

MINUTES OF CROSCOMBE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8th May 2019

1. **Present:** Kate Lewis, Claire Sully, Howard Sleaf, James Morris, Michael Rogers, Hilary Shergold
2. **Apologies:-** Ian Baker
3. **Declarations of Interest:-** None
4. **Public Participation:-** Three members of the public
5. **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9th May 2018** Approved and signed
6. **Chairperson report 2018-2019:-**

A quiet year with few planning applications, but unfortunately two recommendations by the council against proposed planning were ignored by Mendip planners. In both cases, one where there was a reduction in light for a neighbour and potential parking problems, and one where four separate prior refusals for the site were ignored and the fifth application accepted, the parish council felt frustrated that Mendip chose to ignore our advice. I hope that this is not going to be a precedent by the planners.

The long-awaited introduction of a working mobile phone mast has been welcomed by many villagers as well as the local public who now no longer have a 'black spot' when travelling through Croscombe.

The two village defibrillators installed in the BT 'phone box and at the entrance to the village hall have not been used but are checked regularly.

The e-mail register of parishioners is continuing to be accessed to update on village events and warnings of road works and other matters that may impact village life. This service has been welcomed by a large cross-section of parishioners together with the comprehensive new website.

In addition, the day to day monitoring of the safety and general maintenance of our village continues.

One councillor resigned, Catherine Dietrich, who has been a supportive village representative. We replaced Rina May with Kelly Smith also from the Thrupe area, but he had to resign before the recent elections due to personal reasons.

Kate Egan, our new clerk continues to be extremely accomplished and diligent in her work for the Council and I thank her for her hard work.

Thanks, must be made to Councillor Chris Jackson who spent so much of his time repairing village equipment, from cemetery gates to public seats and in organising councillors and helpful villagers to clear pathways and trim overhanging vegetation; his input will be missed.

However, the village owes an inordinate gratitude to Councillor Paul Hodge, who was instrumental in organising our flood defences and liaising with a wide range of agencies to identify and supply equipment needs for houses at the greatest risk and for writing a Flood Plan which has helped to lessen the severe impact that excess flooding has had on our village. His constant checking of drains, culverts etc ensured that outside help was summoned before the problem worsened. He has retired after 10 productive years on the council but will still be assisting us in an advisory capacity.

Appreciation also needs to be given to all the councillors who continue to work hard and productively on behalf of Croscombe and its residents and I welcome working with the newly elected councillors.

7. Matters for Consideration -

- 7.1 Climate Emergency – Can we as a Parish Council discuss to generate a positive effect in the village
- 7.2 Better Waste Disposal Facilities – Can the Council campaign for better recycling facilities and to collect a wider range of recyclable products.

Draft minutes subject to confirmation

Next Annual Parish Council meeting **Wednesday 13th May 2020** in the Church Rooms, start time 7.00pm,