

## AMPNEY CRUCIS PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2015 IN THE VILLAGE HALL, AMPNEY CRUCIS.

Present: Councillors Doug Crook, David Hardy, Neil Holt, Simon Holt, Eleanor Toby and Tony Williams  
 Presiding: Councillor Neil Holt  
 Clerk: Jayne Webster

Also present: District Councillor David Fowles, Janet Campbell, Harold Stevens and Gerald Gaden.

	ACTION
<p><b>1. Apologies for absence</b>            Councillor Armitage and County Councillor Parsons</p>	
<p><b>2. Declaration of Interests</b>            None.</p>	
<p><b>3. Minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2015</b>  <b>Resolution 43/15</b> <i>The Chairman proposed and the Parish Council resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2015, be signed and adopted.</i></p>	
<p><b>4. Matters arising from the meeting held on 14 September 2015</b>            4.1 Drain cover opposite Dun Building – This has been replaced. However, Mr Stevens reported that the new one was even more dangerous and there were gaps around the edges for the wheels of scooters to fall through. The Clerk agreed to contact Paul Swift at Amey. <span style="float: right;">JW</span>            4.2 Gulley at the entrance of the Burial Ground – Paul Swift from Amey agrees that the gulley is low but believes that it is safe and GCC has no plans to alter, however, he will continue to monitor through routine inspection. Councillor Crook wanted it brought to GCC attention that this is the cheap option and not good enough. The Clerk agreed to contact Paul Swift. <span style="float: right;">JW</span>            4.3 Armed Forces Covenant – As agreed at the last meeting the Chairman signed the covenant. <span style="float: right;">JW</span>            4.4 The planning seminar slides were circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting.</p>	
<p><b>5. Reports from County and District Councillors</b>            District Councillor Fowles firstly apologised for not attending the previous meeting. He outlined the government's new initiative called 2020 Vision which encourages councils to work together in order to save resources. CDC have amalgamated the Planning and Licensing Departments in order to use resources more effectively as CDC believe that planning will be one of the most important areas over the next few years. With regard to the new proposed solar farm at Preston, which has recently been permitted by CDC, Councillor Fowles will send a copy of the conditions to the Clerk. The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council had written to CDC outlining the village's concerns.            Councillor Fowles also mentioned the planned meetings for the Local Plan consultation. The Chairman confirmed that representatives from the Parish Council would attend.            Councillor Crook asked how important Neighbourhood Plans were when CDC decide on planning applications. Councillor Fowles agreed that Neighbourhood Plans were certainly taken into consideration by CDC but are no guarantee that large developments will not proceed if they go against the Neighbourhood Plan. He felt that CDC were looking more at the quality of the objection rather than the quantity than they had in the past and it is now necessary to have a sound planning reason for objection.            The Chairman raised the issue of parking in Cirencester especially with an increasing population and reduced parking. Whilst it appeared to be the policy of CDC and Cirencester Town Council to encourage the use of public transport and the bike, this approach is not always practical. Councillor Fowles agreed that the car has to co-exist with the residents and he advised that he would always support the Parish Council as they represented the views of the village.</p>	
<p><b>6. Questions from the Public</b>            Mr Stevens asked about the WW1 photos and it was agreed that Councillor Crook would liaise with Mr Stevens who will provide the addresses and occupations of the servicemen.            Mr Gaden commented on two properties within the village that needed tidying up. Mr Stevens agreed to confirm who owned the properties and Councillor Williams will contact the owners. <span style="float: right;">TW</span>            Mr Gaden also asked about the resurfacing of the burial ground entrance. The Chairman advised that Amey had agreed to carry out the work the next time they were in the area doing a similar type of repair.</p>	
<p><b>7. Planning matters</b>            7.1 Decisions            681 15/03018/FUL Waterton Farm Change of use (sent in error by CDC) – CDC permit</p>	

