

Minutes of Crowcombe Parish Council Meeting
held on Tuesday, 7th January 2014 at Church House, Crowcombe at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs J Chipp (Chairman), B Druitt, R Harbour, D Lock, T Brooks, T Motture, J Hughes and J Loader (clerk). Also in attendance was Christine Lawrence (SCC Cllr), A Trollope-Bellew (WSC Cllr) and two members of the public.

01/14 Apologies: PCSO Peter Bolton & David Freemantle

02/14 Declarations of Interest/Dispensations: None

03/14 Public Participation: None

04/14 Police Report – PCSO Peter Bolton had not sent a report for the meeting.

05/14 County Councillor's Report: a) Christine Lawrence presented a cheque for £500 from the Health and Well-Being Fund towards the new playground project. She had doubled the amount requested and the PC thanked her. b) The SID should be installed soon and Ian Titcombe would be able to provide advice on any road signs following the results of the survey. c) SCC were trying to balance the budget and find extra funding for the flooding issues and would have to use the contingency money. d) Cllr Lawrence outlined the work she was doing within the NHS Clinic Commission Group regarding how they look after mental illness patients and how more effective they could be.

06/14 District Councillor's Report: Anthony Trollope-Bellew reported a) the allocation of names for the affordable homes in the village would be announced soon. b) Official Unification of the officers from TDBC & WSC was being agreed. c) The next Quantock Hills JAC meeting was on 11 February at 2.15pm in Crowcombe Hall, chaired by ATB. d) Advice for planning applications at WSC would be chargeable.

07/14 Minutes of Meeting held on 7th November 2013 – There was one change to spell Jon Rose's name correctly. It was then proposed, seconded and agreed the November minutes be adopted as correct. The Chairman signed each page of the minutes.

08/14 Matters Arising from the Minutes - a) No road accidents had been reported since November. b) It was noted the goose neck trailer/caravan was actually owned by a third party next to Flaxpool Garage. c) The Highway issues reported are covered under the agenda item.

09/14 Crowcombe School OFSTED report – The primary school had received a 'Good' from both sides of the school. It was felt this was down to the hard work of the Head Teacher and Staff. A consultation document reviewing the school's admissions policy was in circulation.

10/14 Model Standing Orders – The clerk had circulated updated revised Model Standing Orders from NALC which covered the new interests and dispensations regulations. These were approved and adopted.

11/14 Finances: a) **Payments:** It was proposed, seconded and agreed to pay the following invoices: Clerks salary £367.57 Clerks expenses £25.00, Chris Groves Assoc. – ash tree felled - £492.00, Carl Woodley – play area sign £50.00, Crowcombe Estate - £10.00, RGB Building Supplies – concrete tunnel £2,858.29, Church House – room hire £70.00, Came & Company – additional insurance covering revised asset register items - £40.98. It was highlighted that there would be additional expenditure of £14,481.93 which was the balance of Phase I, Phase II and Inspections of the play area to come in January/February.

b) **Finances to date:** (Statements dated December 13) Current a/c £9,599.44, Deposit a/c £3,219.71, Amenities a/c £2,680.15. c) **Draft Precept for 2014/15** - the Clerk presented a revised draft precept for the financial year 2014/15 which included the November RPI of 2.6% for consideration. After discussion it was unanimously agreed the precept would be £6,416.50 exclusive of the Council Grant of £33.09. Deadline for submission of precept was 17th January 2014.

12/14 a) Play Area Update – a) the clerk had received a cheque from FOCPA for £2,500 to cover the cost of the tunnel. b) All the new play equipment was in place. The safety matting required fitting once the ground had dried out and suitable to fit. More landscaping was required and a sand pit to be installed. More panels around the tunnel required fitting too, and grass seeding on the tunnel. It was thought CPCL would return to site w/c 13 January weather permitting. The area was fenced off with a sign to stop children using this area. Thanks went to all those who have helped with the project so far. c) The ash tree had been felled and the Oak Tree survey was taking place on 14th January. d) It was understood the cheque from the Community Shop would be imminent. e) The Play Inspection Company was due on 9th January to carry out the Annual Inspection on the existing play area.

13/14 War Memorial Renovation – The condition and ownership of the war memorial was discussed. It was understood it was listed by English Heritage. After discussion it was agreed that Cllrs Harbour, Hughes and WSC Cllr Trollope-Bellew would find out how this could be repaired or replaced and come up with a suitable proposal in due course.

14/14 Red Telephone Box – The owner of the old red telephone had approached the council to see if they wanted to take ownership of the item he no longer required in his garden. After discussion it was agreed that Cllr Harbour would contact West Somerset Railway to see if they wished to take possession of it.

15/14 SCC Highways Issues – a) Gullies – the Councillors advised Cllr Lawrence the various gullies that required clearing – bottom of the Coombe, 2 x pub towards the school, 2 in car park. A358 from Crowcombe to Combe Florey. Flooding on the road by the post box in Crowcombe Heathfield. It was agreed the clerk would contact Highways regarding the broken road edge at Broad Meadow where the barrier is. b) Cllr Druitt reported he had highlighted various pot holes and issues when he been around with Highways recently.

16/14 Clerks Report – nothing to report.

17/14 Annual Parish Assembly – it was noted the proposed Parish Assembly date of 25th May was the bank holiday weekend and attendance may be low. Clerk to contact Rev. Jon Rose for another date.

19814 Minutes of Planning Site Meeting held on 17th November 2013 at Denzel Paddocks were approved. Application 3/07/13/014 regarding extensions and glazed works was supported.

19/14 Matters with Permission from Chairman – a) Footpath at Pound Orchard – this was blocked by a fallen tree and leaning on the fence at No. 8. Clerk to contact owner and ask permission to enter garden to be able to remove the tree by a contractor once agreed. b) Chestnut trees in Broad Meadow required attention as the branches were overgrown. c) Bus shelter works were partly finished. Just required to lay flag stones and tidy up. d) Milestone – Cllr Lock agreed to look at the possibility of painting the lettering. Report at next meeting. e) The Falcon Affordable Housing project could be completed by the end of March. Cllr Harbour agreed to find out whether this project would be having street lighting installed.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.26pm. The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday, 20th March 2014 at Church House.