

CRONDALL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held Monday 24th January 2022

PRESENT

Councillor R Freeman-Griffiths – Chairman

Councillors D Argent, R Fitzhugh, G Smith*, J Taylor and S Worthington (* following appointment in the meeting)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Cllrs K Crookes and C Dorn – Hart DC
A Angove – Parish Clerk

APOLOGIES:

Councillor N Lambert
Councillor J Glen – Hampshire County Council
Councillors J Kennett - Hart DC

One member of the public attended the meeting. *The meeting commenced at 7.30 pm and ended at 9.35 pm.*

154/22 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Taylor declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning application 21/03232/HOU Farfield. The non-pecuniary interest was noted, and it was agreed that it did not preclude Cllr Taylor from voting on the item.

In addition, Cllr Worthington declared a non-pecuniary interest in 21/03165/FUL Land at Travers Farm stating that as he had already submitted a comment to Hart District Council in a non-councillor capacity, he would abstain from voting on the item.

155/22 To approve and adopt the Minutes of 20th December 2021

The Minutes of the Council meeting were proposed for acceptance as an accurate record by Cllr Freeman-Griffiths, seconded by Cllr Taylor and AGREED unanimously.

156/22 Matters Arising from the previous Minutes

- 142/22 Speedwatch – proposal for the purchase of new SIDs (Speed Indication Device) – the Clerk confirmed the two new SIDs had been ordered with agreement being reached by the Speedwatch team with the supplier that the PC would only be charged on delivery with normal payment terms.

157/22 Appointment of new Councillor

The Clerk gave a brief overview of the election process used to date, and confirmed that two candidates had put themselves forward, adding that unfortunately the second candidate would be unable to join the meeting due to a positive Covid LFT. As there are currently two vacancies following the resignations of Cllrs Roberts and Douglas, it was agreed that the vote proceed for one of the vacancies. The Clerk requested the candidate, Mr Geoff Smith, provide the councillors with a brief introduction and respond to any questions, which he duly did.

Mr Smith was proposed by Cllr Freeman-Griffiths and seconded by Cllr Worthington and **AGREED** unanimously. Mr Smith was formally appointed to CPC and having signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office, formally joined the meeting.

The vote for the second vacancy will be held at the February meeting subject to the candidate's availability.

158/22 Announcements from the Chairman, Clerk and Members questions received in advance

Cllr Freeman-Griffiths updated the meeting on recent issues with vandalism and anti-social behaviour around the village and in particular the effect it is having on parishioners as a whole. Whilst the Clerk has sent out an update on social media and is liaising with the PCSO, Cllr Freeman-Griffiths reiterated that the Parish Council is aware of the issues and of how distressing the situation is. Advice is still to report all instances. In addition, Cllr Freeman-Griffiths highlighted the Community Trigger initiative. The Clerk confirmed that she would look into it and if suitable, would provide information and a link on the Parish Council Facebook page.

An opportunity for parishioners to meet with members of Hart Community Safety and the local police is also being sought. The Clerk will keep the Parish Council updated.

159/22 County and District Councillors' Reports

District Cllr Crookes provided a brief overview of the current budget discussions, confirming that current indications are that it will not be as reduced as anticipated with a balance being achieved without dramatic cuts. In addition, Cllr Crookes confirmed that green waste collections were scheduled to recommence w/c 31st January.

District Cllr Dorn explained that £1,000 per Ward had been allocated for Jubilee grants. Full details had been forwarded to the Clerk who in turn confirmed that they would be forwarded to Crondall Events. It was clarified that due to the size of the ward, the £1,000 would not stretch that far and that, as outlined in the documentation, the District Councillors are looking to make contributions to 2-3 projects across the entire Odiham Ward.

Cllr Dorn provided an update on roadworks in general, explaining that where advance notice is received, details are being posted on Facebook but that details were not always received in advance. A meeting with Martin Grant Homes had been held to discuss progress of the A287 Redfields Lane/Bowling Alley junction. Concerns had been raised about the levels appeared very high, but the developers had provided an explanation and an overall update. The project is running to time with the next phase scheduled to begin in the first week in February. Two-way traffic lights would be installed as part of this and would be in place for approximately two months.

Cllr Worthington questioned whether drainage on Bowling Alley, specifically outside the old pub, would be addressed. It was clarified by Cllr Dorn that unfortunately this did not fit under the remit of these particular roadworks but would address the issue of speeding traffic, which was raised as a concern by Cllr Smith.

160/22 Representations by the public

There were no representations by the public.

161/22 Planning Applications

Applications were considered in line with the previously circulated Planning Report and presented by Cllr Freeman-Griffiths.

