

# MINUTES OF CROSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE PARISH ROOMS ON Friday 30 September 2022, 7:30PM

**PRESENT:** Cllrs B Gudzelak, M Rogers, A Ford, H Shergold, C Jackson, K Egan.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** G Pettitt (Parish Clerk), Cllr Bente Height (SCC)

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:** No members of the public present.

**110. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN**

Apologies received from Cllr S Fawcett-Fice, health reasons.

**RESOLVED:** To accept apologies and reasons given by Cllr S Fawcett-Fice. Approved.

Apologies received from Cllr Martin Lovell (SCC).

**111. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** There were no declarations of interest.

**112. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC** No items required exclusion of press & public.

**113. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS** Cllr Shergold noted that highway mirrors are no longer approved highway furniture. The missing mirror at Townsend Barn will not be replaced.

**114. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

- i. **RESOLVED:** To approve and sign the minutes of Full Council 4 August 2022. Approved.

**115. PLAY AREA WORKING GROUP (PAWG)**

- i. PAWG report: Cllr Gudzelak noted, with thanks, that the Village Hall carpark trees had been trimmed. The new play area has received very positive feedback.
  - a) The launch was unfortunately cancelled for 9 September due to HRH Queen Elizabeth II period of mourning, see item 119.ii.
  - b) Noted that a schedule of options for Phase II has been drawn up. Council considered liaising with the Charter Market committee, notices and other means for consultation on Phase II.
  - c) Regarding the play area overlooking Fayre Way properties, the maintenance team have established a schedule to increase the hedge height over the coming years, starting this September. It will take time to increase height whilst maintaining hedge integrity.

**116. ORCHARD WORKING GROUP (OWG)**

- i. Cllr Rogers reported that tree maintenance is going well. A pruning party will be held in the coming month; some trees had become diseased and will be treated.

**117. CROSCOMBE BURIAL GROUND**

- i. Noted that the landscape contractors had now reduced the entrance hedges to ease access for pall bearers and undertaken general maintenance. There is some concern that bedrock negates the possibility of the cemetery accommodating double burials. Clerk will discuss with grave diggers and the Institute of Cemetery & Crematorium Management (ICCM) re existing purchased double plots. Double plot purchase will be suspended pending further investigation. The pre-purchase of specific plots is causing problems with access to older plots for grave diggers. Pre-purchase of specific plots is now suspended.

Area A will not have any further plots allocated until further notice.

**RESOLVED:** To open up Area B to new plots. Approved.

Noted that the wildflower area is being encroached by scrub.

**RESOLVED:** To establish a Working Group to oversee the Cemetery maintenance, perform general ad hoc maintenance and monitor grave stone safety. Approved.

**RESOLVED:** To appoint Cllr Shergold to the Croscombe Cemetery Working Group. Approved.

Cllr Shergold will approach members of the public and publicise for members to join the working group.

[Note: These decisions to be ratified at next meeting.]

#### 118. TRAFFIC

- i. Noted that the St Cuthbert (Out) SID has now included Croscombe in its rota.
- ii. No feedback received on Active Travel research.
- iii. Noted that the A371 Working Group will be meeting Monday 3 October.

#### 119. EVENTS

- i. Noted that the Orchard Picnic will now be a pruning party. Some discussion on whether to hold a bonfire at the orchard for 5 November  
**RESOLVED:** To approve a bonfire at the Orchard 5 November. Not approved - 1 for, 3 against, 2 abstentions.  
**RESOLVED:** To approve, in principle to an alternative site being used for 5 November bonfire to raise funds for the Orchard. Approved.
- ii. **RESOLVED:** To approve the Play Area Launch to take place at the rescheduled Charter Market, 8 October. Approved.

#### 120. PARISH PLAN

- i. The Steering Group will meet on Monday 3 October. Noted that the timescale is very tight. A Marketing and Communication plan to be devised by 6 October. The Project Plan to be devised by 3 November.

#### 121. POLICY REVIEWS

- i. **RESOLVED:** To approve the Co-option Policy and Procedures as amended. Approved.

#### 122. FINANCE

- i. Payments: **RESOLVED:** To approve payments: staff salary months 4, 5 & 6 - £1,588.80;. Insurance - £142.76; External Audit - £240; HMRC £499.72; Creative Play £912. Approved.
- ii. Budget review - noted reserves will need to be rebuilt in preparation for next play area refurbishment in approximately 15 years.
- iii. Noted that £8,285 income is expected from VAT refund.
- iv. SAAA as External Auditor retained.

#### 123. UNITARY AUTHORITY

- i. Consultation on LCN boundaries. Cllr Egan will send a proforma to Councillors to discuss response by email.
- ii. 4 October Conference - Clerk will attend.
- iii. Mendip Rural Alliance - noted the group's focus is upon parishes to north east of Mendip and thus not relevant to Croscombe.

#### 124. LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS

- i. Avon & Somerset Police - Noted
- ii. Mendip District Council - Noted
- iii. Somerset County Council - Noted

#### CLOSE

Note: Agendas to include item Matters of Report

Cllrs noted: Broken Water stones within the village. A member of the public is repairing.

Suggestion that Croscombe Cemetery stone could be cleaned and signage letters picked out with paint.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 27 October 2022.

Signed .....

Date .....