

# MINUTES OF CROSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE PARISH ROOMS ON Thursday 23 June 2022, 7:00PM

**PRESENT:** Cllrs B Gudzelak, M Rogers, A Ford, H Shergold (part).

**IN ATTENDANCE:** G Pettitt (Parish Clerk), Cllr Lovell (Somerset County Council), 3 members of the public

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:** Council approved that Cllr Rogers to open Public Question Time. Regarding the hard standing behind the former bungalow stores:

- The work was disruptive over the Bank Holiday Jubilee weekend.
- Change of use may not be required for hard standing on a residential property.
- Noted the risk of vehicles exiting at a point of poor visibility.
- Noted vehicle numbers parking in front of the former shop has increased and there had been instances of vehicles reversing into the main road. Some had parked on the footway.
- Cllr Lovell will enquire of the Highways Department re traffic issues.
- Noted that MDC did not consult with neighbours - the District Council were informed the day before work started and could not begin to look into it until after the Bank Holiday.
- Noted that the matter now has a case number with MDC Enforcement Office.

Cllr Shergold took the Chair.

## 75. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN

Apologies were received from Cllrs Egan, Jackson & Fawcett-Fice - attending festival.

**RESOLVED:** To approve reasons for absence from Cllrs Egan, Jackson & Fawcett-Fice. Approved.

## 76. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no declarations of interest.

## 77. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC No items required exclusion of press & public.

## 78. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- i. Cllr Shergold reported that Church wardens and others will be raising funds for a Platinum Jubilee stone to be situated at the Church entrance.

## 79. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- i. **RESOLVED:** To approve and sign the minutes of Full Council 17 May 2022. Approved.

## 80. PLAY AREA WORKING GROUP (PAWG) Cllr Gudzelak reported meeting the contractor on site the previous week. The start date is delayed to 18 July. The layout design is in process of finalisation; all items initially considered cannot be included in final plan due to lack of space. Water will be provided by the contractors, Council is grateful to the school for allowing access through the playing field gate. Trees near the play area may need crowning. The contract remains short of £800-£1,000 to complete the project. Funding options are available. Phase 2 will start afterwards.

## 81. ORCHARD WORKING GROUP (OWG)

- i. Cllr Rogers reported that a rota of volunteers are watering the trees, which are looking great and producing fruit. The area is mown regularly by a member of the public. The lessee of the field has mown the field for silage. Water supply to the horse trough is being looked into.
- ii. 10 members of OWG met to discuss maintenance and future management. The group agreed to recommend that a management group be set up. The Clerk will look into the cost of preparing a constitution, discuss with SALC, research management trusts and provide OWG with the current breakdown of receipts / payments of the group.

## 82. TRAFFIC

- i. **RESOLVED:** To approve the purchase of a bracket set, £52, & p&p £7.50, for the St Cuthbert (Out) SID, which is proposed to be shared with Croscombe PC and will be situated on Long St

approximately 6mthly @ £30 per siting. Pending approval by SCO. Approved.

- ii. The new complementary system to Speed Watch - Auto Speed Watch is a relatively inexpensive, new facility for monitoring habitual speeders.  
**RESOLVED:** To consider Auto Speed Watch for the 23/24 budget. Approved.
- iii. The clerk provided footpath maps to be marked up with information that will be referred to Somerset County Council to further their Active Travel initiative to improve non-vehicular routes between village and town. One member of the public is participating. The maps will be sent to another member of the public as well as Cllrs Egan and Jackson in the hope they will be interested in participating. Response is required by end of August.
- iv. Council noted the missing finger post on the Old Wells Road. There is no finger post budget this year. To be considered for the 23/24 budget.

### 83. EVENTS

- i. The Jubilee event was agreed by all to have been very successful and was a boost to village morale after the Covid restrictions.
- ii. **RESOLVED:** To approve 3 July for the OWG picnic. Approved.

### 84. APPOINTMENTS

- i. **RESOLVED:** To not appoint a Comms officer this year. Approved.
- ii. The appointment of a PPLO officer was deferred.
- iii. Management of the Croscombe Parish Council Facebook page deferred until such time as members of the public administrators are removed.

### 85. PARISH PLAN

- i. Setting up a Steering Group for the Parish Plan was deferred pending item 85.ii. outcome.
- ii. **RESOLVED:** To approve application to the SALC Community Review to prepare a Community Plan; Cllr Egan will complete the application in liaison with the clerk. Approved.

### 86. POLICY REVIEWS

- i. Code of Conduct  
**RESOLVED:** To adopt the new Code of Conduct. Approved.
- ii. Safeguarding Policy  
**RESOLVED:** To adopt the Safeguarding Policy. Approved.
- iii. Financial Risk Assessment  
**RESOLVED:** To approve and sign the Financial Risk Assessment with amendment removing reference to a volunteer in 'Charges-rents receivable' section. Approved.

### 87. FINANCE: reconciliation; AGAR; payments

- i. The bank reconciliation to 31 May 2022 was noted.
- ii. The Annual Internal Audit Report 2021/22 was noted.
- iii. **RESOLVED:** To approve the Annual Governance statement 2021/22. Approved.
- iv. **RESOLVED:** To approve the Accounting Statements 2021/22. Approved.
- v. The variances 2021/22 were noted.
- vi. **RESOLVED:** To approve the Public Rights and Publication of Annual Governance and Accountability Return - announcement 26 June 2022; Publication 27 June 2022. Approved.
- vii. **RESOLVED:** To approve payments: salary month 3 - £529.60. Grass cutting costs - £20 Internal Audit - £234. Approved.

88. **MENDIP PLANNING VALIDATION LIST** The Planning Validation Application Guidance was noted.

### 89. REVIEW OF ASSETS

**RESOLVED:** To increase value of assets by 10% in recognition of increasing costs. Approved.

### 90. LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS

- i. Avon & Somerset Police - Noted
- ii. Mendip District Council - Noted
- iii. Somerset County Council - Cllr Lovell reported that he attends the Constitution & Governance Committee at SCC, which will be dealing with the change to Unitary Authority.

## CLOSE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 4 August 2022.

Signed .....

Date .....