

Minutes of Croscombe Parish Council
Full Council Meeting
Held at the Parish Rooms on
Thursday 16 March 2023, 7pm

PRESENT: Cllrs Chris Jackson, Kate. Egan (Acting Clerk for the Meeting), Hilary. Shergold (Chair), Mick Rogers, Ben Gudzelak and Annette Ford

ALSO PRESENT: Joe McGhee (observing as the new Parish Clerk),

Items were taken out of order from the agenda.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: There were three members of the public in attendance, they were invited to speak later on during the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN

Cllr Fawcett-Fice sent apologies due to work outside of the parish.

RESOLVED To approve apology and reason given. Approved

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no declaration of interest

3. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC Items 6ii and 7 were discussed under a closed session.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

i To confirm and sign minutes of the Croscombe Parish Council meeting of 19th January 2023.

The Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th January be accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chair.

Cllr A Ford joined the meeting at 7.05pm

9. PLANNING COMMITTEE

i. To approve, (or not) dissolution of the Planning Committee

The Council **RESOLVED** to dissolve the Planning Committee

ii 2023/0290/TCA T1 Hazel, T2 Walnut, G3 Elms (x3) – Fell and clear trees for replacement trees. Parsonage House, Back Lane Croscombe **Update** The Parish Council raised no objections

2023/0253/TPO T1 -Willow – Fell & replant with Rowan. Alma Cottage, Long Street, Croscombe. **Update** The Parish Council raised no objections

iii 2023/0265/FUL Erection of a new dwelling, Land South of Wheelwrights, Old Street Lane, Croscombe.

The members of the public were invited to comment on the application

Update The Parish Council recommended approval but had concerns about the roof and whether the material should be cedar so helping the building to blend into the hill and lessening the impact from the other side of the village, It was noted that it was outside the development area for the village.

It was also mentioned that parking on the corner of Rock Street and Thrupe Lane was becoming an issue and emergency vehicles could not get through. Residents will be asked to park with more consideration.

5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Chairman's Announcements.

8. ORCHARD GROUP

i. To approve or not a Coronation picnic to be held on Sunday May 7th

The Council **RESOLVED** that the Orchard Group could arrange a Coronation Picnic lunch to be held on Sunday May 7th.

10. PARISH ZONES

i. To approve or not the redesigned individual councillor zones

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the redesigned individual councillor zones

11. PLAY AREA DOG SIGNAGE

i. To approve or not the purchase of large signs for prohibition of dogs

The Council **RESOLVED** to purchase two new signs for the Play Area, with the words "Childrens Play Area, No Dogs" at a cost of about £13.00 each plus VAT. Cllr Chris Jackson will order the signs.

The rope will be removed from the Ship in the Play Area due to health and safety reasons, this will be carried out by Cllr Chris Jackson.

12. MEETING SCHEDULE

i. To approve (or not) provisional Meeting Schedule

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the meeting schedule. Parish Council Meetings will now be held every other month on a Tuesday evening.

13. CORONATION ARRANGEMENTS

i. Feedback on any arrangement for the celebration of the forthcoming coronation of King Charles III

This was discussed and it was mentioned that the village hall hopes to put on an event on May 6th to celebrate the Coronation. Purchase of mugs have been researched but due to the time constraint it was felt this would not be feasible although an eye would be kept out on what would be available. Organisations within the village would be contacted as to see if they would sponsor the cost if mugs became available.

14. LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS

i. Mendip District Council

ii. Somerset County Council

Somerset County Councillor Martin Lowell was in attendance. A short verbal report was given mentioning planning boards have now been set up, they are similar in size to the old Districts and will contain Councillors from the areas concerned. Local Community Networks were briefly touched on and everything is now being concentrated in readiness for the new unitary Council on 1st April.

Under Section 1, Paragraph 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Cllr Chris Jackson proposed that the following two items under Section 1, Paragraph 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude the press and public for the following two items, this was seconded by Cllr Annette Ford and unanimously agreed.

7. CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT – CLERK

i. To approve amended contract of employment (circulated)

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the amended contract

6. **FINANCE**

ii. **To approve (or not) payments**

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve this final payment to the Clerk including the overtime and noted that the annual salary was nearly 90% of the precept.

The meeting was reopened to include members of the Public.

6. **FINANCE**

i. **To approve (or not) account bank reconciliation to 13th December 2022.**

This was deferred to the next meeting as the bank reconciliation had not been produced.

iii. **To note receipts**

There were no receipts to be noted

iv. **To approve (or not) appointment of Internal Auditor, Tom Bacon of Probusiness for 22/23 Accounts**

The Council **RESOLVED** to appoint Microshade Business Consultants Ltd as the Internal Auditor for 2022/2023 at a cost of £195 + VAT.

v. **To approve (or not), grant application from Mendip CAB**

The Council were unable to approve the grant application as no information had been forwarded.

15. **MATTERS TO REPORT**

There were no matters to report

Date of next meeting Tuesday 9th May at 6.30pm

Meeting closed 8.04pm