



CRUDWELL
PARISH COUNCIL

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ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2023

Saturday 17th June 2023 11.00 a.m.- 12.30 a.m.

at Crudwell Primary School hall

Present: Cllrs: P Gilchrist (Chair), R Lambley (Vice Chair), S Butcher, N Diel, G Lawes

Lisa Dent (Clerk – Crudwell Parish Council)

4 members of the public representing Crudwell Village Hall, Crudwell Church Wardens, Crudwell School Governors

APM23/001 Welcome

Cllr Gilchrist opened the meeting at 11.15 a.m. and welcomed all present.

Apologies received from Cllr O Hughes and Cllr C Berry (Wiltshire Council), Ben John Head of Crudwell C of E School.

APM23/002 Minutes to previous Annual Parish Meeting

The minutes from meeting 10th August 2019 had been circulated and were posted on parish council website. The minutes were signed as approved by Cllr Gilchrist.

APM23/003 Chairman's report (Cllr P Gilchrist)

This is the first APM in person in the last 3 years due to Covid 19 restrictions and our own cautious approach to public meetings. At the last meeting it was written we had one councillor resign and a new councillor co-opted. The council is now at full strength and clerk Lisa Dent returned to the council after the resignation of the previous replacement clerk.

During the last year Cllr Stewart resigned due to relocating to Devon and Cllr Hughes has joined us and it is understood we have two residents who have expressed an interest in joining the council.

Last September the council performed the proclamation of the new King which was well attended by parishioners. The proclamation of the new Sovereign is a very old tradition which can be traced back over many centuries. It does not create a new King, but it announces the accession which took place upon the death of the reigning monarch. In an age where modern methods of communication convey news around the globe at an instant the proclamation is no longer the means by which people learn for the first time

22 JUN 2024

P1/6

that they have a new Monarch. Today, however it is one of the first occasions when communities have an opportunity to come together and reflect on a moment in our nation's history when the reign of our longest serving Monarch came to an end and our new Sovereign succeeded.

Financially, the council is in very good shape. WE have used money wisely and have reserves sufficient to secure our future. The precept has been fixed with no increase at £15.8K but the Wiltshire Council content has increased by 5%.

The Neighbourhood Plan has been Made and we are looking at a revised version in the near future. Full support from the council for the Plan has allowed monies in the form of grant funding from the Government Locality scheme to shorten the timescale of the preparation of the plan by using external consultants.

Cllr Lambley co-ordinated Platinum Jubilee celebrations and thanks to Wiltshire Council Area Board for the small grant received.

A similar event was held at the Village Hall for the Coronation and a cheque will be presented from funds raised for the green spaces project.

Coronation community day at the Village Hall raised £696.19.

Events at Church, the Village Green and Village Hall fundraised £600.63 for Crudwell C of E Primary School, Crudwell Church PCC and Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

The parish council continues to support:-

- Ongoing improvements to the erected play equipment
- Replacement and repair of the fresh air fitness equipment
- What's On In Crudwell

Speed management through the Village has been under discussion for many years and a police speed monitor is due to be installed for a traffic survey for community speedwatch. A few years ago, the parish council purchase a speed indicator device which is having a positive impact on reducing speed and the average speed of vehicles is reduced by 20% from the first point of detection to the last point of detection.

The parish council has cleared the brook across the green and a working party of villagers have cleared the river downstream of the two bridges. The parish council would like to thank Cllr Doel for the work he has completed in keeping weeds clear and John McWilliam for the working party. Also to thank the residents of the stream cottages for the work they have done in keeping the brook clear downstream from the A429 bridge.

The parish steward scheme continues, and the parish council has been adding jobs within the remit of the steward each month managed by Cllr Butcher. Cllr Butcher has also embarked on improving the stiles in the village starting with the stile located at The Dawneys.



22 JUN 2024

P216

It has been agreed with the landowner to reroute the footpath Crud17 back to the track towards Bishoper Farm. This has been made possible by the landowner improving the access to the track and quality of the surface.

The parish council continues with regular inspections to the playground, defibrillator at the Village Hall and fresh air fitness equipment.

The parish council continues to support the Crudwell School Citizens Award supplying book tokens and certificates to prize winners and a donation to the school.

The Emergency Plan has been progressed to completion.

Noticeboards repair and replacement has been completed.

Electricity supply, lights and Christmas tree is managed by former councillor J Stanford who has been instrumental in the Eastcourt BT box being equipped with a defibrillator.

Planning continues to be a busy subject area with Councillors reviewing and commenting on each application and we thank Cllr Lawes for his input, expertise and knowledge.

Thanks go to:-

- The residents who have maintained the Memorial Garden.
- To all who continue to attend the annual Muck-In.
- To all involved with the Neighbourhood Plan.
- The Street Wardens.
- All fellow councillors who give up their time willingly.
- Anyone who we may have forgotten!

