

These are the unadopted Crookham Village Parish Council Minutes of the Meeting of 2 July 2012 held in the Zebon Copse Centre, Danvers Drive, Zebon Copse. Please refer to the Minutes of the September 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  
Cllr. David Jackson  
Cllr. Brian Watt  
Mrs. Angela Sayers (RFO)  
Mrs. Carol Leversha (Clerk)

In attendance: Brian Whyatt - member of the public was present.

**Min. 095/12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from CC Jenny Radley, and Ward Cllrs. Richard Appleton, Chris Simmons and Tony Clarke.

**Min. 096/12 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Nothing to announce.

**Min. 097/12 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 11 JUNE 2012**

**RESOLVED: Mins 081/12 to 094/12 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.**

**Min. 098/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ANY MATTER ON THE AGENDA**

None.

**Min. 099/12 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. 100/12 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (maximum of 3 minutes per speaker).**

The Chairman requested permission to adjourn the meeting for public participation. Brian Whyatt referred to the previous month's meeting, he understood that Grove Farm site has been recommended for removal from the LDF. Cllr. Watt said Cabinet was going to consider it but it would need to be ratified at HDC Full Council in September. With regard to the clawback of the S106 money for Redfields Lane/A287 the other parishes were of the same view as this Council that the money should be used rather than lost. The Chairman then reconvened the meeting.

**Min. 101/12 FINANCE**

The RFO presented cheques for signature and the accounts had been emailed to all. Cllr. Julia Ambler said the Committee had received a quote for pointing of the rear wall of the Centre but had queried the need for a further cost for additional height of the mesh to protect scaffolding. Debate took place on why only one quote had been accepted and Members were advised that this was because the contractor had proved his worth with previous jobs undertaken when other quotes had been received, thus the Committee had agreed this quotation but now required permission for the additional spend in order that the work can be done as early as possible.

**RESOLVED: The proposal put forward by the Chairman of the Finance Cttee was accepted.**

**Min. 102/12 PLANNING**

**(i) Trees Report**

Cllr. Crawley – one application in Londlandes for a variety of trees to be pruned which he felt was perfectly reasonable and another for Westmarsh in The Street, removal of cherry tree to permit an extension – no issues with this also.

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

Cllr. Jackson spoke to his report and responded to questions. With regard to the 57 dwellings at Edenbrook, the developer has to wait until HDC decide where it wants to build a new leisure centre. Cllr. Jackson said on the Hart website there is a section setting out when to adopt the country park – he said that it seemed that the S106 is not delivering mitigation for the SPA before a significant number of dwellings are occupied. Cllr. Jackson said approaches have been received from two developers one for Grove Farm site and one for a site at Redfields Lane at the

end of Watery Lane who wish to engage with the Parish Council before submitting a planning application.

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

**Min. 103/12**

**HART DISTRICT TRANSPORT STATEMENT CONSULTATION**

The Chairman asked Members for their views. He said one of the key things is the list of suggestions at the back of the document which specifically affect this Council. In reality we can either comment on the whole or specifics. Cllr. Watt said having read it three times he had become increasingly frustrated at this desktop exercise. It seemed to be a study for doing things to reduce traffic rather than credible measures. It talks about walking to work; working from home; rather than dealing with the real issues. No evidence base has been presented. He believes that the Surrey County Council survey would need to be revisited in the light of a revised Local Development Framework. Cllr. Ney said they completely miss the point – its traffic that is the issue – looking at cycleways and footpaths is not the answer. Another case in point the Government has allowed another £57m for cycle improvements; park and rides etc in the south. The Chairman agreed with both Members comments. He said if you look at the large cities it is not possible to provide additional highway so they have to look at cyclepaths and park and ride. Our area is different. Cllr. Watt said the plan for Fleet Station is also full of the same proposals rather than seeking to resolve the parking congestion. Cllr. Jackson said they should revise the catchment areas for schools to minimise rush-hour traffic and also minimise the number of families with children placed at 3 different schools. The Chairman then précised comments in terms of response. This consultation has not used any of the evidence base in the SCC LDF document; there is no co-ordination with the schools; no dialogue with the buses; no dialogue with the railway. Cllr. Jackson said they were quoting £50k for Pilcot Road footway and £70k for Crondall Road - so how much credibility can be given to the costs for other thing? There is too much centred on Fleet Town Centre. It is aspirational rather than realistic. Members were very dissatisfied with this desk top study. It should identify the problem, analyse it and then provide a resolution. Cllr. Neys view was that future congestion at the Redfields Lane junction will preclude a right turn into or out of that road. The Chairman said Church Crookham Parish Council do not think we would get a roundabout nor traffic lights – one of the problems is the constant flow and one of the things which might work is phased traffic lights perhaps at the end of Crondall Road which would then allow breaks in the traffic. Cllr. Jackson said this evening there were 15 cars queuing to get onto the A287. He also thought it would be good to be able to identify where drivers came from initially – the technology exists. Members agreed that the document is fundamentally flawed in that it doesn't define the problem before it offers solutions. It is offering solutions without evidence that further cycleways will reduce car journeys. In terms of specifics Pilcot Road and Crondall Road are mentioned but the estimated costs do not tally with the costs given by HCC officers. Malthouse Bridge and Crookham Road are also mentioned. Cllr. Jackson said there were two issues; traffic congestion and traffic speed. He wants to see some reasonable solutions on how to cope with peak traffic.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to respond to Hart District Transport consultation.**