21/02937/FUL	Penn Croft Farm Penn Croft Crondall, GU10 5PX	Installation of an energy storage facility comprising of battery containers, fencing, switching station, kiosk, and associated works.
Recommendation: Object on the basis that: • Proposal is located in the countryside, contrary to HLP NBE1 • Proposal has adverse effects on: • Agricultural land (no assessment has been made as to Grade 3a or 3b). Contrary to HLP NBE10; • Biodiversity: No net gain quantification has been given and harm to the New Copse SINC, Ancient Woodland and Semi-Natural Woodland. Contrary to HLP NBE4 and NBE10; • Residential amenity: The +9 to +14dB increase in night time noise is a significant adverse impact resulting in adverse impacts on residential amenity contrary to HLP NBE10; • Landscape and Visual: Harm to the open countryside contrary to HLP NBE2 and HLP NBE10. Following a wide ranging discussion covering areas such as connection to the infrastructure, access issues, in particular for the fire brigade, potential ecological threats and noise, Cllr Freeman-Griffiths proposed as listed. Seconded by Cllr Taylor and AGREED unanimously.		
21/03165/FUL	Land At Travers Farm Well Road Crondall, GU10 5HJ	Change of use of the 3 existing agricultural barns into 5 residential dwellings to include the creation of a mezzanine floor within barns A and C and the part retention of the agricultural unit within barn C.
Recommendation: Objection on the basis of: • Additional floorspace through the mezzanine floor space would not have been permitted under “prior approval” as takes dwellings over limit. Therefore, reliance on the prior approval should not be relied upon by Applicant • As a result of mezzanine floor space, additional windows/doors are required. These additions would be beyond the permitted works under the prior approval conditions demonstrating the building is not capable of functioning as a dwelling • This application is not “amendments” therefore but should be judged as a standalone application for 5 new dwellings under Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan. The application is contrary to both Plans as follows: • Location not supported as “in countryside” and no exceptions apply. Contrary to policy HLP NBE1; • Not a “Rural Exception Site”; • Not in a sustainable location as reliant on car – contrary to HLP SD1; • Not in a settlement boundary – contrary to HLP SS1 and NP Policy 1. Cllr Freeman-Griffiths proposed as listed. Seconded by Cllr Argent and AGREED (in favour 5 : abstention 1)		
21/03072/HOU	Willow Mead, Pankridge Street, Crondall, GU10 5QU	Retention of dwarf brick wall with a picket fence and gate supported by brick pillars and change of colour of front door.
Recommendation: No Objection Following a short discussion about whether it would be more in keeping to request that the fence be painted to match that of the neighbouring property, Cllr Argent proposed as listed with this addition. There was no seconder. Cllr Freeman-Griffiths proposed as listed. Seconded by Cllr Worthington and AGREED unanimously.		
21/03189/LBC	Yew Tree Cottage, Dippenhall Street,	Erection of a single storey extension, open wraparound porch and removal and raising of roof to create a first floor with

21/03188/HOU	Crondall, GU10 5NX	dormer windows and rooflights to existing garage and retention of a garden wall.
Recommendation: No Objection Cllr Freeman-Griffiths proposed as listed. Seconded by Cllr Argent and AGREED unanimously.		
21/03226/LBC 21/03225/HOU	Potters Hatch, Well Road, Crondall, GU10 5PW	Internal alterations including the conversion of the garage to habitable accommodation, insertion of first floor window to East elevation, insertion of ground floor window and alterations to two windows to ground and two window to first floor to South elevation and insertion of two ground floor windows to West elevation.
Recommendation: No Objection subject to: • Conservation Officer no objection to both internal and external works; • Prior approval of materials. Cllr Freeman-Griffiths proposed as listed. Seconded by Cllr Fitzhugh and AGREED unanimously.		
22/00010/AMCON	STREET RECORD, Rye Common Lane, Crondall	Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) attached to Planning Permission 20/01180/FUL dated 28/09/2021 to amend the approved plan (General Arrangement Battery Container Layout).
Recommendation: No Objection subject to the northern boundary should include proposed trees to help screen the whole site. Cllr Argent observed that whilst there was provision for eleven CCTV posts, this did not reference lighting. Cllr Freeman-Griffiths proposed as listed. Seconded by Cllr Argent and AGREED unanimously.		
21/03232/HOU	Farfield, Croft Lane, Crondall, GU10 5QG	Conversion of garage into habitable accommodation, insertion of four windows to front elevation and one window to side elevation.
Recommendation: No Objection Cllr Freeman-Griffiths proposed as listed. Seconded by Cllr Smith and AGREED unanimously.		
21/03102/LBC 21/03101/HOU	Bathurst Cottage, Church Street, Crondall, GU10 5QQ	Erection of a single storey rear extension following demolition of existing and creation of a ground floor WC.
Recommendation: No Objection subject to the Conservation Area having no objection to interior amendments and conditions on prior approval of all materials • The proposal would update the existing low quality extension and create a “cleaner” and “less fussy” back to the property. Cllr Freeman-Griffiths proposed as listed. Seconded by Cllr Taylor and AGREED unanimously.		

