

## AMPNEY CRUCIS PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2021

Present: Cllrs Doug Crook, David Fowles and Nick Wright

Presiding: Cllr Crook

Clerk: Jayne Webster

In attendance: 3 villagers

**1. Apologies for absence** Cllrs Eccles and Spivey

**2. Declaration of interests and gifts or hospitality given or received** None

**3. To note the Clerk's resignation and appoint a new RFO**

The Chair thanked the Clerk for all her hard work.

**Resolution 48/21** *The Chair proposed and the Parish Council resolved that Cllr Wright would temporarily take on the duties of the Responsible Financial Officer until the position of clerk was filled.*

**4. Minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2021**

**Resolution 49/21** *The Chair proposed and the Parish Council resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2021, be approved and signed.*

It was also noted that the Parish Council had received a further request to view emails mentioned in the notes made after an informal meeting on 24 May 2021. The Chair responded stating that the Parish Council considers the matter closed.

**5. Matters arising from the meeting held on 8 July 2021**

**5.1 Co-option of a new member** – flyers were distributed around the village and several offers of assistance were received.

**Resolution 50/21** *The Chair proposed and the Parish Council unanimously agreed that Mrs Janice Mills be co-opted as a member of Ampney Crucis Parish Council.*

Cllr Mills signed her Declaration of Office.

**5.2 New logo and strap line for the Council** - Cllr Wright investigated using the design from the village entrance signs and feels it would be too complicated to replicate. The Parish Council agreed to use the bridge design when required.

**6. To receive update from the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) Steering Group**

Cllr Fowles, interim Chair of the NDP Steering Group, advised that the new team plan to have a meeting before Christmas to discuss the way forward.

**7. District and County Reports from Cllr Spivey**

**District Report**

- Creation of the CDC Flood Warden Programme.
- Net Zero Construction Toolkit designed to help all housebuilders to combat the climate emergency, reduce carbon emissions & provide healthy, economically efficient homes. To download the toolkit: <https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/media/05couqdd/netzero-carbon-toolkit.pdf>
- The Local Plan update is continuing and once CDC members have been briefed Cllr Coxoon intends to brief Town and Parish Councils particularly regarding the evidence relating to SHELAA.
- Car Parks at Abbey Grounds, the Old Station and the Leisure Centre are now all cashless, payment can be made using card, contactless, by phone or by using the PayByPhone app.

DF

**County Report**

- Cllr Spivey reiterate her offer to meet with the Parish Council and Richard Gray from Highways to discuss the outstanding highway issues in the village.
- As part of Covid Recovery, GCC has allocated £40,000 to each councillor to use in their division to support local community schemes to encourage community re-building post pandemic. Cllr Spivey would welcome all ideas.

**8. Questions from the public**

- A villager advised that they had contacted both GCC, Highways and Cllr Spivey requesting the speed limit along the A417 to be reduced.
- Following on from the above the Chair agreed to contact the school to ask them to circulate a note to all parents about speeding through the village.

**9. Planning matters****9.1 Decisions**

870	21/04350/FUL	Pippins	Erection of replacement dwelling and detached garage.	CDC refuse
-----	--------------	---------	---	------------

**9.2 Outstanding applications**

Applications previously discussed but still pending with CDC:			
877	21/00429/FUL	Waterton Farm	Erection of agricultural building.
New and revised applications:			
890	21/02001/LBC	Ampney Park	External repairs & replacement windows & upgrades
891	21/01854/FUL	4 London Road	Erection of a new dwelling & detached garage. ACPC objects.
893	21/02806/FUL	The Garth	Single storey Front & rear extension & dormer to rear, loft conversion & rooflights to front, balcony to rear – comments submitted.
894	21/02840/FUL	3 Donkey Field	Loft conversion, side/rear extension & alterations – comments submitted.

**9.3 Tree Applications**

895	21/02570/TCONR	Nurses Cottage	Yew – fell. Walnut – remove branch. No objection.
896	21/02745/TCONR	Cotswold Fasteners	Tree group in car park – crown lift to 3m. No objection.

**10. Highways matters**

The Chair explained that there were still outstanding issues with Highways and he will draw up a list of all the concerns and liaise with Cllr Spivey and Richard Gray at GCC.