**RESOLVED: Cllr. Watt to respond to the Fleet Station Consultation**

**Min. 104/12**

**LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK**

There is a further meeting of the LDF Strategy Group this evening. The Chairman said the document circulated to the parishes which had suggested revised numbers is in the public domain and is on the Cabinet Minutes for this Thursday. It recommends taking Grove Farm out of the LDF and dispersing the numbers - some into Fleet Town Centre and other areas. Unless there are any major flaws those numbers will go forward and further work will be done over the summer. However figures will not go into the final document until September. The downside of it slipping is we only have a 3 ½ year supply of land for development. Cllr. Jackson said the bottom line is that having lost Grove Farm site then land for 330 dwellings would need to be found elsewhere. The SHLAA showed around 300 off Redfields Lane/Watery Lane and potentially another 70 behind Redfields Garden Centre. The Chairman said he believed it is in the current plan for about 40 but they put an application in for a far higher number which was refused. The garden centre is moving forward and will release land for development. Cllr. Watt said that in the unallocated area 240 as he reads it now there is less development. There is more in the rural areas unallocated. He does not see that Church Crookham has been more impacted on. One of the things on the horizon is that the Fleet Town Centre numbers will come automatically and one site is the office development on the corner of Kings Road which would probably be flatted development. Should Jewsons or Travis Perkins decide to move to out of town sites then that land could be looked at. Cllr. Parker has stated that after this current plan is approved then HDC

will start work on the new plan. It says within the NPPF you should put in a 15 year plan but there is nothing to stop you, after say 7 years, doing a new 15 year plan. Cllr. Jackson said originally these plans were supposed to be refreshed on an annual basis. The Chairman said the LDF could be updated as windfall sites come on site. You cannot take things out once they are in but you can replace the plan – so effectively you replace the plan having taking everything out and putting in a new plan. You do not have to wait 15 years to replace your plan. The paper goes to Cabinet on Thursday if anyone wants to attend to hear what is said.

**Min. 105/12 LEA GREEN PLAY AREA**

The Chairman said confirmation has been received that Fleet Town Council will meet on Wednesday to consider our suggestion for joint funding of the play equipment. A quotation of £80 for one cut of Lea Green grass has been received, but HDC have now cut the grass.

The Chairman said there were two ways forward; we could fund additional cuts or we could discuss with HDC our taking over of the whole area. Cllr. Julia Ambler said the idea of acquiring the land would be to spread out play equipment over a wider area. The Chairman asked whether this Council wished to consider doing extra cuts to supplement HDC rota.

**RESOLVED: complain about HDC failure to cut the grass at Lea Green and other open space areas in the parish - ask about contract for grass cutting – how many cuts per season and what timescale.**

The Chairman said we could seek permission to put different play equipment on or we could explore acquiring the remainder of Lea Green. The Chairman said if we went down the route of acquiring the land we could then explore with FTC sharing the costs of maintenance. Cllr. Crawley did not wish to acquire the land – he felt that HDC should continue to maintain and own it. Cllr. Jackson said he wanted us to explore how HDC would view us having play areas across the site rather than acquiring the land and have an ongoing maintenance liability. Cllr. Ney said if we were going to expand the play equipment we should get an assurance from HDC to maintain the land properly. Cllr. Crawley mentioned an earlier project of a Youth Shelter on Lea Green which had not come to fruition – he wondered whether this could be revisited and what the views of Community Safety would be.