Future issues for the parish council include:-

- Ongoing community liaison group for the potential new housing at Tuners Lane
- Website project work
- Tree survey and remedial works this summer
- CIL money and how best to spend for the benefit of Crudwell

APM/23/004 To receive community reports

Crudwell Pre-School (Cathy Harris)

Crudwell Pre-School is still thriving. We are full most sessions and have a good number of children in September even though 14 children are moving on to Primary school this year. The team at Pre-School have been updating their qualifications and extending their knowledge which has made the Pre-School go from strength to strength. The manager (Cathy) now has a BA Hons in Early Childhood Studies, the deputy Val has a level 3 SENCO, Stacy has recently been trained in story telling and forest school and our apprentice Sammie is doing really well in studying for her Level 3 Early Years Educator qualification. We are looking forward to another busy and exciting year next year.



22 JUN 2024

P316

Crudwell Village Hall and Recreation Ground (Phil Buxton)

The Village Hall suffered through Covid which impacted financially. Then 2023 has seen many changes. £45K has been reserved for capital. 2 new trustees, a new chair and several members stayed on through the changes. Post Covid bookings have been good and are currently full for ad-hoc reservations. There is a What's App group which helps to co-ordinate volunteers to open and close the building. The green spaces project is progressing and next meeting there will be a full draft of plans ready to go on display at the Bike Ride, and feedback is invited such as do you support the plans? Would you welcome a dog's policy (off lead, on lead, not at all?), what facilities would you like to see?

Facilities can include bicycle track, outdoor stage for village events, skate park, walk/run track, planting/wildflowers, tree planting, picnic and seating, outdoor table tennis, a place to gather outside.

Development will take a phased approach, quotes for the initial phase will cover the track and groundwork and there are funds in place for this. The additional pieces will be built in and grant funding will be applied for.

All present thanked the Village Hall trustees for their commitment to manage and improve the village hall and grounds.

Crudwell C of E School Report

It is nice to see the school hall being used for the Annual Parish Meeting and it is very much available for community use. Thanks to the Lord Lucas Trust and Crudwell Parish Council for their support. The next school project is to re-vamp the library. There are planning issues as a listed building. In the next month there will be 130 pupils on roll in 5 classes. It is very important to the school that local children are able and want to attend the school. It has been indicated that the school may convert to Academy status but this is not confirmed.

Q Are there plans to expand and take on more pupils? A Not expansion as such but the school continues to update and maintain the present facilities.

Q Will the proposed Dyson development to Malmesbury Primary School affect future numbers? A It is thought it will not, as Lea and Garston primary school are the school allocated to take on any additional pupils from Malmesbury area.

Q What percentage of pupils are local, from Crudwell? A The catchment area includes Eastcourt, Crudwell and Hankerton and it is thought approx 70-80%.



22 JUN 2024

PA/6

Lord Lucas Trust

Cllr Gilchrist gave a brief update on the charity.

Neighbourhood Plan report (Cllr R Lambley)

The Plan was made in 2001. On advice from Wiltshire Council (WC) the steering group are carrying out a review/consultation. 187 responses received which is a good response and these are being analysed and collated before reporting this information to Crudwell Parish Council.

Referring the proposed Tuners Lane development design, the neighbourhood plan steering group is not entirely happy with the designs produced and it is hoped they can be revised to be in more keeping with the vernacular.

Q Is there an opportunity to incorporate solar in roof tiles? A There are companies which produce these and they are an expensive option, they would be to be appropriate in their design.

Q How will sewage and flooding in Tuners Lane be addressed if the potential site goes ahead? A There are issues with Wessex Water infrastructure including reduced capacity pipework and the property developers will need to create an adequate system to manage the additional properties.

Q Is the community hub and/or shop still being considered? A Both are popular but a shop is very much needed resource and we would consider existing premises such as a local pub and managed as not-for-profit community interest enterprise. A meeting space and also café facilities are also popular and expanding facilities such as the post office was also something which can be considered.

APM/23/005 Presentation of fundraising to Crudwell Village Hall and Recreation Ground

On behalf of Crudwell Parish Council, Cllr Gilchrist presented the fundraising cheque to the representative from Crudwell Village Hall and Recreation ground.

APM/23/006 Public speaking and questions

Q Crudwell needs more housing and not everyone favours the Tuners Lane site. Two 'affordable' properties have been purchased specifically as Air BNB rentals and this is concerning. A This is a valid point. There is no legality which requires the properties to remain as affordable.

Q Could 'for residential use only' be applied to properties? A There is no separate classification for properties being used as Air BNB's. It only becomes an issue when a property become a house of multiple occupation. The properties referred to are small with one bedroom. There is no obvious solution, it is agreed that such transient use does cause parking problems and may not be appropriate for a small cul-de-sac setting in Crudwell.



22 JUN 2024

P5/16

Q Is it possible to make use of the NHP in some form on constraint for this use? A The neighbourhood plan steering group will enquire with their planning consultant.

Q Would the parish council consider financially supporting the grass cutting at Crudwell Church? As a community space, it is well used and visited and takes up a large proportion of income? A The parish council will review this request after revisiting the legalities of its powers and funds available.

Q Would the parish council consider the use of CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) funding to Crudwell C of E School projects? A The parish council will review this request after consulting Wiltshire Council whether this is appropriate use of these funds.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 12.27.p.m.

P6/6

22 JUN 2024