683	15/03140/FUL	Birch House	Erection of Children's treehouse, tennis court & installation of air source heat pump (Retrospective) - CDC permit	
684	15/03139/LBC	Birch House	Listed building consent for Flue pipes & speakers -CDC refused	
686	15/03141/LBC	Birch House	Listed building consent for 15/03140/FUL – CDC permit	
687	15/01246/FUL	Ampney House	Erect treehouse (Retrospective) – CDC refused	
It was noted that no further action had been taken be CDC in relation to 15/01246/FUL.				
7.2 Outstanding applications				
675	15/02532/OUT	Land at Siddington Park	Extension to retirement community – letter sent	
689	15/03908/FUL	Leaholme	Amendment to 15/02961/FUL Increase depth to 900mm – no comment	
690	15/03946/FUL	Ampney Brook House	Extension of existing boundary wall – no comment	
691	15/03947/LBC	Ampney Brook House	Listed building consent for 15/03946/FUL –no comment	
692	15/03609/FUL	Ampney Manor	Proposed front porch extension, new windows, replacement of concrete render with natural stone and new entrance gateway	
A discussion followed regarding the Ampney Manor application. Whilst the Parish Council had no concerns regarding the proposed alterations to the house, they are concerned about the proposed new entrance gateway, since, as the stretch of road onto which the gateway opens is notoriously dangerous, the road safety implications of the proposed entrance gateway need to be carefully considered by CDC. The Chairman agreed to draft a letter outlining the Parish Council's concerns with regard to highway safety.				
693	15/04269/FUL	Old Park House	Proposed single storey rear extension – no comment	NH
7.3 Tree works				
688	15/03804/TCONR	Woodside House	Various – No objection	
District Councillor Fowles left at 8.35 pm.				
<b>8. Financial matters</b>				
8.1 Current financial position				
<b>Resolution 44/15</b> <i>The Chairman proposed and the Parish Council resolved that the financial statements prepared by the Responsible Financial Officer should be adopted by the Council as an accurate reflection of the Council's financial position on 28 October 2015.</i>				
8.2 Transfer of payments				
<b>Resolution 45/15</b> <i>The Chairman proposed and the Parish Council resolved that £250.00 be transferred from the Lloyds Treasurers account to the Imprest account.</i>				
8.3 Agreement of payments				
Clerk's expenses (£5.60), Cottage Garden Services (£207.36 including vat), Wilmots Solicitors (£183.00) and The Playground Inspection Company (£75.00 including VAT)				
<b>Resolution 46/15</b> <i>The Chairman proposed and the Parish Council resolved that the above amounts, totalling £470.96, be paid.</i>				
8.4 Draft budget 2016 -17				
Proposals were circulated to all the Councillors prior to the meeting. The Chairman went through the proposals highlighting new areas of expenditure such as the need to increase the Burial Ground Maintenance Fund to provide funds for the extra work needed to incorporate the newly acquired land adjacent to the burial ground and its subsequent maintenance.. It was also proposed to make provision in the budget for Councillor expenses and training, website hosting, dog bins, road signs, notice boards, repairs to the footpath along the A417 and future repairs to the Praying Cross and the War Memorial. A lengthy discussion followed and it was agreed that the Parish Council needed to increase the level of reserves for planned projects. The Chairman asked all Councillors to provide him with their thoughts within the next couple of weeks and a final decision would be made at the January 2016 meeting.				
8.5 The Ampney Times budget				
Mr Frank Skinner had prepared a budget for 2016-17 which included contributions from all three villages. The Chairman proposed that Ampney Crucis Parish Council should provide the total amount, as the contributions from Ampney St Mary and Ampney St Peter were so small. This was agreed by all the Councillors.				
8.6 Review of Risk assessment document				
<b>Resolution 47/15</b> <i>The Chairman proposed and the Parish Council agreed that the Risk Assessment document as</i>				

*shown on pages 1318–1325 of the minutes be adopted.*

#### 8.7 Review of Assets Register

**Resolution 48/15** *The Chairman proposed and the Parish Council agreed that the Assets Register as shown on page 1326 of the minutes be adopted.*

#### 8.8 Grass cutting contract

The three year contract will be reviewed in November 2016.

#### 8.9 Transparency Code

The Chairman reported that the application for funding to enable the Parish Council to meet the requirements of the Transparency Code has been submitted.

**DC**

### 9. Burial Ground

9.1 The relocation of the bench to the burial ground is still in hand with Councillor Crook.

#### 9.2 Update on burial ground clear up

The Chairman reported that the burial ground clear up was a success but a further morning would be needed. This will take place in early to mid December and be advertised in The Ampney Times. In addition, it was agreed that the tree at the southern end of the burial ground needs to be removed. Councillor Williams will obtain a quote for its removal and provide details of the tree to the Clerk so that a planning application can be sent to CDC.