**Min. 106/12 GRASS CUTTING**

Cllr. Ashton said he asked for this to be on the Agenda. It is related to the Brokle Close green area, alluded to in Cllr. Radleys reply highlighting the concerns or residents around there. She says about the wet weather preventing mowing and then talking about the warm weather and the increased vegetation as a result. He then read out to Members a letter which he intended to send to HDC. He noted that the grass was last cut in April. He phoned on 21 May and again on 1 June and on both occasions he was assured that the grass would be cut within a few days. Between those two dates there had been no rainfall. Indeed the whole of May had been dry. Members supported the content of Cllr. Ashton's letter, however Cllr. Jackson said there were other areas than Brokle Close and he suggested that he generalise rather than specify.

**Min. 107/12 UPDATES ON HIGHWAY & FOOTPATH MATTERS**

**(i) SID Data**

The Chairman said there is nothing new – there are 3 lots to download and it has just been returned to the Centre.

**(ii) Pilcot Road (Footway)**

The Chairman said a meeting had taken place – notes of which had been circulated. It had been accepted that coloured surfaces do not blend into a rural area and black top was reluctantly accepted. Cllr. Watt has challenged the guideline widths but no response has been received yet. A meeting in public will be held and Members will advise residents of the proposals. This is likely to be in the autumn. We await more detailed plans and want them to be sent electronically so they can be put on screen. Clerk to request sight of the draft letter asap. Advise HC that Parish newsletter to go in September with the date of the public meeting. Cllr. Julia Ambler asked that copy be ready in July and August for the newsletter in September.

**(iii) Crondall Road (Safety Measures)**

Cllr. Watt said at the Pilcot Road meeting he had asked when the engineer would be available to walk the road with himself and a CRAG representative. Dean Cronk (HCC) had said 4 weeks.

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

The Chairman had mentioned earlier what Church Crookham Parish Council views were and this subject is going the rounds of the other parishes. Crondall Parish Council had supported CVPC that the clawback be spent on the CVPC proposals as the money had been raised within the parish.

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

Mr. Hirst has been advised that footpaths 1 and 5 are very overgrown. The Clerk has asked Mr. Hirst if the vegetation could be cut back asap.

Cllr. Jackson said at the end of f/p1 there is a ditch which has been overflowing and which the Community Payback team are prepared to dig it out but only if there is a way of the spoil being removed and he wondered whether the Council would pay for a skip which could be sited on the highway area immediately in front of Cllr. Crawley's drive.

**Resolved: Cllr. Jackson authorised to source cheapest way of removing the spoil up to an agreed maximum.**

**Min. 108/12 APPOINTMENT OF HON FOOTPATH CONSULTANT & FOOTPATHS CONSULTANT**

Cllr. Watt had approached Richard Hellier and Shaun Phillips with regard to the above appointments. Both had been happy with the draft terms of reference. Cllr. Jackson said we should make clear that only problems are pointed out rather than solutions – e.g. hoggin being suggested for a problem. He also has a joined up definitive map of the whole of the parish which he agreed to send to Cllr. Watt and the Clerk. In addition the draft terms of reference for the footpath consultant should mention the person from the Ramblers Asscn. Members expressed their thanks to Cllr. Watt for the excellent terms of reference and for identifying the two volunteers.

**RESOLVED: Richard Hellier was appointed as Hon Environmental Consultant and Shaun Phillips was appointed as Hon Footpaths Consultant under the terms of references as drafted and with the addition of the contact with the Ramblers Association Member.**

**Min. 109/12 ZEBON COPSE CENTRE & ADJACENT AMENITIES**

**(i) Report from Centre Manager**

Report tabled. Cllr. Julia Ambler advised that we had now caught up with the backlog of maintenance which had fallen by the way under HDC ownership. Cllr. Jackson asked that the signs in the hall be replaced with permanent ones which can be screwed into the wall. It was agreed that the blinds need to be repaired/replaced by the manufacturer as they clearly are not fit for purpose in that they are constantly requiring repair.

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

None.

**(iii) Car park extension update**

Andrew McCallan had difficulty in sourcing a third contractor but has resolved this and expects to have the quotations within a month.

**Min. 110/12 INFORMATION SHARING AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

HDAPC AGM Meeting 10 July – Clerk confirmed she had asked for the Football pitch sizes to be an Agenda item.

The Chairman asked for suggestions of dates for the Council awayday/workshop for direction of travel for the next 4 years.

Members agreed to have an away day on Tuesday, 24 July at the WI Hall, at 7.30 pm.

Cllr. Jackson raised the issue of the members of the public who had not been able to gain access to the building this evening. Centre Manager and Chairman have in hand the purchase and installation of a bell to resolve this matter.

**DATES FOR 2012 MEETINGS**

WI HALL

3 September

5 November

ZEBON COPSE CENTRE

1 October

3 December

The meeting closed at 22.36pm