**11. Financial Matters****11.1 Current financial position**

**Resolution 51/21** *The Chair 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 August 2021.*

DC

DC/LS

## 11.2 Approval of payments

Phoenix Software Ltd – Microsoft subscription (£62.10 including vat), J E Webster – salary 1<sup>st</sup> August (£433.16), D Crook – reimbursement for metal posts for notice boards (£96.00), Phoenix Software Ltd (£58.93 including vat), Countrywide Grounds Maintenance – August cut (£333.95 including vat), Greenfields Garden Services Ltd - playground (£743.65 including vat), Jeremy Phillips – dry stone wall (£2,089.42), James Phillips – dry stone wall (£600.00), Countrywide Grounds Maintenance – September cut (£333.95 including vat), J E Webster – salary 1<sup>st</sup> September (£433.16) and J E Webster – clerk’s expenses from 22-05-2021 to 03-09-2021 (£29.49).

**Resolution 52/21** *The Chair proposed and the Parish Council resolved that the above amounts, totalling £5,223.81, be approved and paid, including retrospective approval of payments made prior to meeting.*

The Ampney Times is in the process of refunding advertising costs for adverts not published during the pandemic.

## 11.3 To approve the insurance renewal

A discussion followed regarding the increase in annual premiums recommended by brokers Came & Company. The Parish Council’s three-year agreement has come to end, which may account for some of the increase.

**Resolution 53/21** *The Chair proposed and the Parish Council resolved that an annual insurance premium of £1,117.71(including IPT and admin fee) should be paid to Arthur J. Gallagher, for a year’s cover from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021 until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 with insurers Pen Underwriting Limited.*

## 12. Burial Ground

**New stone wall** – the new wall is complete and the Chair will arrange for a digger and rotavator to remove the surplus stone and make good the area.

**Signage update** – the Chair is waiting for the playground signs to be finalised before ordering signs for the burial ground.

**Removal of tree branch** – The Chair advised that a villager reported a dangerous branch. The Chair has obtained three quotes for various tree works in the burial ground. The Parish Council agreed that the work should go ahead and once specified, the Chair and Cllr Wright will decide which contractor to use. Planning permission will also be required.

## 13. Village Update

### 13.1 Playground

Cllr Mills agreed to take on the role of Playground co-ordinator.

### 13.2 Footpaths

The Chair advised that footpaths BAC 2, 3, 6 and 7, on Crucis Park Farm (CPF) land, have now been cleared, although he did not think that CPF should have used Cotswold Wardens.

### 13.3 To receive update on bus shelter

Cllr Wright advised that he was still waiting for confirmation from GCC regarding the use of anti-vandal materials.

### 13.4 To receive update on the War Memorial bench and oak posts

The Chair advised that the bench at the War Memorial has been very kindly refurbished by Harold Stevens and David Broadhurst. The Parish Council thanked them for their time and effort.

### 13.5 To receive update on dog bins

The Chair advised that currently CDC are reviewing their waste bin policy and are currently unable to supply new bins.

### 13.6 To note date of the next defibrillator training session

The next defibrillator training session will be on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September in the village hall at 6pm. Any villager wishing to attend should contact [clerk@ampneycrucis.org.uk](mailto:clerk@ampneycrucis.org.uk)

### 13.7 To discuss extending the grass cutting contract

The Chair advised that he had met with Countrywide Grounds Maintenance and discussed several new areas which could be added to the grass cutting contract. The Chair will collate the information and present to the Parish Council.

### 13.8 To agree date for the village litter pick

A village litter pick will take place on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October. Clerk to contact CDC regarding equipment.

JW

DC

DC/NW

NW

DC

JW

**14. Correspondence received**

**14.1** Email from Down Ampney Parish Council regarding their letter to Thames Water. Noted by the Parish Council.

**14.2** Email from GCC regarding winter maintenance contacts. Clerk responded.

**14.3** Email from Julia Judd regarding the CDC Conservatives' response to Quenington Parish Council's letter to CDC regarding planning concerns.

**14.4** Email from Joe Harris, Leader of CDC, in response to Quenington PC's letter regarding planning.

**14.5** Email from the 20s Plenty Group, which campaigns for a 20-mph limit for all residential areas, asking for support from Councils. Noted by the Parish Council.

**14.6** Email from CDC regarding the Register of Electors Annual Canvass. Noted by the Parish Council.

**14.7** Email from CPRE advising of the next phase of the Stone Stile Project within the county and asking for volunteers to collate the information. Noted by the Parish Council and further discussion followed regarding installing steps at the stone stile along the Village Street

**15. Matters outstanding**

Cllr Fowles advised that the Village Hall Committee are in the process of replacing the heating system and will be asking for villagers to help redecorate the walls of the main hall once installed.

**16. To note date, time and place of the next meeting**

Thursday 11 November 2021 at 7.15 pm in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.