

Minutes of Meeting
Cropwell Bishop Parish Council
Minutes of Meeting – 12th January 2021

7.00pm – Virtual Meeting via Zoom. A Recording Is Available on the Website

(The meeting started at 7.05pm and finished at 9.13pm)

Present: Cllrs. W. Allison, M. Beazley, C. Bryan, J. Gelsthorpe, J. Greenwood, J. Lacey, P. Storer, A. Wilson (Chairman) & Cllr. Wroughton

In Attendance: Mrs J. Towndrow (Clerk), Cllr. G. Moore R.B.C. Cllr. Clarke N.C.C. & 2 residents

Apologies Approved

271. Cllr. Moore will be joining the meeting late due to a prior meeting.

Declarations of Interest & Confirmation of Agenda

272. Cllr. Beazley & Storer Agenda Item 10. Cllr. Lacey Agenda Item 4 Planning 20/03079/FUL. The Agenda was confirmed.
273. Standing Orders were suspended at 7.07pm to allow the order of business to be amended to enable attendees To speak to the meeting.

Parishioners' Question Time & Policing Report

There were no parishioners' questions.

Crime Figures

There were no crime figures to report.

274. Standing Orders reinstated at 7.08pm.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

275. It Was:
RESOLVED: "That the minutes of the meeting held on 1st December 2020 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Progress

276. **M.255 1/12/20 – J9 Initiative – Protecting Victims of Domestic Abuse**
The J9 initiative poster is now displayed in the Old School Window. A poster about the Old School becoming a J9 Safe Space has been posted on the village Websites and Facebook pages. The clerk asked if this should be advertised in the notice boards?
Action: Clerk to amend the poster by removing some of the detail.
It Was:
RESOLVED: "To display the J9 poster in the village notice boards".
277. Cllr. Wilson asked the meeting to move Agenda Item 13 up the agenda as Cllr. Clarke had to attend another meeting later.
It Was:
RESOLVED: "To bring Agenda Item 13 up the agenda".

Highways & Footpaths Defects/Issues

278. **a) Nottingham Road Traffic Calming System TRO 8309**
Cllr. Clarke reported he had been in contact with Steph Walford and a decision has not yet been reached as to what is and is not acceptable. A disabled spot had been proposed on Nottingham Road but Cllr. Clarke had put an objection in to where the proposed location was. VIA had said that under the Equalities Act they were duty bound to provide a disabled space. However, Cllr. Clarke has argued that the Equalities Act does not overcome the issues of where they intend to place it and the problems it will cause. Cllr. Clarke has asked for a site meeting so VIA can see the problems the proposed siting will cause.

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279. **b) Footpath at the Rear of Hoe View Road – Request for Remainder of Pathway to be Stoned**

Cllr. Clarke reported he had no confirmation from Countrywide team to say they will accept the offer of Materials from an outside source.

280. Cllr. Wilson referred to M.261 from 1/12/2020 regarding the speeding issues down Cropwell Butler Hill into Cropwell Bishop. The Clerk has written to Bloor homes requesting a speed sign from the S.106 Agreement but has heard nothing back. The Parish Council have some reserves and wish to contribute to the cost of the speed signs in this area and wish Cllr. Clarke to put this offer to the Highways Agency. Cllr. Clarke advised he has asked for a speed reduction survey be done in this area and has requested the Speed Signs. Cllr. Clarke will reiterate this to the Highways Agency.

281. Cllr. Moore joined the meeting at 7.26pm.

Planning Matters & Applications

282. **RBC Grant Permission: 20/02787/FUL** - Construction of single storey front extension including external works/alterations – 14 Stockwell Lane, Cropwell Bishop NG12 3BX
NOTED

283. **RBC New Application: 20/01875/FUL** – Change of use of land from agricultural to equestrian use, change of use of existing agricultural building to equestrian associated storage and stabling, construction of new riding for disabled centre to include indoor arena, training & welfare centre, American barn stables, managers residential dwelling and associated parking areas and external lighting (Amended Description) – Colston Bridge Farm, Colston Road, Cropwell Bishop NG12 3BJ.

