

Cranham Parish Council
Meeting 4th March 2024 7.00 p.m.

Minutes

1. Attendance- Cllrs Barraclough, Cooper (Chair), Overs & Shaw, District Cllr Julie Job
Apologies for absence received from Cllr Sue Elliott and County Cllr Susan Williams.
The resignation of Cllr Strickland was noted.
 2. Declarations of interest- none
 3. Public participation- none
 4. Minutes of meeting February 22nd, agreed.
 5. Chair advised he was contacting Painswick clerk for help/advice. Position had been advertised in Village magazine and would also be put on Cranhammail.
 6. Reports from District & County Councillors. Cllr Job advised meeting of SDC budget for next year, a Council tax rise of the maximum permitted (2.99%), and introduction of new regulations on empty and 2nd homes as well as additional Council Tax premium. Government Inspectors considering the draft Local Plan have agreed a 10-month delay in the process to allow SDC address serious deficiencies in the plan. EV chargers are being put in public car parks. Cllr Job was asked to find out why Cranham was not included in roll out.
A generic County Council report had been mailed to all members before the meeting. Meeting agreed that Cllr Williams should be contacted regarding two highway matters, firstly potholes in three main areas. From B4070 past Overtown towards The Knoll, the lane from Manns Court to Suttons Mill, and the stretch from Surmang (opp Village Hall) all way down past Scout Centre. The other item is the request for a high kerb outside Pound Cottage to combat the continued erosion by inconsiderate parking for Village Hall.
 7. Financial reports were considered and payments agreed. Chair also agreed to produce an updated budget for next meeting incorporating previously agreed amendments.
 8. Confirmed internet banking now set up. All payments requiring dual authorisation. It was agreed to place circa £9,000 in a non-internet deposit account with Lloyds.
 9. Playing field- various matters discussed. Agreed to appeal for public input in re modelling layout of play equipment and introducing new equipment. Old seat should be replaced if it cannot be mended. Zip wire "brake" still to be investigated. Agreed Chair would respond to SDC regarding Council's biodiversity responsibility, informing them of tree survey, restoring woodland and allowing more grass to be left uncut on the periphery to aid flora & fauna. It was reported that the moles had returned and that the table tennis tables needed repositioning
 10. Allotments. The arrears of rents have been paid. It was agreed that a proper register should be maintained. Chair to confirm with all allotment holders. Chair reported that a request to use the water from the allotments tap to wash a resident's van had been received, along with offer of £50. Council decided to ask all local residents if they wanted to use this facility, and also to check how much the water cost the Council annually, before considering the request further. Chair reported that the £50 had been paid. Resident had been told that only Council could decide and it would be put to next meeting as any arrangement must be formally agreed by the Council.
 11. Council was informed of the two approvals received from SDC, re May House & Fostons Ash.
 12. Grant applications. Churchyard upkeep £750- agreed. Tennis Club- junior coaching £500 – agreed
Request for installing a plaque in memory of Aileen Whitaker and re-siting of tree if necessary was welcomed and agreed.
 13. Car Park Church Close. The owner, SDC, confirmed it was a public carpark with no preferential rights. The capacity of the car park was discussed, and considered adequate. Chair instructed to contact SDC and decline their offer of a community asset transfer by way of a long lease or outright sale.
 14. Parish "Tidy up Day" agreed Saturday April 6th 10.a.m. Also agreed to purchase some litter pickers. The Chair reported that the noticeboard opposite the school had eventually been put up (in an agreed better site) by National Grid contractors but had suffered extensive water damage by being dumped on the Common. Chair reported that NG had agreed to pay for refurbishment.
 15. Election. Query on nomination papers, Chair to ask SDC. Publicity from GAPTC toolkit loaded onto website, article in village magazine, and article to go on cranhammail
 16. Future agenda items noted. In particular street names and "white van" delivery problems
 17. Council agreed to exclude members of the public/press/members of other Council bodies under Public Bodies (admission to meetings Act 1960) by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted regarding legal and employment matters.
 18. Council to agree confidential minutes and consider legal and employment matters.
- Date of next meeting, confirmed Tuesday April 16th 2024
Minutes approved 16/4/24