**TW  
JW**

#### 9.3 Future works required to incorporate new land

This was discussed during item 8.4. In addition Mr Adrian Grazebrook has very kindly registered the land adjacent to the burial ground on behalf of the Parish Council and the Parish Council would like to thank him his time.

### 10. Village Update

#### 10.1 Playground

Councillor S. Holt advised that the annual playground inspection has been completed. A number of repairs have been identified which will be undertaken by the Playground Committee. These include the replacement of various bolts and pins and also damage to the flooring under the climbing frame was highlighted. Councillor S. Holt will draw up an action list and circulate to both the Playground Committee and the Clerk.

**SH**

#### 10.2 Ampney Times

The total reserves are £320.31 as at 28 October 2015. There is £124.64 remaining in the budget allocation.

#### 10.3 Footpaths

BAC 20 – the landowner has organised for the footpath to be cleared and the stile to be repaired at the entrance to the lane.

BAC 2 – the agent has agreed to repair two stiles.

In addition the agent for Crucis Park Farm has asked their gardener to clear the footpaths on their land.

**TW  
DC**

#### 10.4 Praying Cross

Councillor Crook and Williams are still in the process of assessing the tree work required beyond the Praying Cross boundary.

#### 10.5 Photos and details of village men in WW1

The Chairman reported that he has looked into the available funding from the Armed Forces Fund and as this project does not directly impact on current servicemen, such funding is unlikely to be available. Councillor Crook will continue to look into options for printing the photos.

#### 10.6 Date for second burial ground clear up and annual village clear up

See item 9.2. It was decided to postpone the village clear up until Spring 2016.

#### 10.7 Village Hall update

Councillor Toby reported that the village hall has received a grant for £3,000 from CDC and there are plans to decorate the toilets. There are also plans to install a new projector and possibly include internet access.

### 11. Highways

- **Drainage at junction of A417 & Riding Lane**

GCC have replaced a section of the culvert and removed a large amount of tree roots, however, further tree cutting is required, which is still in hand with Amey. The gulleys and drains have been cleared at the junction with Riding Lane and also on the island opposite the junction. GCC found that water is leaking from a damaged electricity cable conduit, this has been repaired but they cannot guarantee that the problem has been completely resolved. However, GCC is confident that the system works well and any

surface water getting into the gully will run away.

- **Traffic calming measures on A417 between Crown of Crucis and the entrance to Ampney Park**  
New chevrons still need to be installed on the Cirencester bound side, at the public footpath and close to Waterton Farm.
- **Footpath along A417**  
GCC still need to confirm the cost of resurfacing the footpath adjacent to Ampney Park. In addition, Councillor Crook advised that the footpath from the Crown of Crucis to School Lane needs digging back. Clerk agreed to arrange a site meeting with GCC to assess the situation.
- **Signage on A417 at each end of Ampney Crucis.**  
The Chairman has contacted GCC with the revised wording for the reverse side of the sign. GCC still need to confirm the total cost of the signs, including installation.
- **Potholes on Hunts Hill and at the A417 junction at the Crown of Crucis**  
These have now been repaired.

**JW**

## **12. Correspondence received**

12.1 Letter from GCC regarding Gloucestershire's Draft Local Transport Plan Consultation. This will run between 20<sup>th</sup> November 2015 and 5<sup>th</sup> February 2016. This was noted by the Parish Council.

12.2 Email from GAPTC regarding future Code of Conduct training from CDC. The anticipated cost is £35 per delegate and the Parish Council has registered their interest with GAPTC.

12.3 Letter from CDC regarding Cotswold District Local Plan – Local Plan Regulation 18 Consultation which is now available for public comment from 6<sup>th</sup> November until 21<sup>st</sup> December 2015. A poster has been displayed on the village hall notice board. The Parish Council has also received details on how to comment and this has been passed to Councillor S. Holt.

**SH**

## **13. Any Other Business**

None

## **14. Date, time and place of next meeting**

Dates for 2016 were agreed: 11 January, 14 March, 16 May, 11 July, 12 September and 14 November. All the meeting will be held in the village hall and start at 7.15pm, apart from the May meetings. These will start at 7.00pm with the Annual Parish Meeting, which will be immediately followed by the Annual Meeting of the Council.

The meeting closed at 10.10 pm