It Was:

RESOLVED: “No Objection with the caveat that there is a clause that the dwelling is listed as an agricultural dwelling not domestic”.

284. **RBC New Application: 20/03070/FUL** – Erection of on new dwelling – 4 Hardys Close, Cropwell Bishop NG12 3GQ.

Cllr. Wilson felt this was awfully close to the neighbouring property. Cllr. Gelsthorpe raised concerns regarding the access to the properties. The new access leaves the property at No.4 with no legal access and no garage. There is no clear boundary between the two properties? On the current plans No. 4 Hardys Close would have to use the driveway of the new property. The Parish Council also felt this was overdevelopment of the plot of land. There needs to be two clear driveways with clear boundaries over which property owns which driveway. The current plans will lead to on street parking.

It Was:

RESOLVED: “Object on grounds of Overdevelopment and Access”.

285. **RBC New Application: 20/03079/FUL** – Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of one dwelling with associated parking – 17 Colston Road, Cropwell Bishop NG12 3BJ

It Was:

RESOLVED: “No Objection”.

286. **RBC New Application: 20/03128/FUL** – Construction of single storey front and side extension. New front porch – 66 Hoe View Road, Cropwell Bishop NG12 3DF

It Was:

RESOLVED: “No Objection”.

287. **RBC New Planning Enforcement Policy** – Consultation Exercise.

Cllr. Moore said it was an important document going forward.

NOTED

Finance

288. **a) Financial Statement up to 31st December 2020**

It Was:

RESOLVED: “To approve the financial statement.”

289. **b) Payments made December 2020 and awaiting January 2021**

It Was:

RESOLVED: “To approve all payments as reproduced on payments document 153.”

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290. **c) To Approve the Precept and Budget Requirements for 2021/22**

A budget meeting was held on the 5th January where the clerk put forward two budgets a 0% or a 1% increase. The Parish Council agreed at that meeting that a budget increase of 0% should be put forward. All Councillors agreed to the 0% increase with a show of hands.

It was:

RESOLVED: “To approve budget with an increase of 0% the precept being £96,508.00.”

Correspondence for Action

291. **a) To Consider Attendance to Spring Town & Parish Forum Thursday 4th March via Zoom**

It Was:

RESOLVED: “Cllrs. Bryan, Greenwood, Wilson & the Clerk to attend”.

COVID-19

292. **a) The Old School**

The Old School will be remaining closed to the public under the Lockdown Government guidelines. The building is being used for the food bank storage only.

293. **b) Food Bank**

Families are still being supported by the foodbank with foodbank deliveries being done twice a week. Surplus foods such as veg, fruits, ready meals etc., are circulated every Thursday.

The donations from our benefactors went towards Christmas boxes. The boxes were done for 11 of our families for the festive period which included everything required for Christmas dinner plus gifts from the Church donations for every child. These were delivered out to the families on 23rd December.

We also had a donation from one family of bottles of fizz, tablecloths, serviettes, gifts for children and adults and chocolates. Local companies donated Christmas puddings and crackers.

Cllr. Moore advised the meeting that he has a benefactor who would like to donate if we run out of funds.

294. **b) Parish Council Meetings – To Consider Future Meetings**

It Was:

RESOLVED: “Meetings up to and including April 6th would be held via Zoom.

Street Names – New Development – Church Street

295. The Clerk has contacted Adam Smith the Address and Gazetteer Officer at RBC. Adam Smith has issued the Clerk with guidance on the national rules for street naming. Using a name after a person – the person must have been deceased more than 20 years. If they have been deceased 20-50 years, the parish council must obtain family consent. If deceased over 50 years no consent is required.