162/22 Study to look into facilities for young adults in the Parish

The Clerk had distributed a report to all councillors prior to the meeting, outlining issues with vandalism and antisocial behaviour throughout the village, the outcome of discussions with the PCSO and members of the public. The Clerk requested that consideration be given to appointing a councillor or councillors to oversee the identification of facilities and initiatives which could be supported by the Parish Council.

Following a short discussion, it was proposed that Cllrs Fitzhugh (perhaps with Cllr Argent's assistance) prepare a village wide questionnaire to gain a greater understanding of the appetite for the different proposals and the Parish Council progress from there. Cllr Freeman-Griffiths stressed that any questionnaire needed to be clearly an opinion gathering exercise and not a commitment to expenditure, as it would be dependent on ability to pay as well. In addition, it was important to stress that the provision of additional facilities specifically for teenagers and young adults was not just to address the current vandalism issues but was in recognition of a gap in provision generally.

The Clerk agreed to investigating the costs and details of organising a survey via Survey Monkey.

PROJECTS:-**163/22 Estate Improvements**

A report had been distributed prior to the meeting detailing the costs involved in resurfacing the Hook Meadow play area and the revised fencing costs. The Clerk provided a brief verbal overview, explaining that at the November 2021 meeting it had been agreed that the PlaySmart UK option was the best approach, balancing cost, and meeting requirements. It had, however, been agreed that the Clerk and Cllr Fitzhugh investigate the possibility of a more cost-efficient in-house approach. Having discussed this and looked into logistics, it was agreed that this was not a viable option.

In addition, due to changes to the cost of steel, the fencing quote, agreed at the previous meeting had increased and would require ratification once again.

Cllr Freeman-Griffiths proposed that the PlaySmart UK (option 3) and revised fencing quote from EPF (Fencing) Ltd be agreed. This was seconded by Cllr Worthington and **AGREED** unanimously.

FINANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT:-**164/22 Ratification of payments**

The circulated list of 15 items including Payroll valued at £5,333.37 was proposed by Cllr Argent, seconded by Cllr Freeman-Griffiths and **AGREED** unanimously.

165/22 To Consider and Agree a list of items for spending requests

The items listed for authorisation, namely replacement fencing for Hook Meadow Play area having been covered and **AGREED**, there were no further items for authorisation.

166/22 To NOTE the Income and Expenditure Report and Balance Sheet to 31st December 2021

There were no questions, and the report was **NOTED**.

167/22 To NOTE the independent examination of the Bank Reconciliation December 2021

The Clerk had confirmed in writing prior to the meeting that she had undertaken an independent examination of the Bank Reconciliation for December 2021. No questions were raised. Council **NOTED** the Clerk's report.

REPORTS:-

168/22 Clerk's Report

The report having been distributed in advance of the meeting; the Clerk drew the meeting's attention to one item:

- Headstone application authorisation – the Clerk explained the circumstances where an application for a headstone and footstone had been made by a member of the public. Whilst footstones are not specifically prohibited under the existing Regulations the Clerk felt that this is covered under paragraph 4.3 “no kerbstones or other edging is permitted around memorials” but accepted that it could be more definitive. Full details of the proposal had been provided to all councillors. A short discussion ensued with councillors expressing the view that the inclusion of a footstone was out of keeping, would create an untraditional “long” plot and general unease at the offer of additional funds to cover any increased expenditure in the general upkeep of the burial ground. The Parish Council AGREED unanimously that the Clerk reject the request.

No further questions were raised and the report was NOTED.

169/22 Correspondence

It was confirmed that all email correspondence has been circulated to councillors.

170/22 Any Other Business

Cllr Worthington provided an update on the OpenReach broadband project, confirming that they had reached the required numbers but that Open Reach had said that there had been too many applications. Further news on whether the application has been successful is still awaited, including which properties would be included.

Cllr Argent, aware that Cllr Lambert has been very busy recently dealing with the issues surrounding vandalism of the Village Hall, had taken it upon himself to conduct a survey of the roads in and around Crondall. The resulting draft report would be circulated to all Parish Councillors for comment before submitting a final report to Hampshire Highways.

Signed as a true record dated 21st February 2022