

These are the unadopted Crookham Village Parish Council Minutes of the Meeting of 1 July 2013 held in the WI HALL, THE STREET, CROOKHAM VILLAGE. Please refer to the Minutes of the September 2013 meeting for any amendments.

Present: Cllr. Simon Ambler (Chairman)  
Cllr. Julia Ambler  
Cllr. Philip Ashton  
Cllr. Wendy Makepeace-Browne  
Cllr. David Jackson  
Mrs. Angela Sayers (RFO)  
Mrs. Carol Leversha (Clerk)

In attendance: County Councillor John Bennison, Ward Cllr. Jenny Radley, PC William Jones, Richard Hellier (Hon Env Consultant) Brian Whyatt and Mr & Mrs Michael White.

**MIN. 114/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies from Cllr. Crawley.

**MIN. 115/13 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman had gone to the inaugural meeting of Fleet Festivities it is to be moved to 23 November 2013 which is a Saturday and that is the situation at the moment. The meeting had been called at short notice and Cllr. Makepeace-Browne had already agreed to attend the Vortal meeting which was on the same evening.

**MIN. 116/13 MINS OF THE MEETING OF 3 JUNE 2013**

Min. 110/13(ii) line 6 delete "path" insert "grass".

**RESOLVED: Mins. 097/13 to 113/13 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.**

**MIN. 117/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ANY MATTER ON THE AGENDA**

None declared.

**MIN. 118/13 DELEGATION OF DISPENSATION TO THE PROPER OFFICER (CLERK)**

None required.

**MIN. 119/13 CONSIDER CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

The Chairman reminded Members of their obligation to consider crime and disorder implications on any decision they might make at this meeting.

**MIN. 120/13 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (maximum of 3 minutes per speaker).**

The Chairman requested permission to adjourn the meeting for public participation. PC Jones informed the meeting of a Nominated Neighbour scheme and he had brought a pack along this evening to show Members. He explained that it was a way for the police to tackle burglaries in the villages. This scheme is for elderly or vulnerable residents to nominate a neighbour (somewhere within the area) whose details they put on the card and show the caller that he/she must go to the Nominated Neighbour who will check the credentials of the visitor and then escort them back. As the local beat officer he is more than happy to visit a vulnerable resident and the nominated neighbour – the police will keep a record of names. Cllr. Radley asked for some of this information to hand out at a Village Agent meeting which she will be attending. Cllr. Jackson said people could be identified by carers visiting elderly/vulnerable people. PC Jones said he had put details out via Neighbourhood Watch, he had done letter drops and advertised in shops, surgeries etc. Cllr. Jackson said he should also advise CVA (Tina Collins – action on Cllr. Makepeace-Browne to pass on contact details) which distributes the money, gathered on Boxing Day from Mummer performances, to vulnerable people. The Chairman said we would put a link to the internet and we would also put information in the next Parish Newsletter. Brian Whyatt asked if he could have permission for him to erect the SID and the Chairman said because we have a contractor we would not wish to interrupt his schedule – therefore if Brian identifies where he would like it sited then it will be done. Brian said he was worried that since it is there for two weeks identifying actual speeds that it would encourage speeding. The Chairman said if Brian wanted it done for next Tuesday he should advise us of which site he wished to start with. PC Jones asked that it showed the actual speed not just the excess speed. The Chairman then reconvened the meeting.

**MIN. 121/13 CO-OPTION TO FILL COUNCILLOR VACANCIES**

These are advertised but there has been no interest shown.

**MIN. 122/13 SOCIAL MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS**

Members were advised that our insurance company suggested that two members of staff be trained to use this media. In this respect the RFO has indicated she would be willing to have home training to support the Clerk. The Chairman asked if this should be expanded to

encompass Members so that there was cover for absences. Cllr. Jackson said he would be happy to train Members but it was felt that we should use the professional trainer. It was thought that the Centre Managers should also be trained. Members wished the training to be done at the Centre and if the managers wish to partake it is for them to decide as they are so busy.