It Was:

RESOLVED: “To put 7 street names forward – 5 will be required. Suggestions were Oldfield (Cllr. Bryan will get a consent form signed for this one), Walker (Cllr. Wilson will get consent for this one), Hopewell, Simpson, Harper, Mabbott, Netherhall. Netherhall was the least popular choice and an alternative may be sought for this”.

Telephone Kiosk/Defibrillator

296. **a) Update on the Defibrillator**

The Defibrillator has been ordered from Community Heartbeat and paid for by the Clerk and an invoice raised to the Scouts for re-imburement of the funds. Once the Defibrillator has arrived Cllr. Wilson and C. Keast will install it. The Scouts have also agreed to undertake an annual support contract at £165.00 plus V.A.T. per annum. The Defibrillator will come with Telephone Kiosk and community signage.

297. **b) Consideration of email from a resident re Informal Lending Library/Book Swap**

A resident of the village has enquired as to whether she can house an informal lending library/book swap in the telephone kiosk. The resident would be happy to run the project and oversee the provision of shelving, organising donations, creating posters, keeping it clean, tidy and Covid-19 safe.

It Was:

RESOLVED: “To agree to the lending library/book swap” (after the defibrillator is installed).

298. Cllr. Gelsthorpe gave her apologies and left the meeting.

Memorial Hall Request for Release of Fund for Feasibility Study

299. Mick Beazley advised the meeting that Asbestos and Structural Surveys have been completed and the only way forward for the building is to complete a Feasibility Study to ascertain if refurbishment works or a new build is required. Feasibility quotes have been put forward from Pulse and Focus. Mick Beazley explained Howard Ward Associates were not prepared to do a feasibility study but had quoted £58,000.00 for repairs. These repairs excluded any works to the 2 ceilings & lower ceilings, window surrounds or asbestos surrounding the windows. Focus who were used for the Old School would charge £1,500 for refurb study and £2,000 for rebuild study costs plus V.A.T total £3,500.00 plus V.A.T. for both studies. Pulse wanted to charge £2,075 for both studies plus V.A.T. Mick Beazley advised the Memorial Hall preference was to go with Pulse for a combined survey.

C. Keast advised that several surveys had been done over the years which gave a limited life span of the building without substantial works being carried out. The Parish Council had a survey done in 2013 by Principal Surveyors which concluded that in the medium-term to look for a new building or carry out extensive works, the report detailed medium terms as being 5 to 10 years which is where we are now. C. Keast said we must remember the memorial hall has a strong attachment to the village, the building is not a listed building and it would be unlikely to get listed building status due to the unsympathetic alterations that have been carried out. The works carried out have destroyed any historical characterisation of the building. We have a dilemma in that we have a building that is much loved by the village which in his opinion will cost between £120-£150 thousand to restore the building to a decent insurable condition. Currently insurance has been withdrawn due to the gable end no longer being tied to the main body of the building hence the building being closed and fenced off.

C. Keast said we need to remember it is a building of great importance being built for the village following the great war in memory of those who passed away. C. Keast said it was important to note that there had been some misrepresentation the Memorial Hall is not a war memorial - the war memorial is in the Church.

C. Keast said if we go for the funding to repair the building that is already at the end of its life and by no means certain what extension to that life you would get, obtaining funding for up to £150K is more than a few jumble sales on a Saturday morning, it will take a significant input from various external sources. Initial advice and this is where Pulse will help the Memorial Hall - Pulse employs a funding expert who would investigate where funding or if funding for the repairs is available or alternatively a new build. It may be that a new build would attract greater funding than funding for a building that is already at the end of its life. The Memorial Hall need to tread carefully there are strong feelings about this building within the community and we cannot forget that. Because of these feelings about the building the Memorial Hall Committee need some strong clear advice from an external consultant who will state which is the route the Memorial Hall should take and why. Once the Memorial Hall Committee has got that advice they will be in a position to speak to the village and put those recommendations forward – only then would they be able to go forward with a proposal.

