

These are the Crookham Village Parish Council Minutes of the 6 July 2009, held in the WI Hall, The Street, Crookham Village. Please refer to the Minutes of the September 2009 meeting for any amendments.

Present: Cllr. Simon Ambler (Chairman)  
Cllr. Julia Ambler  
Cllr. Philip Ashton  
Cllr. Peter Crawley  
Cllr. David Jackson  
Cllr. Robert Ney  
Cllr. Brian Whyatt  
Mrs. Carol Leversha (Clerk)  
Mrs. Angela Sayers (RFO)

In attendance: Ward Cllrs. Tim Davies and Jenny Radley.

**132/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None.

**133/09 CHAIRMAN`S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman advised that the Members email problem had been caused because someone had been spooking the emails. The provider says the problem has now been resolved.

**134/09 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 8 JUNE 2009**

**RESOLVED:** Minutes 109/09 to 130/09 (Min.115/09 (ii) delete “four” insert “five”) were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**135/09 MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF 22 JUNE 2009**

**RESOLVED:** Minutes 131/09 to 131/14 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**136/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ANY MATTER ON THE AGENDA**

Standing declaration from Cllr. S. Ambler as he is also a Member of HDC which retains ownership of Velmead Community Centre – this interest being a non-prejudicial interest. Standing declaration from Cllr. Jackson in Velmead Community Centre as he is Chairman of the Zebon Copse Residents Association this being a personal interest. Standing declaration from Cllr. B. Whyatt as a Member of the Crondall Road Action Group – this being a personal interest.

**137/09 CONSIDER CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

The Chairman reminded Members of their duty to consider any crime and disorder implications that might arise from any decision they might make at this meeting.

**138/09 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (maximum of 3 minutes per speaker)**

The Chairman sought permission to adjourn the meeting for public participation. Chris Woods said he had come to the March meeting because of the works being carried out at the Old Horns and the removal of vegetation. A strip of land at the end of his garden was sold off by the developer and men had come on site to remove trees. He had approached them and advised them of the history of the site in that there were badger setts etc. He could not understand how workmen can just turn up at 5pm on a Saturday evening expecting to remove trees – he had emailed Hart Council but had had no response. He expressed his disappointment that Hart are reactive but not preventative. There is no mechanism in place to be able to telephone someone and get advice. Cllr. Jackson advised the meeting that the Parish Council had no powers itself but if something is happening it might just be

possible to help in certain situations if Members know about it. It was confirmed that representations had been made to Hart with regard to out of hours support.

Cllr. Radley said the protection of the badger corridors had only been for 5 years and she said that we need to know our patch so that we can call in the police who will act on the wildlife issues. Cllr. Jackson said the problem had gone up to the national body and perhaps in the future something might come out from there. The Chairman then reconvened the meeting.

#### **139/09 RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER`S REPORT**

The RFO presented her report and responded to questions from Members.

**RESOLVED** : The report of the Finance Officer was accepted and signed by the Chairman.

##### **(i) Cheques for signature**

The RFO advised she had received the first invoice for the bin emptying and whilst this is for 3 visits a week during the summer months it can be reviewed at a later date.

For the opening day of the VCC a sum of £1,000 has been set aside and there is an opportunity to book a laser clay pigeon shoot for £500. ZCRA are funding quite a few events. Cllr. Jackson asked that if Members agreed this that it be a separate issue solely being dealt with by the Council. He also asked that the events license be requested by the Parish Council rather than ZCRA to show the Council commitment to the Centre.

**RESOLVED**: to book the events license in the name of the Parish Council.

**RESOLVED**: to book the laser clay pigeon shoot.

**RESOLVED**: the cheques presented were duly checked and signed.

Cllr. Jackson had produced a spread sheet of the VCC costs and gave an in depth explanation as to why funds had been accumulated. If all projected items on the current BPC list (less the car park) were included, HDC would be overspent by around £5k. He gave background information on the specific items which the Velmead Leisure Working Party was suggesting the Parish Council should purchase. He proposed that the Council delegate to the FWG to purchase the items without the need for an extra Parish Council meeting. He needed to negotiate with Carl Westby for a spend of up to £8k and overall to take out £30k or perhaps £35k to permit some headroom.

**RESOLVED**: to delegate to the FWG to negotiate and spend up to a maximum of £35k to finish off the project. (£8k needed to finish the building which was already committed when we agreed to underwrite Hart for any overspend. £12k for the car park. The remaining £10k is for fitting out the hall with a contingency of £5k.)

##### **(ii) Authority to seek/accept estimates/quotations**

Members will seek to achieve Best Value in all of the purchasing and it was agreed that purchases will be paid for by credit card where necessary and individuals will then be reimbursed by the RFO.