**RESOLVED: Centre Staff to receive twitter training.**

**MIN. 123/13 REPORT FROM HON ENVIRONMENT & FOOTPATHS CONSULTANT**

Richard Hellier's report had been circulated and the Chairman invited him to speak to it. Richard said he regularly walks the footpaths and they are in the worst state he has seen for some years. Some remedial work had been attempted by landowners. Forge House – f/p 1 at the end where it comes into Zephon Common there is a gully - ' a shallow rut lengthways along FP1 for a short distance just on the village side of the stile from Zephon Common - which needs to be backfilled with a draining material. The footpath on the other side of Poulter's Bridge - the black thorn and brambles are encroaching onto that. He thought that a group of volunteers could engage and he was recommended to contact CVA. There are also issues with the tractor ruts at the crossing of f/1 and f/p 5 and it would be helpful if the landowner could backfill these. Richard Hellier to contact CVA and if the payback team is ever an option, contact should be from the Parish Council, so please will Richard liaise through Cllr. Jackson. With regard to the environment issues he advised of a report which highlighted 66% of species are in decline. In the village we have lost a wildflower meadow which has been sprayed and around Hilly burrow – this was a key site for a certain butterfly. It was also the only area which had a certain plant. There is still good scrub which protects some threatened bird species. He wanted to highlight that the land is being managed in a way which is rendering it sterile. The Chairman asked if there was any statutory protection which could be used to manage the weed spraying. Richard said it is not a designated site. He highlighted the fact that this year no one he had spoken to had heard a cuckoo. He cited the loss of garden space to car parking. He wondered whether there could be some engagement with landowners regarding protecting sites. Cllr. Jackson asked whether a site (if identified) could then be put forward for legislation to protect the site. Richard said he would check this out. The Chairman asked Richard to produce something for the next newsletter. Cllr. Makepeace-Browne asked if it was worth getting Richard to identify the landowner and cite the benefits of the biodiversity. Cllr. Julia Ambler said the newsletter was a good avenue for education and Cllr. Jackson said he would be happy to put something on the website. Richard then raised the matter of using the verges for wildflower planting. Cllr. Jackson said to speak to HDC Officers who were assisting him with a wildflower meadow on Zebon Copse.

**MIN. 124/13 FINANCE**

The RFO presented cheques for signature. The RFO said she had copied in Members on the change of method for the Annual Report which she had amended as requested by the Auditors. Cllr. Julia Ambler raised the request for fencing outside the fire doors to enable the playgroup toddlers outdoor exercise Cllr. Jackson said the play area was part of the scheme the play group had agreed to in the first instance. He produced a photo which showed how the play area itself could be sectioned off to provide use separate from the equipment and the Chairman said he thought that the photo was a good starting point as we had no idea what size the play group wanted and also that area outside the hall gets wet in the winter. Clerk to send photo to the play group saying this is what we suggest and we want your response in writing. If we gave you this site how much would you use it for – what else would you be requiring if this happened. If an asphalt surface is not acceptable would wet pour suit? Cllr. Julia Ambler said that the bark chipping on the older children's play area had been identified as requiring top up. This has not been budgeted for and is unplanned expenditure – a quote has been received for around £3k because it has to be delivered in bags. It was suggested that with the current dry conditions a lorry could access the site and tip direct onto the site thus saving on costs.

**RESOLVED: Delegated permission to carry out the work and at no more than £3,700 maximum and cheaper if possible.**

**MIN. 125/13 PLANNING**

**(i) Trees Report**

The Oak tree at the corner of Daphne Drive and Brandon Road was reported to HDC but no action is forthcoming. HCC were advised of the issues with the tree right on the corner of

Crookham Road and Malthouse Bridge and the bushes as you come out of Hawkins Grove into Netherhouse Moor.

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

Cllr. Jackson spoke to the Planning Cttee report and responded to questions – he said it had been a fairly quiet month.

**RESOLVED: The report of the Planning Cttee was accepted.**

**(iii) Enquiry into Local Plan**

Members were advised of the Inspectors views on two important issues which will be covered at the Inquiry on 9 and 10 July and which may mean that the Plan is found unsound. Cllr. Jackson said despite our desire to speak at the Inquiry because we had not objected we would not be heard. Vortal (the company dealing with Tudgeys Nursery site) have asked that a survey be carried out for market and affordable housing. The Chairman invited Cllr. Makepeace-Browne to report on the meeting she had observed between CVA, FACEIT, an Environment Representative and Vortal. A query was raised about the allocation of the CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) – would the Parish Council still get a percentage of it if we do not have a project identified on which it could be spent. Cllr. Makepeace-Browne will check that CIL money would come to CVPC even if we do not have a project for it. After some further debate it was felt that we needed our RES (Rural Exception Site) survey of 2008 to be refreshed and we would also ask if it could cover market housing need in the village.

**RESOLVED: Request a market and affordable housing survey for the village.**

**MIN. 126/13 LEA GREEN PLAY AREA**

Claire Bourke (resident of Netherhouse Moor) has passed to the Clerk all the paperwork with regard to the play equipment and the Clerk (plus RFO for Grants) and Cllr. Makepeace-Browne will progress the project in due course.

