

1. **Present.** H Shergold, P Hodge, C Jackson, J Cridland, R Ashworth (Clerk),
2. **Apologies.** N Hewitt-Cooper, J Lockier,
3. **Declarations of Interest.** None.
4. **Public participation.** L Wright ( Point Cloud), H Batt, C Dietrich, H Sleaf, G Parker  
L Wright gave a short presentation on the details and reasoning behind the 4 dwelling application at Coombeside. H Batt gave his observations as an adjacent neighbour.(See below for Parish Council response).
  - 4.1 **Election of Chairman** Mrs H Shergold was proposed and re elected
  - 4.2 Mrs Shergold made the Declaration of Office.
  - 4.3 **Election of Vice Chairman** P Hodge agreed to continue as Vice Chairman.
  - 4.4 **Minutes of Annual Parish Council meeting held Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2014 were approved**
  - 4.5 **Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2015 were approved.**
  - 4.6 **Short question and answer session on** Candidates for the positions of Parish Councillors
  - 4.7 **Vote on vacancies.** Catherine Dietrich and Howard Sleaf were co-opted. Gail Parker was invited to serve on any of the sub committees for the Neighbourhood Plan or Community Plan.
  - 4.8 **Declarations of Office were made.** Register of interests were issued to all councillors ,to be completed and returned at the next meeting. **All**

## 5. Matters arising

- a. **Highways.** Changes to Bus stops pending Highways .
- b. Paul Hodge would prepare the Flood plan details and check with Highways re the outstanding drain relief work. **Action PH**
- c. **Strawberry Line A371 .**R Ashworth to check with St Cuthberts as to approval from their full council to progress the project **Action RA**
- c. **Parish Council notice board.** Work in hand
- d. **Play Area** annual check ordered
- e. **Neighbourhood Plan updates.**

Following the meeting between H Shergold and N Durham MDC the **N Plan** structure will consist of Development, Planning and Green Spaces. Councillors H Shergold, P Hodge and J Lockier will produce this plan.

A second Community plan will be produced to cover Facilities, Parking, Transport , Business and Social activities C Jackson, C Dietrich and H Sleaf will produce this plan . J Cridland and R Ashworth will produce and monitor Budgets and Admin

**Action All -**

Reports ( Green Spaces) from Ben Malin, First Ecology and Mrs Jewell ( research into Charter ) pending **Action JL/PH/RA**

- f. Report on Burial Ground Admin. Vacancy advertised, no applicants at present

## 6. Planning

### Ref 2015/0833/REM 4 Dwellings Coombeside

**Parish Council recommended unanimous refusal of this application.** R Ashworth to reply to MDC ( see below)

Ref Attention D Foster,

Dear Daniel,

At the Croscombe Annual Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2015 the council unanimously recommended refusal of the planning application Ref 2015/0833/REM.

Reasons for refusal are as follows..

1. The scheme is now for 4 large properties not the 10 smaller properties as originally proposed and the Parish Council would like to see whole site development designs rather than phased ones.

The Parish Council reluctantly accepted a limited expansion of the development limit in October 2013 in order to accommodate a contribution towards the required number of new properties as being a Primary Village.

2. The area is immediately adjacent to the Conservation Area and the suggested design, size and character of the dwellings would clash significantly.

3. The previous views to reject the original outline plan by the Heritage Conservation Department now have particular relevance and the Parish Council on seeing the offered design do concur with the Conservation Dept view.

4. The design does not satisfy the material considerations of the Village Design Statement in that some of the properties have flat roofs and the larger property is sited at the top of the site and will be visually dominant when viewed from each end of the village.

There is also a predominance of glass material which is not appropriate for Croscombe.

5. Ideally development in Croscombe should be in terms of smaller 2-3 bedroom properties to satisfy both elderly people wishing to perhaps downsize or younger first time buyers.

6. Any development should now be sensitive and mindful to the emerging Croscombe Neighbourhood Plan and the MDC approved Local Plan Part 1.

Regards

Richard Ashworth  
Croscombe Parish Clerk  
14th May 2015

**7. Correspondence.** The following had been received:

- a. MDC Parish Bulletin/Market event for new councillors
- b. Rural Services newsletters
- c. SLCC/NALC newsletter
- d. Came and Company Insurance renewal invite
- e. MDC Precept remittance advice
- f. Carter Jonas Auction details land Croscombe
- g. Details re Annual Accounts Internal Audit confirmed

## **8 Accounts.**

8.1 a. R Ashworth advised current accounts finance details.

**Resolved to accept Annual Accounts and send the Annual Report to Grant Thornton**  
**Action RA**

b. **Resolved to confirm the Governance Audit Statement within Annual Return**

c. Resolved to pay invoices accounts as below

Web Site renewal £43.06

Church Room Hire £18,00

Parish Clerk Salary, PAYE, Expenses

Pro Business Internal Audit £192.00

Came and Company Insurance £265.00

d. R Ashworth confirmed he is to examine the financial regulations and accounting implications of transparency and inclusion on a Parish Council Web site. Awaiting MDC decision as to if they can help small councils with this requirement. **Action RA**

## **Matters for consideration.**

R Ashworth advised that the Parish Council Laptop was failing and freezing on a regular basis. Cost of repair would be in the order of £100.00. He confirmed he was backing up computer records on a regular basis.

Resolved to replace the laptop when necessary at a cost of up to £400.00

Meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Next Parish Council meeting Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June in the Church Rooms Start time 7.30 pm