Cllr. Lacey asked if going forward with repairs would it make the building fully useable after. Cllr. Wilson advised we needed to await the outcome of the feasibility study before any decisions are made. Cllr. Storer pointed out the study will be considerably basic in detail and will follow a standard format.

Cllr. Greenwood asked are we happy that Pulse is the right team to undertake the study. Cllr. Beazley and C. Keast of the Memorial Hall Committee are happy to go forward with Pulse.

Cllr. Bryan proposed that funds to the value of £2,075 plus V.A.T. be released for the Pulse feasibility study. Cllr. Wilson seconded 3 other Councillors voted for the Pulse Survey, 1 voted against, 2 abstained under Declaration of Interest.

It Was:

RESOLVED: “£2,075.00 plus V.A.T. be released to the Memorial Hall on receipt of an Invoice from Pulse”.

Village Ranger Inspections

300. The Ranger has once again closed of the Outdoor Gym under the Government guidelines for Lockdown. The remainder of the park stayed open for use.

Over the past few weeks there has been an increase in drug activity on the Memorial Hall Car Park. Gas inhaler canisters being left on the floor along with a lot of rubbish. The Clerk has reported the increase in drug activity to the police but there is little that can be done.

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The soiled adult nappies are still appearing once a week in the bins up at the playpark.

Bus Shelter opposite the Church on Fern Road – This is still on occasion being used as a toilet being left soiled with human faeces on the weekend after new year. The ranger was able to clear it away with little fuss as it was frozen but not a pleasant task. The ranger cleaned and disinfected the shelter and will keep any eye on it going forward.

Transport

301. a) Speeding up the Cropwell Bishop Bus Service

Cllr. Greenwood has written to Ruth Edwards MP regarding Speeding up the Cropwell Bishop Bus Service to town, and link to Radcliffe Station and Reviving the City – A copy of the email is attached to these minutes. Cllr. Clarke advised he had spoken to C. Ward and there will not be any changes whilst the Covid-19 situation is ongoing. Cllr. Greenwood advised he wanted it noted for when the current situation changes. Cllr. Clarke advised Cllr. Greenwood to liaise with Chris Ward and continue to work on the proposal during Covid-19 times.

302. a) Electronic Information Boards at the Church Street Bus Stops

Cllr. Greenwood said a thank you to the County for the boards. They currently show scheduled times and not arrival times. Residents were appreciative of them.

303. Cllr. Wilson asked the meeting to propose standing orders for 15 minutes.

It Was:

RESOLVED: “To extend standing orders to 9.15pm”.

The Environment

304. a) To Consider Grantham Canal Water Levels

Cllr Bryan, spoke to councillors about an update of Reed clearance and leaks works for this year on the Grantham canal, to help contribute to maintaining the water flow towards Hickling Kinoulton and Owthorpe, in summer. This was pre’ press release from Richard Bennett of Canal & Rivertrust. (CRT).

He suggested we complement the new Grantham Canal Water Restoration Group (GCWRG) led by Peter Cadwallader (Kinoulton) on achieving this action from (CRT) with help from Grantham Canal Society volunteers, in such a short timescale.

He also informed the councillors he had been informed by The Notts Wildlife Badger vaccination group, that despite their efforts vaccinating the Badgers locally, a cull had taken place under a government directive. However, he had still found signs of recent activities near some of the local setts.

305. Cllr. Allison raised the issue of a Hedgehog Highway be considered as part of the new development on Church Street. A local resident has written in with a link to how it can be done easily. Cllr. Allison wished this to be put forward to Bloor Homes. Cllr. Wilson proposed we put the Hedgehog Highway forward to Bloor Homes, Cllr. Bryan seconded all agreed.

It Was:

RESOLVED: The Clerk would write to Bloor Homes and request the Hedgehog Highway is built into the development”.