#### **140/09 CO-OPTION TO FILL CLLR VACANCY FOR NETHERHOUSE MOOR WARD**

Janet Buchanan and Lee Randall were welcomed to the meeting. The Chairman said Members had had sight of their CVs and he would invite them to say a few words. Both applicants spoke and responded to questions. Sponsors and seconders were invited for each applicant. Cllr. Whyatt proposed Mr.Randall and Cllr. J Ambler seconded. Cllr. Crawley proposed Mrs. Buchanan and Cllr. Ney seconded. A secret ballot was taken and Mr. Randall was duly co-opted and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

#### **141/09 RURAL HOUSING SITES**

Julie Eden advised she was leaving her post and John Lancaster would now be dealing with this project.

#### **142/09 RED TELEPHONE BOX**

Cllr. Whyatt advised that there were sundry items which needed to be purchased and he was advised to buy them and give the bills to the RFO and when the total spend is known we will then seek the 50% contribution from CVA. There is an electricity supply to the red telephone box and Members were requested to decide whether to cancel the supply. It was agreed to retain the supply for 3 months if Cllr. Whyatt was able to ascertain whether he could use the supply. Cllr. Whyatt will approach the CVA for some joint funding and Cllr. Crawley said he had been advised verbally that CVA is going to pay half and he agreed to get a formal letter from CVA for the Council.

**RESOLVED:** The Parish Council will pay all bills to a maximum of £700 and seek 50% refund from CVA.

#### **143/09 PLANNING**

##### **(i) Trees**

Nothing to report.

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

Cllr. Jackson's spoke to his report and responded to queries raised by Members.

**RESOLVED:** To accept the report of the Planning Committee.

##### **(iii) Terms of Reference for Hon. Environmental Consultant**

Cllr. Crawley had produced draft terms of reference and was awaiting a response from Mr. Hellier.

##### **(iv) Refresh of terms of reference for Planning Cttee ratification by Council.**

Clerk to look out the old Minutes for the original terms of reference.

#### **144/09 STREET LIGHTING**

Members had all received a copy of the HCC letter giving a further update on the PFI street lighting project.

#### **145/09 HIGHWAYS**

##### **(i) A287**

Cllr. Ney had a meeting the Cllr. Jenny Radley (the new County Cllr.) and he will be following up getting traffic volume counts.

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

John Foggo has advised that there is still no support from the police to a revision on the speed limit. Whilst he will continue to work with the police to lower the speed on this length of road he will arrange for the additional lining proposed to be marked up as soon as possible. Members noted that there was a lot of pedestrian traffic along the footway at weekends – it would be interesting to know where they were going/coming from.

##### **(iii) Crondall Road –**

Mr. Foggo has a meeting arranged with the new Highways Officer on Wednesday.

SID – Clerk advise Chairman of the contractors address. Clerk confirmed that contractor is working for HDC and thus covered by its licence.

#### **146/09 FOOTPATHS**

Nothing to report.

#### **147/09 LEA GREEN PLAY AREA**

Some minor items requiring attention and quotations sought by RFO.

**148/09 YOUTH FACILITIES**

Awaiting update from Denise Roche (HCC Officer) on outcome of further youth work.

Playboulder – questionnaire to be included in a Parish Newsletter.

**RESOLVED:** Delegate to Cllr. Jackson the purchase of a sign acknowledging the Play Boulder was funded by the Big Lottery.

**149/09 PARISH PLAN**

Comments received from Members have been incorporated.

**150/09 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

WI Hall, The Street,  
Crookham Village

Velmead Community Centre,  
Danvers Drive, Zebon Copse

5 October 2009

7 December 2009

7 September 2009

2 November 2009

**151/09 VELMEAD COMMUNITY CENTRE & ADJACENT AMENITIES**

Construction work is going ahead and to plan – we will have approximately a week to go in after the contractors finish. Cllr. Jackson is happy to give guided tours with some prior notice.

**(i) VCC Leisure Working Group**

First meeting held and a sub group formed called VEG. A meeting with Carl Westby is being held tomorrow and the change of name will be agreed with him and a sign will be ordered.

**(ii) VCC LWG Terms of Reference**

Working Group will draw up draft terms of reference for Council approval. Cllr. Jackson will resend in case some emails went astray.

**152/09 INFORMATION SHARING & AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Agenda items: Membership of Planning Cttee & Transport.

Cllr. Ashton understood there were a number of break-ins on the Copse last weekend. Cllr. Ney said that HDAPC were looking to have a meeting at the Centre possibly on 6 October. Clerk to ask HALC when the next new Cllrs training course will be held. Cllr. Radley said there was a problem with parking along Jessett Road and the police have leafleted all residents. Cllr. Davies said after the next meeting there will be a meeting of the Blackwater Valley Transport Forum – this is a Consultative Cttee which discusses all sorts of issues and he would welcome any input.

The meeting closed at 10.30 pm.