrs. Colin Lethbridge and Brian Watt be added and Lee Randall and Brian Whyatt be removed.)**
- Min. 062/12 APPOINTMENTS TO HONORARY POSTS**
- (i) **Honorary Internal Auditor**  
 Mr. Phil du Gay to continue.  
**RESOLVED: Mr. Phil du Gay to remain as Hon. Internal Auditor.**
  - (ii) **Honorary Environmental Consultant**  
 Hold until confirmation that Mr. Richard Hellier wishes to continue. Cllr. Watt will ask Richard to confirm to the Clerk whether he will serve or not.
  - (iii) **Honorary Footpaths Representative**  
 Hold until a volunteer comes up.
- Min. 063/12 APPOINTMENT OF TREE WARDEN**  
 Cllr. Crawley confirmed he was happy to continue in this role.  
**RESOLVED: Cllr. Crawley to remain as CVPC Tree Warden.**
- Min. 064/12 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**
- (i) **Crookham Memorial Hall Trust**  
 Cllr. Simon Ambler to continue.
  - (ii) **Parishes Welfare Trust (formerly Fleet/Crondall & Crookham)**  
 Cllr. Peter Crawley to continue.
  - (iii) **Cottrell Almshouses Trust**  
 Cllr. Colin Lethbridge appointed.
  - (iv) **Hart & Rushmoor Transport Forum**  
 Cllr. Colin Lethbridge to continue.
  - (v) **Hart District Association of Parish & Town Councils**  
 Cllrs. Robert Ney and Brian Watt agreed to be CVPC representatives.  
**RESOLVED: The above named persons were appointed.**
- Min. 065/12 SUBSCRIPTIONS DURING THE COMING YEAR**
- (i) **Hampshire Association of Local Councils**
  - (ii) **Council for the Preservation of Rural England**
  - (iii) **Open Spaces Society**
  - (iv) **Society of Local Council Clerks**
  - (v) **FOI for the Clerk**
  - (vi) **Parish On-line Mapping**
- RESOLVED: The above subscriptions to continue.**
- Min. 066/12 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
 The Chairman thanked everyone for re-electing him as Chairman and he welcomed Cllr. Brian Watt to the Parish Council and the new Hart District Ward Cllrs. Tony Clarke and Alan Oliver. He advised the new ward councillors that if there was something on the Agenda which they felt they could contribute too; this Council's Standing Orders permitted them to do so at the appropriate time.
- Min. 067/12 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 2 APRIL 2012**  
**RESOLVED: Mins 042/12 to 052/12 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.**

**Min. 068/12 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF 12 APRIL 2012**  
**RESOLVED: The Minutes of the APM were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.**

**Min. 069/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ANY MATTER ON THE AGENDA**  
Cllr. Watt declared a personal interest in item 19 on the Agenda as he is the Chairman of the FACE IT group

**Min. 070/12 CONSIDER CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**  
The Chairman reminded Members of their duty to consider crime and disorder implications of any decisions they might make at this meeting.

**Min. 071/12 CONSIDER RESOLUTION FROM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
The following words were passed as a Resolution from the FACE IT campaign group at the APM to be put before the Parish Council at its next meeting for consideration:

*"We wish to work with CVPC to ensure our views are heard, reflected in the Parish Plan and taken proper account of by HDC and in the next LDF consultation.  
We totally reject the current LDF in respect of proposed and potential developments impacting Crookham Village.*

*We seek support of the CVPC to press for an objective and evidence-based, strategic re-evaluation of all Hart sites – including Fleet, Crookham Village and other country villages being considered, as well as options for a new settlement."*

