**Minutes of a meeting of Cropredy Parish Council held at the Methodist Chapel on Monday 12th February 2024 at 7.00pm**

Present: Councillors Tania Johnson (Chair), Des Knight, Bob Garland, Sheila Jones, District Councillor Phil Chapman and County Councillor George Reynolds, David Best (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence –** Jacqui Smith.
2. **Declarations of Interest** - None
3. **Minutes of the last meeting** **held on 8th January 2024.** These minutes were approved as correct and signed by the Chair.
4. **Matters arising from the minutes not otherwise on the agenda.** None
5. **Reports of Working Groups:**
   1. **Village Maintenance & Improvement**:
      1. **Hell Hole Wall** – Mr Tony Brummell from CDC, who is monitoring the wall, has advised that there is no further deterioration but the ivy and elder that is growing should be removed. It has not been possible to contact the Vicarage Flats management company yet as emails are bouncing back. Contact details are being checked.
      2. **C&RT Towpath Task Force** – Holes were filled in the path opposite the marina in January. The next date for work is 28th February 2024.
      3. **Crack in Wall at entrance to Kyetts Corner –** A builder has been instructed and it will be repaired when the weather improves.
      4. **Broken Salt Bin** –This still has not been replaced. Councillor Des Knight will email OCC to chase this.
      5. **Playground –** A painter in the village has been asked if they were interested in qiuoting for repainting the equipment but has declined. Councillor Jacqui Smith is trying to get a playground maintenance company to repaint in..
   2. **Transport, Traffic & Street Lighting:**
      1. **Community Speedwatch –** Pilot data since the introduction of the 20mph limit has been completed and a review of the recorded data on the Community Speedwatch website has been carried out. The data indicates that the rate of offenders occurs on average 1 in 5 vehicles and the average speed of all offenders is 10mph above the speed limit regardless of it being 30mph or 20mph. It is early days but the 20mph limit looks to be reducing speed. One resident has shown some interest in joining the Speedwatch team but more are required. OCC are making progress with the new village signs integrated with 20mph signs and the replacement type of ‘Vehicle Activated Speed’ (VAS) signs. The Cropredy team has received some positive response from Great Bourton on their activity with a suggestion for potential collaboration.
      2. **Parking issues –** Four incidents of dangerous parking were reported via 101 but all residents are encouraged to report dangerous parking and parking infringements. Dangerous parking, where there are no parking restrictions, on bends, brows of hills, junctions, and obstructions on pavements should be reported to the Police by ringing 101. Parking infringements, where there are yellow lines should be reported to OCC with photographic evidence at:[**http:**//www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/roads-and-transort/parking/illegal-parking](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/roads-and-transort/parking/illegal-parking)
      3. **Potholes and Streetlights not working –** A vote of thanks was given to Mr Laurie Wilson for marking the potholes in the village for repair.
   3. **Village Emergency Plan, Crime Prevention and Environment**
      1. A meeting of the emergency team volunteers was held on Wednesday 10th January to confirm that they are still willing to participate. All the team leaders have subsequently spoken to their teams. Four young volunteers have come forward to help.
      2. A vote of thanks was given to Mr Steve Watts and Mr Ian Huband for putting out the flood warning signs.
   4. **Parish Council use of Internet & social media –** The new website is nearly ready. The draft version will be reviewed later this month. It was agreed to keep the existing site in tandem for a short period, and, following good practice, a nominal payment will be paid to retain the existing website name for two years to prevent its reuse by other parties.
   5. **Planning, Climate Change Finance and Legal**
      1. **Application by Obsidian for a development north of Cropredy –** There is no update on this. County Councillors George Reynolds advised that it will only be heard in the planning committee when no further progress is being made between the parties. In response to a question from a member of the public, the PC confirmed that it had no discussions with Cropredy Surgery since the public meeting last year. The PC also confirmed that it had submitted a brief statement to CDC planning stating the importance of clarifying who would fund a new surgery if CDC were to the planning application. This was a majority decision (4 councillors in favour and 1 against). This was confirmed in the minutes from the 8th January meeting.

**New Planning Applications & Appeals since last meeting:**

**24/00017/F –** CropredyCricket Club – Artificial Square – PC supports this application.

**Planning Decisions since last meeting –** None since last meeting.

1. **County Councillors Report** – County Councillor George Reynolds: No update
2. **District Council Report**:
   1. New Chief Executive at CDC – The new chief executive was brought up in Bicester, so has local knowledge and seems good.
   2. The budget will be tight this year but it is believed that there will be severe pressure on funding next year.
3. **Sports and Social Club**
   1. It is believed that a lorry backed into the metal barrier at the club and quotes are being obtained to repair it.
4. **Churchyard Wall**
   1. **Removal of Ivy** – The ivy has been removed from the wall along Roundbottom and Red Lion Street.
   2. **Survey** – Photographs have been taken of each 5 metre section of the wall and a report is being compiled by the surveyor.
   3. **Investigation of wall structure** - The Oxford Diocese has been asked for permission to dig 7 trial pits 2 foot square and 2 foot deep in the churchyard next to the wall to investigate the structure.
   4. **Quotes** – Stone Masons are being contacted to ask if they are interested in quoting for any remedial work required.
5. **Finance**: **Clerk’s Report**
   1. **Year to date accounts** - These were circulated prior to the meeting. Reserves are currently £83,936.
   2. **Unity Trust Bank savings account** – The application has been signed to open a Unity Trust savings account which pays higher interest than the current Barclays savings account.
6. **Correspondence** – No matters to discuss.
7. **Any other business not of a confidential nature:**
   1. **Parking sign by the canal bridge –** This is faded and may need to be replaced but as new parking signs have been installed in the village it may be redundant.
8. **Any matters raised by members of the public attending the meeting:** None.
9. **Date of next meeting** – Monday 11th March 2024

There being no further matters the Chair closed the public meeting at 8.20pm

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Chair  
11th March 2023