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A meeting of Cropthorne Parish Council held on Monday 7th January 2008 in the Village School 7:30pm.

1. APOLOGIES

Present – C Whittington (Chair)
R Annis (V/Chair)
J Meredith
A Hughes
T Meikle
M West

WCC Cllr Eyre
Clerk RJ Coles
2 Parishioners

Apologies were received from Cllr King and WDC Cllr McDonald.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - none

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for the meetings of 3rd/10th December 2007 were proposed by Chair Whittington, seconded by V/chair Annis and agreed by the meeting that they be accepted and signed by the Chair.

4. FLOODING – JULY 2007 - AFTERMATH

Full opening of B4084 is delayed by Severn Trent not having completed their testing of new connections etc. Current expected date of opening now 21/01/08.

- a) Ditches – work completed on Field Barn Lane.
- b) Highway surfaces – awaiting completion of B4084 opening.
- c) Verges – will be inspected after b) to see what still has to be addressed.
- d) Other damages – as c) including Main Street culvert tidy up.
- e) WDC grant of £1,000 will be allocated after d) has been completed.

Chair proposed and the meeting agreed that the clerk should write to WCC requesting that Field Barn Lane usage be discouraged by single-track, narrow road signs, and possibly passing places only.

5. POLICING - Nothing was raised under this item.

6. CHARITIES - Nothing was raised under this item.

The meeting continued as parishioners present concerns were covered by the meeting elsewhere.

7. MATTERS ARISING

- a) Village Hall Playground Finances – No response received as yet. Cllr Hughes agreed to look at conveyance document sent anonymously to Chair.
- b) Heathworks visibility concerns – WDC response to letter covering all concerns is awaited.

8. LENGTHSMAN

The clerk reported that the lengthsman 'all-in-one' report would be circulated with the correspondence pack and reported at relevant meetings. For the period of October and November, four regular inspections including minor tidy ups took place. One major clearance job of a fallen tree bough at the 'triangle' was completed.

9. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S / DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

WCC Cllr Eyre reported that the majority of her time was taken up with her cabinet responsibilities for children. Additional funds of £1.6 million had been allocated to schools to cover deprived areas. High School exclusions policy and plans for 2008-2011 were being prepared and posed a major problem area covering families from the whole social spectrum. Children from 0-19 (25 with learning disabilities) were to be covered in an attempt to identify and provide solutions early and effectively as failure

could cost up to £5,000 a week per child in difficult circumstances. The potential numbers and trends were very worrying.

The clerk reported on behalf of WDC Cllr McDonald that it was likely that a brown (garden waste) 240-litre (4 bags) wheelie bin would be offered at £30 a year with an expected take up of 7,500 (corrected from 10,000).

10. PARISH PLAN

Cllr Meikle reported that the draft was delayed due to illness and the holiday season with a meeting yet to be reconvened. He indicated that he was reducing the substantial 'comments' received by identifying repetitive ones in order that the amount of transcription could be made affordable for the parish council to consider at a later date.

An invite from Margaret Hawkins, Future Fladbury, to attend their open session at Fladbury Village Hall on Saturday 12th January 2008 10:00-15:30 was extended to all in Crophorne. They are in a very similar situation in the process as Crophorne Parish Plan.