The Chairman said in debating this it was up to Members to come to a decision as to whether the Parish Council wish to move forward on this and what does it want to do about it. Cllr. Jackson said he did not believe there was any conflict between what FACE IT propose and what this Council had responded to in the consultation last November. Cllr. Crawley said he believed we should offer FACE IT any assistance we can. However, we have rejected parts of the LDF which apply to us and have suggested alternatives and pressed for a strategic re-evaluation. It would be wrong for this Council to suggest that the current evaluation is wrong we would like HDC to use different criteria. But it comes down to what we actually do about it. He believes we should try to work with the new set of District Cllrs and find a practical way of getting the re-evaluation done quite quickly to see if the new District Cllrs are prepared to consider re-thinking their plans. Cllr. Jackson said he sees two roles for FACE IT – one to come forward and support the Parish Council and coming along to parish council meetings and secondly when the examination in public comes through for residents to write individually and put their feelings on paper. It was stated that some 600 letters had been sent to Hart on the consultation but were counted as one because they had all used the same template. Cllr. Lethbridge asked when should this be and Cllr. Jackson said when it is out for further consultation. Cllr. Appleton said the results of the local elections shows the strength of feeling about this process. There are however two different issues; there is a short term need to get a plan in place and get a consultation done but there is an opportunity to look at what is in the plan and change it – for this Council getting Grove Farm out of the equation and for Fleet West residents the extension to Edenbrook. Then there is the longer term way in which HDC do its strategy. He said there will be pressure from Government for increased numbers before this Plan is out and before that happens future sites need to be considered. FACE IT needs to operate on two levels. One is short term to remove Grove Farm and it needs to look and see where should those houses go and he suggested several alternative sites. The longer term need is for FACE IT and the parish councils to work together. Cllr. Jackson said there were two separate issues - what sites should be in and how long the plan should last. The Parish Council submission said there was a short term crisis and lack of a decent long term plan and Hart should look at planning for 2022. Cllr. Watt thanked Cllr. Appleton for his input. FACE IT intend to work at 4 levels – biodiversity is important. FACE IT have lobbied HDC – Cllr. Crookes (HDC Leader) and the district planner appeared to be open to removing Grove Farm from the plan. The LDF steering group meet on 22 May and could perhaps make a decision to start to amend what is in the current LDF. Cllr. Crookes told FACE IT it should come up with alternative sites but FACE IT said that job belonged to the planners. FACE IT will now begin its campaign to reinforce the strength of opinion shown by the turnout at the local elections. What FACE IT would like to encourage the Parish Council to do something similar and would want to work with the Parish Council. He would be willing to draft the papers. They would also like to review the Parish Plan – neighbourhood plans would probably lead to more development. They believe they have to reject the whole of the LDF because the evidential

base does not have much depth. It cannot be seen as a justifiable base for what is in the current LDF – we need a 5 year plan to ensure time is available for HDC to do the deeper study of all development options to ensure that all of the objectives are met as clearly as possible.

Cllr. Jackson said we should welcome the contribution from FACE IT on the LDF and look forward to working together to change the LDF in ways which are mutually agreed. Cllr. Appleton asked whether the Parish Council would also like to work with the Fleet Town Council. Cllr. Watt proposed he would prepared revised drafts of the parish plan and letters to the Leader of Hart and the sub-group of the LDF so it is aware of the strength of feeling which was not apparent earlier. A great deal of further debate took place. Cllr. Watt said all of FACE IT Members would be writing separately. Cllr. Crawley asked whether letters were already drafted - they were. Cllr. Jackson said we needed to compose our own letter and having seen the draft letters we could then support it. The Parish Council stands by its submission and this will be reinforced at the consultation period. The Chairman said the Parish Council had a problem with the core strategy and the development strategic sites (Grove Farm). Cllr. Jackson said we were objecting to the development sprawl around Fleet. Cllr. Ney said we were not nimby's as was shown by the amount of development the parish has already taken. Cllr. Appleton said we should soon receive the traffic assessment which he knew HDC have hired Surrey CC to undertake and that was received by Cllr, Parker some time ago. Cllr. Clarke said it had been with Hart in April. Cllr. Parker (HDC Cabinet Member) had said the traffic assessment had not been released because it had been commissioned on a higher number of dwellings than subsequently appeared in the NPPF and another traffic assessment has to be undertaken.

**RESOLVED: This Parish Council will send a letter to go to the LDF steering group by 22 May 2012.**

**RESOLVED: The principle of working with FACE IT and other parish councils as appropriate is agreed.**

**RESOLVED: In due course the Parish Plan be refreshed.**

**RESOLVED: The PC will continue to lobby its Ward Councillors throughout the LDF approval process. (The Chairman abstained from this vote.)**

**RESOLVED: The Parish Council will continue to keep its parishioners informed of key events during the LDF approval process.**

**RESOLVED: Initiate an FOI for the Surrey CC Traffic Assessment for the whole of Hart District. (Post Meeting: the traffic assessment document was subsequently released by HDC.)**

**Min. 072/12 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (maximum of 3 minutes per speaker).**

There were no public present.

**Min. 073/12 EARLY DAY MOTION – PLANNING APPEALS**

Members debated this.

**RESOLVED TO SUPPORT THE MOTION.**

**Min. 074/12 BROKLE CLOSE OPEN SPACE**

A resident had requested permission to fence the POS at this area. Members debated this and were minded not to support the request. Cllr. Ney said the request was as a result of children playing and sometimes getting soiled by dog mess. Cllr. Radley volunteered to deal with the issue as the Ward Cllr.