**MIN. 127/13 ACQUISITION OF LEA GREEN**

**(i) Lease update**

The necessary alteration to the Lease now incorporates provision of the cycleway/pedestrian footway. Our legal advisor has confirmed the Lease is acceptable. It has transpired that because of the 6 month break clause we would not be able to access Grant funding – the Clerk has raised this with John Elson to see if there can be a suitable amendment to the Lease which frees us to seek grant aid. The Chairman and Cllr. Jackson asked for an urgent meeting with John Elson and his Corporate director to sort this out.

**(ii) Upgrade to path across Lea Green by HDC**

The Clerk did contact Patricia Hughes (Corporate Director HDC) who had referred her back to John Elson. John has agreed that the current upgrade is unacceptable and information is awaited from him as to what will be done to remedy the situation. The Chairman said that Cllr. Appleton had raised this at full council and had been assured that the problem would be resolved.

**MIN. 128/13 UPDATES ON HIGHWAY & FOOTPATH MATTERS**

**(i) SID Data & Speedwatch**

Brian Whyatt will be liaising with PC Jones for the initial Speedwatch action.

**(ii) Crondall Road**

The Chairman, Clerk and CRAG representatives had met with HCC officers and had favoured one particular scheme. The Chairman said it had been a good meeting. HCC officers will issue a web consultation and will be present at the WI Hall on 11 September from 6 pm to 8 pm to present the three schemes which were offered. This Council will do a mail drop to residents of the old village (CRAG have agreed to deliver to the Crondall Road residents) advising of the presentation at the WI Hall. Tuesday/Wed 27/28 August letter to be delivered. Clerk to do a draft which Cllr. Jackson will tweak and get it printed by Imprint. Cllr. Jackson will put a link on our website to HCC website. With regard to the complaints about verge erosion there did not appear to be anything dramatic identified.

**(iii) Pilcot Road**

The HCC Executive Member for Environment has accepted his officers' recommendation that the path should go ahead. Cllr. Bennison had attended that meeting in support of the recommendation. There had also been an objector from Dogmersfield. Members had been copied in on the email breakdown of costs for the project. Cllr. Bennison said it was to start in September and the 30mph limit is likely to happen – two street lights will have to be repositioned.

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

Clerk has raised the left lane filter suggestion with Helen Merrills. No response yet.

(v) **F/p 5**

HCC Officer (Matthew Beal), the Clerk and Cllr. Jackson had met on site and discussed the best way to upgrade the boggy section of this footpath. The HCC officer is endeavouring to contact Mr. Hirst for permission to access the path from his side of the fence. This Council is asked to consider funding the cost of the materials to HCC who will supply the labour and carry out the work. The RFO advised that there was money available in other budgets from which we could fund this.

**RESOLVED: Members agreed to fund the materials for the path in the sum of £1,200.**

(vi) **Resiting of 2 street lights in Crondall Road**

The Clerk produced a site map which the electricity company had sent – Members noted where the lamps were to be repositioned and raised no objections.

**MIN. 129/13 ZEBON COPSE CENTRE & ADJACENT AMENITIES**

(i) **Report from Centre Manager**

Report received. The Clerk had highlighted the need for a kick wall at the Centre and it was agreed that this would be something to be put into the budget for next year.

Cllr. Jackson said the reseeded in the middle of the big pitch is very sparse as is the goal mouth area.

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

None.

(iii) **Working Group & Hart Football Club update**

The Chairman advised that we had had one productive meeting. The Clerk has now been contacted by Mr. Taylor and has asked him for dates this month for the further meeting. No contract has yet been agreed for mid-week training and the Clerk had advised Mr. Taylor that his request that such training should start mid August was not acceptable as the ground needed all of its rest period.

**MIN. 130/13 INFORMATION SHARING & AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Cllr. Ashton updated Members on his visit to view the Hart/Rushmoor CCTV system. These will be attached to the Minutes. Cllr. Makepeace-Browne had also visited the facility. Both Members expressed their support for what had been achieved between both authorities.

HDAPC AGM – 9 July 2013 – Cllr. Jackson asked if Members wished him to raise any issues.  
Village of Year - CLERK TO ACTION

Mrs. Lyn ten Kate has asked Cllr. Makepeace-Browne to visit the traveller site at the end of Crondall Road.

There had been break-ins to cars in Danvers Drive a week or 10 days ago. Police turned up and found someone sitting in a car who then ran off but was caught.

Cllr. Radley had attended a training skills session and HALC was willing to offer local training but needed to know requirements.

The meeting closed at 10.25 pm.