11. PLANNING

- a) **W/06/01527/PN – Mr P Strickland, Heath Works – Construction of a new manufacturing unit with offices** – An objection concerning noise, traffic and visual amenity was filed. It was indicated that a decision was deferred pending clarification on how the site has gone from a single company to a business park over time. THIS APPLICATION HAS NOW BEEN WITHDRAWN.
- b) **W/06/00141/PN/APPEAL – Mr & Mrs Strickland, East Riding House, Bricklehampton Lane, Bricklehampton – Variation of condition 5 of permission W/96/00161 & condition 2 of permission W/98/00243 to delete class E from the wording of the condition** – A response in favour of keeping to the original restrictions was refiled. The appeal will be heard at WDC, 16/01/08 at 10am. The Parish Council decided that representation was not necessary.
- c) **W/06/02052/CU/APPEAL – Mr & Mrs I Pomeroy, Land at Church Leys – Proposed siting of mobile home, parking and turning area to establish an organic unit.** The original objections were refiled with the Appeal's Inspectorate.
- d) **W/07/02165/LB & W/07/02164/PP – Mr P Gough, Avondale House, Kennel Bank – Amendments to roof lights and window openings of previously approved extension reference W/04/0006 (RETROSPECTIVE)** – No objection has been filed. Permission has been granted.
- e) **W/07/02193/OU – Mr A C Moran, Ferndown, Main Rd – Stationing of mobile home as ancillary accommodation for Ferndown** – An objection has been filed supporting the original decision and that personal circumstances should not be allowed to override. Permission has been refused.
- f) **W/07/02619/PP – Mr D J Brookes, 34 Rogers Hill, Worcester – re 2 Croft Cottages, Blacksmiths Lane – Proposed two storey and single extensions to rear** – An objection with regards to out of keeping with the other 7 cottages (4 semis), excessive development affecting neighbouring properties access to light and views, thereby having a material effect has been filed. It was also noted that the plans did not appear to keep to the external material finishes of brick downstairs and white upstairs. A decision is awaited.
- g) **AB/07/02594/AB – Mr T Tidmarsh, Holmfield, Eckington – re Corehill Farm, Blacksmiths Lane – Proposed Farm Track** – No objection was filed but noting some concern over lack of information regarding usage and consultation with neighbours in the affected cul de sac. A decision is awaited.
- h) **W/07/02707/LB & 02708/PP – Mr & Mrs Black, Ashley Cottage, Main St – Replacement of former conservatory with garden room to south side of cottage** – No objection was filed and a decision is awaited.
- i) **W/07/02880/LB & W07/02892/PP – Mr M Robinson, Brook Farm Cottage, Brook Lane – Internal alteration and first floor extension** – The circulation pack was reviewed and indicated a no objection comment be filed by the clerk. WDC reply required within 21 days from 20/12/07 (i.e. 10/01/08)

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12. FINANCE/PRECEPTING

- a) The latest Budget/Bank Schedule 07/01/08 was proposed by Cllr Hughes, seconded by Cllr Meikle and agreed by the meeting for acceptance and signature by Chair.
- b) Payments

			£
459	PG King Jones	Lengthsman Oct/Nov 07	100.00
460	Clerk – RJC	Dec Sal, All	140.43
- c) WCC has cleared the two outstanding lengthsman invoices.
- d) Cllrs Hughes and Meikle agreed to investigate better interest rates on balances than current Lloyds/TSB (low) and Alliance & Leicester (credit risk).

13. PARISH COUNCIL RULES OF OPERATING

Adopting the Local Authorities Model Code of Conduct for Parish and Town Councils 2007 was delayed until the next meeting at the request of Chair Whittington.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

15th December 2007

- 1 CALC Mail – Nov 07
- 2 WDC Annual Dinner Dance 01/02/08
- 3 WCC Worcs Warden – Nov 07
- 4 Comm 1st Newsline – Dec 07
- 5 CPRE Newsletter – Nov 07
- 6 CPRE Fieldwork – Dec 07
- 7 WMPA Your Police Service 08 & beyond
- 8 WDC Watercourse Riparian – Brook for Mr George

15. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION

- a) The Parish Council asked the clerk to see if CALC had a process for staff appraisals it could sensibly use. Chair Whittington proposed, seconded by Cllr Meredith and agreed by the meeting that all substantial documentation (letters, emails, whub & lengthsman reports etc) on Council business be circulated with correspondence once a month in order that councillors could be more aware of what was happening.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Crophorne Parish Council is on Monday 4th February 2008. Any items for inclusion on the agenda and proposed corrections to the minutes must be with the Clerk by Sunday 27th January 2008.

The Chair closed the meeting at 9:00pm.

Signed(Chair)

Date