**RESOLVED: Via Cllr. Radley request HDC to put a combined dog waste bin and dog bag dispenser on the site to alleviate this problem and work with the residents to get Hart to enforce the dog fouling issue.**

**Min. 075/12 REVIEW OF DELEGATED POWERS (Working party to be agreed)**

The Chairman explained why this had now come up for review. The Chairmen of Finance and Planning, the RFO and Clerk to meet and review the Standing Orders and Powers of Delegation and recommend changes to the Full Council. The RFO advised that initially, for emergency work 2 councillors may sign off a purchase order, she requested this be authorised to continue in perpetuity and for it to be contained in Standing Orders.

**RESOLVED: Two councillors may sign off a purchase order (in the event of an emergency). This authorisation to be written into the Standing Orders.**

**Min. 076/12 CROOKHAM VILLAGE WEBSITE – LINKS TO OTHER BODIES**

Members debated the request of FACE IT to be a link from the CVPC website.

**RESOLVED: FACE IT be linked to CVPC website with a disclaimer.**

**Min. 077/12 PLANNING**

**(i) Trees Report**

Cllr. Crawley – one oak tree being thinned and there is no problem with this.

(ii) **Report of the Planning Committee**

Cllr. Jackson spoke to his report and responded to questions. He stated that the majority of applications appear to be for extensions and garage conversions.

**RESOLVED: The Report of the Planning Committee was accepted.**

**Min. 078/12 UPDATES ON HIGHWAY & FOOTPATH MATTERS**

(i) **SID Data**

The Chairman said the comment made at the APM about the text when the SID was on Crondall Road being in the 40mph area was incorrect as it was in the 30mph and this will need to be changed in the next newsletter. Cllr. Jackson asked for a revised link to put on the website.

(ii) **Crondall Road (Safety Measures)**

A meeting has been arranged for 23 May at Hart Council Offices. The Chairman asked for Cllr. Watt to attend the meeting and report back.

**RESOLVED: Cllr. Watt will be the lead Member for this.**

(iii) **Pilcot Road (Footway)**

Officers are investigating surface options.

**RESOLVED: Cllr. Simon Ambler will be the Lead Member for this.**

(iv) **A287/Redfields Lane junction**

A meeting has been arranged for 23 May at Hart Council Offices. The Chairman asked for a volunteer – Cllr. Ney to attend the meeting and report back.

**RESOLVED: Cllr. Ney to be the lead Member for this.**

Cllr. Radley said the purpose of the meeting from her point of view was for the affected parishes to make known their views.

(v) **F/p 5 (Drainage Improvements)**

Awaiting Mr. Hirst to advise when his staff are available to carry out the drainage work he kindly offered.

**Min. 079/12 ZEBON COPSE CENTRE & ADJACENT AMENITIES**

(i) **Report from Centre Manager**

Report tabled. Cllr. Jackson said the block booking needs to be looked at. There should always be the discretion to suspend a block booking in the event that a hall is needed for an emergency meeting. The Booking form should have this caveat “the council reserves the right to cancel for emergency reasons”.

With regard to the FA proposals the Finance Ctte recommend no change for 12 months until further information is known. At present the two pitches are playable and the district as a whole will need to look at the new requirements.

**ACTION: Consult with other parishes via HDAPTC.**

(ii) **Play Areas (exception reports)**

None. With regard to the Lea Green play area – the land is owned by HDC still but it would be worth liaising with Fleet Town Council to see if a joint venture could be carried on.

(iii) **Car park extension update**

A lengthy debate took place about the merits of investigating getting quotations for the car park extension. The Centre Managers supported the need for the extension in view of the amount of problems caused by the volume of vehicles parked during football matches. The RFO advised that additional car parking spaces would not generate extra income. The Chairman reminded Members that as a Parish Council we had a duty to spend our parishioners money wisely.

**RESOLVED: By a majority vote – Clerk to request Andrew McCallan to invite tenders (for further debate) for the car park extension.**

(iv) **Asbestos inspection (HDC)**

The Clerk has requested HDC (as the previous owner) to advise on situation prior to CVPC taking over the Centre.

**Min. 080/12 INFORMATION SHARING AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Cllr. Jackson asked whether Members felt it would be a good idea for us to have an informal evening to talk about how the Council works and set policy for the coming year. Perhaps have a meeting in July – this was supported by all present.

Parish Fete is on 1<sup>st</sup> July this year – the contribution from the PC may be at risk as the lady who was to do the craft classes no longer has the Employer Public Liability insurance to do this.

Philip asked for a circ folder ASAP

Updated Contact list to be circulated ASAP.

Cllr. Jenny Radley offered to investigate village hall grants for the car park.

Clerk to ask HALC about grants for the car park and also about planning courses.

DATES FOR 2012 MEETINGS

WI HALL

11 June  
3 September  
5 November

ZEBON COPSE CENTRE

2 July  
1 October  
3 December

The meeting closed at 11pm