

MINUTES OF CROSBOMBE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18th September 2019

1. **Present:** - Hilary Shergold, Ian Baker, Howard Sleaf, Kate Lewis, James Morris, Michael Rogers, Claire Sully
2. **Apologies** – None
3. **Declarations of Interest** – None
4. **Public Participation** – None
5. **Minutes of Croscombe Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 10th July 2019** – Approved and Signed
6. **Matters Arising** -
 - 6.1 **Dog Faeces around the village** – This is an issue around the village, and the council is aware of the situation and keeping a general eye on it, as it has become unacceptable and needs to be managed. Areas have been identified but one area is currently being focused on. Signs and spare bags have gone up in the area and seem to be helping although education and cleanliness in regard to removing dog faeces will still continue. A suggestion was put forward to purchase another bin for that area.
 - 6.2 **Adopt a Path Scheme** – A meeting was held over the summer with a representative from Somerset County Council who explained the scheme, which will consist of reporting overgrown footpaths and being able to manage them. Claire Sully is the current liaison and hopefully walks will be arranged monthly to monitor the footpaths.
 - 6.3. **Community Speedwatch Scheme** – Croscombe has been registered with Avon and Somerset Police, some residents have completed the online training and there are now enough people to start the scheme, although more volunteers will always be welcome. More information will be printed in the next edition of the parish magazine and sent by village email. [This was noted that this scheme is being run independently from the council.](#)
 - 6.4 **Asset List** – The current asset list was discussed and agreed upon apart from a small inclusion of the Flood Bin and its contents
 - 6.5 **Annual Playground Inspection Report** – The annual inspection report was discussed and a couple of faults were flagged up. Councillors will inspect the equipment themselves and report back at the next meeting as to whether items will need replacing. It was discussed whether to ask for donations to cover replacement costs.
 - 6.6 **Local Plan II** – Interim notes have been received from the Inspector and it was concerning that he has directed that all local green spaces be removed as these have been used in the past to protect areas from development. Mendip District Council have been approached and they are currently viewing alternative protections, but their powers have been diminished, so as a result, certain areas are at risk. Covenants on land will also no longer be taken into account as an objection against an application. The Village Design Statement has limited power, the next stage would be to produce a Neighbourhood Plan, but this takes many years and could be out of date when produced. The final report will be issued in December/January and adopted by Mendip District Council in the spring. Two options were discussed to protect – as Assets of Community Value and applying for Village Green status. These two options will be researched and brought back to the next meeting to discuss the next step.

- 6.7 Proposals to downgrade village to a secondary village** – The council is unable to follow through with this at the moment due to the shop still being on the market.
- 6.8 Lease on the Playing Field** – Latest conversation with Somerset County Council is that it will not be addressed until the beginning of next year.
- 6.9 Potential Collapse of the wall bordering the footpath along from Coombe Cottages to Boards Lane** – Somerset County Council and Aster Group have been contacted as to who has responsibility for it. After the meeting Aster Group have confirmed with the council that they have opened a job for the repair.
- 7.0 Improvement Scheme** - Proposed Changes to Old Wells to Frome Road and the Beacon Crossroads. The positive change would be to the junction itself by widening the mouth so easing traffic congestion turning left. There may be a roundabout at a later date but this would be a half a million scheme and currently Somerset County Council have no available funds at the moment.
- 7.1 Residents contacted the council concerning ground works above Coombeside, Croscombe** – planning application 2018/2529/AGB. This is prior notification of an agricultural development for a proposed building and Mendip District Council states that prior approval is not required. The Planning Officers and Environmental Officers have all been consulted and all permissions are being adhered to.

Planning –

- 7.1 2019/0247/LBC** – Repairs to existing stone mullioned windows on middle and upper floors of front elevation – Ashley House, Long Street, Croscombe. Granted consent from Mendip District Council with conditions.
- 7.2 2019/1699/REM** – Application for approval of reserved matters. Matters of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale to be determined. Rookery House, Old Street Lane, Croscombe. Councillors approved via email and Mendip District Council have approved.
- 7.3 2019/2079/HDG** – Hedgerow removal, Paradise Lane, Croscombe. Councillors approved via email.
- 7.4 2019/2159/TCA** – Works to trees in a conservation area. Willow reduce by 3-5m and Magnolia, target prune by up to 1m. Dyers Cottage, Long Street, Croscombe. Councillors had no objection to this application.

8.0 Accounts

- 8.1 Budget** – ½ yearly accounts – Councillors viewed the budget and will be reviewed in January.
- Current Account Bank Statement balance on 22nd August 2019 - £1,504.80
- Reserve Account Bank Statement balance on 10th April 2019 - £15,781.05
- Burial Ground Account – Bank Statement balance on 1st April 2019 - £1,733.95
- 8.1** Payment of annual inspection on playground – £90.60
- 8.2** Clerks salary and small expenses (period 5 & 6) – £547.12
- 8.3** Invoice for Local Elections - £998.36
- 8.4** Transfer from Reserve account to main account - £6,000.00
- 8.5** Annual membership to SALC - £167.10

9.0 Correspondence

- 9.1 August Parish Bulletin
- 9.2 County Report from Nigel Hewitt-Cooper
- 9.3 Road Closure – Church Street 30th September for three days on behalf of the water board
- 9.4 Request from a member of the Mendip Society about a missing waymark sign on footpath SM 5/30.
- 9.5 A Resident has complained about attendees at the school parking on Rock Street, blocking access and damaging property, she has spoken to the school but the problem is still ongoing. A complaint was also received from a resident in Coombe Cottages, the situation will be monitored and maybe the PCSO will be informed.
- 9.6 Verbal information that planning application number 2015/0247/VRC – a traveller's site at Stump Cross will soon start to be installed.
- 9.7 There will be a training session on how to use the defibrillator on 28th September in the Village Hall as part of the coffee morning.

10.0 Matters for Consideration –

Councillor Morris produced a questionnaire on HGV usage of Thrupe Lane to be confirmed by councillors and then issued to residents in the immediate area.

Draft minutes subject to confirmation.

Meeting closed at 9.20

Next Parish Council meeting **Wednesday 9th October 2019** in the Church Rooms, start time 7.30pm.