306. Cllr. Allison asked if the Parish Council Meeting paperwork could be sent electronically instead of issuing all the Correspondence in paper form. Cllr. Wilson reported this had been discussed at an earlier meeting where it had been agreed we would move in this direction. Cllr. Allison proposed that we move to electronic communication, Cllr. Bryan seconded and all agreed.

It Was:

RESOLVED: “To send the Parish Council meeting paperwork electronically from now on”.

Councillors Reports

306. Cllr. Bryan asked Cllr. Wroughton what the uptake was for donating old laptops to the School. Cllr. Wroughton firstly thanked the Parish Council for considering donating funds for laptops and it was unfortunate this could not be done but appreciated the support given to the proposal. Cllr. Wroughton said there had been a couple donated but it was early days. Cllr. Moore advised he had asked at R.B.C. and they could not donate old laptops but he may be able to provide some tablets.

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Correspondence for Information

307. There is no folder for circulation during the COVID-19 Pandemic as this type of information is being e-mailed.

Date of Next Meeting

371. Tuesday 2nd February 2021 at 7.00pm via Zoom.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.13pm

Chairman's Signature:	Date:
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Dear Ruth

Speeding up the Cropwell Bishop bus service, link to Radcliffe Station and Reviving the City.

I appreciated your newsletter (23rd Dec 2020) and update on your various activities in support of the Rushcliffe Community.

You note the need for improvements to our public transport and here, in Cropwell Bishop, we would really appreciate a more direct bus service to Nottingham.

We do have a good regular daytime minibuss service to Bingham (the 833) which takes about 13 minutes to cover the 4 ½ mile journey. It is sponsored by the County and operated by Vectare.

We have a regular, reliable daytime bus to Nottingham (The 33, operated commercially by CT4N) but it takes one hour to travel the 9 miles from Cropwell Bishop to town. Only those who have no alternative will use this tedious route. There is a direct service, the 33x, which takes 35 minutes, but only runs in the 'wrong' direction at peak times! Those of us fortunate to have a car tend to travel to the 'park and ride' at Stragglethorpe and catch the fast Cotgrave Connection or drive to Radcliffe and catch the 'Mainline' service (total journey time around 35 minutes).

Before the dreadful Covid struck, suggestions as to how the 33 route could be made more attractive were put to CT4N in October 2019. They did not take any action. I emailed the County and yourself on June 3rd 2020 regarding 'The restoring of bus services after Covid 19'. Helpful replies were received from Pete Mathieson (June 12th) and yourself (June 15th) but the Covid 19 pandemic has of course put things on hold. I assume the public sector, which has been supporting services through the crisis will now continue to influence and arrange better integration of our bus services as we gradually return to the 'new normal'.

The City desperately needs revitalising by our visits for business, shopping, and leisure. An attractive, faster bus journey to town will help the environment and encourage us to leave our cars at home. Perhaps you can help persuade the County/CT4N to consider options such as the following (which make better use of the existing vehicles currently used on the route): -

Option 1. Run the 33 and a direct 33x as alternate buses every 1 ½ hrs (one vehicle travels out as 33 and back as 33x, next vehicle travels out as 33x and back as 33)

Option 2. One of buses runs as the existing Cotgrave loop to town (Broadmarsh) every hour. Second bus runs connecting service Cotgrave – Hollygate Estate - Cropwell's – Radcliffe every hour.

Option 3. Minor route changes around Cotgrave (Ringleas is already covered by Cotgrave Connection), avoiding double loop around Cropwell's, and taking unnecessary slack out of the current table would permit a 40 - 45-minute journey time Nottingham to Cropwell and leave time to run on from Cropwell to Radcliffe (looping round by the station).

A map showing the existing and suggested routes is attached for information. Options 2 and 3 are particularly attractive as they link in with your ambitions to improve the rail services and facilities at Radcliffe Station. A combination of options could provide a fast, direct commuter service **and** a daytime link to Radcliffe.

I look forward to hearing of some plans to improve our City/Cropwell/Radcliffe link services.