

CRONDALL PARISH COUNCIL - ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2017

MINUTES

Held on Monday 10th April 2017 at 19.30 in Crondall Church Rooms

PRESENT: Cllr C Dorn (Chairman)
Cllrs D Argent, C Bryant, R Ellerington, C Hebborn, N Lambert

APOLOGIES: Cllr K Crookes, Robin Assael, Eve Vass

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs M Harris - Parish Clerk, Cllr S Gorys – Hart District Council
51 members of the public

The meeting commenced at 7.35pm and ended at 9.30pm

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the councillors and members of the public in attendance. He outlined the plan for the evening.

PM 1/17 Minutes of 11th April 2016 meeting

The Minutes were proposed for acceptance by Dick Wallis, seconded by Simon Crowther and **AGREED** as an accurate record. The Chairman signed the Minutes.

PM 2/17 Matters arising from the Minutes of 11th April 2016 meeting

There were no matters arising.

PM 3 /17 Chairman's headlines

Cllr Dorn took the opportunity to introduce the Parish Councillors and to thank them for their work during the year. He also thanked David Evans who had resigned during the year. Cllr Dorn welcomed Matthew Seary soon to join as a newly elected councillor.

The Chairman highlighted various significant matters for the village during the past year. Of particular significance was the agreement to start the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan. This was a large piece of work which was expected to take 18 months to complete.

He was particularly pleased to advise that the Conservation Area Plan had been updated during the past year, this had demonstrated good partnership working with Hart and he thanked all those involved. There were also other planning issues which had been of importance in particular that for the Broden Stables site which was coming before Hart's Planning Committee the following Wednesday.

Other issues included ongoing discussions and concerns about Broadband provision and speeds within the village and 'flooding' where some minor successes had been achieved. The large village footpath map is also being redrawn and will be back soon on the noticeboard in Hook Meadow.

Cllr Dorn regretted the recent increase in fly-tipping and urged local people to take a photo and report this through Fix My Street. Potholes and other problems could also be reported on-line at the Hart and Hants CC websites.

Looking forward Council would be supporting the parish with responding to the Hart Local Plan consultation (Reg18) – due out in April, also undertaking a Car Park Feasibility Study, some Burial Ground improvements, Football Pavilion improvements and hopefully the delayed Environment Agency "riparian owner" training. It was also possible that the Village Shop might become a topic for discussion and concern over future months.

PM 5/17

Cllr Gorys – Ward Councillor from Hart reiterated the impending Regulation 18 Consultation on the Local Plan which would run for 6 weeks from 26th April 2017. He anticipated that all being well the final Plan would be in place by February / March 2018. The delays to date had been the result of technical issues.

Question

A question was raised about the confusion between different processes in planning. How could it be that residents are invited to meetings and to comment on where houses should go in the Parish whilst at the same time ‘Developers’ keep bringing applications forward? Cllr Dorn explained that anyone can apply for planning permission to build anywhere at any time; these applications are then assessed against local policies and if they meet them planning permission may be granted. At the present time the ‘old’ Hart Local Plan policies are still in place. Cllr O’Connor, Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group explained that once the Neighbourhood Plan is ‘made’ its policies will become part of the Local Plan and ‘Developers’ will know they are more likely to have successful applications if they follow the policies laid out in the Neighbourhood Plan.

PM 6/17 Clerk’s Report

The Clerk outlined her role and reported business as usual. She pointed out the Events Calendar on the Parish Council’s Website and requested local organisations to send in their events for inclusion.

PM 7/17 Reports by Lead Councillors

The lead councillors for Planning – Cllr Lambert, Estates – Cllr Bryant, Finance – Cllr Argent, gave their reports for the year which are detailed on the attached Power Point presentation. Cllr Bryant particularly congratulated the Council’s Groundsman on the quality of his work, this was acknowledged by the other councillors present.

Questions

Drone Flying

A query was raised regarding the safety of Drone flying on the Farnham Road Recreation Ground. Cllr Dorn and the Clerk were able to reassure the questioner that the flying is at a low height by responsible adults who have a contract with the Parish Council which restricts use to that within the CAA guidelines for drone and model aircraft flying.

Clifton Barn

Can anything be done about ‘Clifton Barn’? It was understood that planning permission has been granted and that the only delay was on the decision about SANGS allocation. It was explained that the government currently has a scheme which allows barns to be converted to living spaces on a similar footprint. The Parish Council objected to this planning application but it was granted by Hart so there is unfortunately nothing more the Parish Council can do (other than to monitor any development’s compliance with the terms of the consent).

Street Lighting

Why do we own our street lighting? It is unclear how CPC came to own the street lighting in the first place but some years ago it entered into a PFI deal in which Hampshire County Council maintains the lights charging CPC a maintenance charge plus energy costs. Since the lights have all been replaced under the PFI, with more efficient units the energy charges have come down.

Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire

Cllr Simon O’Connor stated that there had been a fantastic response and thanked all those who had taken the time and trouble to respond. He then presented the initial results of the Questionnaire responses. The results are available on the attached Power Point presentation.

Questions on the Neighbourhood Plan

The floor was opened for questions and discussion.

Running a business from home

A query was raised regarding whether under the NP running a business from home was classed as housing or commercial premises. Cllr O'Connor stated that the reference to business in the NP Questionnaire referred to the specific creation of office space / workshops and not to working from home.

Use of a Consultant

What was the NP consultant going to be doing? Cllr O'Connor advised that the consultant would be chosen for their expertise in working with groups developing NPs. They will undertake an independent review of the NP before it goes for examination and will help Crondall to use the 'right words' and ensure they address the correct policy areas. In answer to a query Cllr O'Connor stated that the likely consultant is known. Andrew Ashcroft has worked with a number of other Parishes locally, his daily rate is considered reasonable and his name and the discussions with him have been documented in the NPWG minutes. It is hoped his work will be fully funded by a Grant from the DCLG (the Grant application is in process).

Car Parking

A query was raised regarding the possibility of using the Crondall School Car Park in the evenings (i.e. when it was not needed for school business). Cllr O'Connor said the NPWG was very aware of the issues around car parking in the village (this had been ably demonstrated in the questionnaire responses). It was his intention to ensure that the NP tried to address this issue.

Site Selection

Cllr Lambert asked about the number of sites under consideration and who was leading on this work from the NPWG? Cllr O'Connor advised that there were approximately 20 sites under initial review. Those leading on this were Peter Hall, Giles Porter and Geoff Reeve .

Project Timing

Cllr Lambert queried why the next opportunity for local people to be involved was scheduled for August during school holiday time. Cllr O'Connor advised that this was how the timetable had worked out however it may well be that the project timings will slip slightly and this activity may move to September. The NPWG were committed to ensuring that any briefing opportunities were held on dates and at times when the maximum number of local residents could attend.

Traffic through the Village

What were the NPWG's thoughts on the additional traffic through the village that was likely to be generated by more development? Cllr O'Connor responded that the NP policies would be looking to try to address this issue.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and encouraged them to keep up to date by reference to the Parish Council's website. He invited them to stay and chat to councillors over a drink and a nibble.

Signed as a true record dated 2018

Annex A – Crondall Parish Council Presentation

Annex B – Presentation of the Initial Results of the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire