

AMPNEY CRUCIS PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON
THURSDAY, 10th NOVEMBER 2022**

Present: Cllrs Doug Crook, David Fowles, Jan Mills, Lis Courtown, Nick Wright, Jacky Leadbeater, Ross Leadbeater.

Presiding: Cllr Crook

Clerk: Roz Morton

In attendance: Cllr Lis Spivey (CDC & GCC)

No:	Item:
066 22/23	To note apologies for absence – None
067 22/23	To note declarations of interest & gifts or hospitality given or rec'd. None.
068 22/23	To approve minutes of the meeting held on 13 th October 2022. Resolution 34/22-23. It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 th October 2022 were a true and accurate record of the meeting. Proposed Cllr Mills, seconded Cllr Courtown, all in favour.
069 22/23	Matters arising from the meeting held on 13th October 2022
69.1	To receive an update on Clean & Green team street sign cleaning Mille & Joe from CDC have cleaned some of the signs in the village, but were unable to reach others.
	ACTION: Clerk to ascertain which still require cleaning.
69.2	To note response from GAPTC re precept compensation to neighbouring parish GAPTC has advised that it would not be proper to give precepted money to a neighbouring parish.
69.3	Update on Village Hall WIFI The Village Hall committee are supportive of the idea to install WIFI.
	ACTION: Clerk to contact Gigaclear to get further information and costs.
070 22/23	To receive reports from County and District Councillor Cllr Spivey reported on the following: CDC are consulting on their budget and residents are urged to take part in the consultation. Information can be found online and at public engagement events across the district. CDC are reviewing the Council Tax support scheme to ensure that the most vulnerable are receiving adequate support. Extra discretionary rate relief is available for the most vulnerable. Work is ongoing by the Communities Team to sign post people to the help that is available to help combat the cost-of-living crisis. £40k is being set aside to help set up food networks across the district. Tetbury has a good scheme already running with a community larder. Cirencester Leisure Centre has new equipment and the environmental measures taken to improve the building are helping to keep running costs down. Crowdfund Cotswold has reached £.5M of pledges.

	<p>There is a Central Gov't fund, Rural England Prosperity Fund, that CDC are making applications to. CDC welcome ideas for schemes that could be funded, particularly those centred around sustainable transport.</p> <p>Voter ID will be in force at the May 2023 elections.</p> <p>GCC passed a motion to combat violence against women and girls and resolved to become an accredited "White Ribbon" county. Use of the Flare App is encouraged.</p> <p>ACTION: Cllr Crook to add info on the Flare App to Psst.</p> <p>GCC continue to put pressure on water companies to reduce the sewage outflow into local rivers. A River Task Group has been set up and is lobbying Gov't to give the EA resources to properly tackle river pollution.</p> <p>GCC are lobbying Gov't to raise the issue of NHS dentistry and the lack of provision in the County.</p> <p>Homes for Ukraine has 331 people registered in the County (266 have already arrived). 366 school places have been made available.</p> <p>A meeting is arranged with Richard Gray (Glos. Highways) for 11.11.22. Footpaths have still not been cleared.</p> <p>Cllr Crook requested that when the hedges are cut back along the highway, they are reduced sufficiently to allow the verge to be properly mowed and pedestrians to walk along the verge.</p> <p>Cllr Fowles asked what the implications of shelving the Recovery Investment Strategy (loan of £750M) for residents will be and how much of the £350k set aside for consultancy fees has been spent.</p> <p>Cllr Spivey explained that borrowing money was no longer a viable option due to a change in rules and the increase in interest rates. CDC aim to not cut services but are working on an alternative strategy. Information on the consultancy fee spend was not readily available and she suggested that Cllr Fowles writes to her for a more detailed response.</p> <p>Cllr Fowles commended CDC on the facilities available at the leisure centre at Cirencester and asked whether the costs of running the Centre were being subsidised by rate payers, many of whom don't use the facility and whether the pricing structure is likely to be changed.</p> <p>Cllr Spivey responded that the facility is predominantly for the health and well-being of residents rather than a money-making facility. She is not aware of any plans to raise prices.</p>
071 22/23	To receive questions from the Public – N/A
072 22/23	Planning matters
72.1	<p>To receive planning decisions – received without comment.</p> <p>22/03685/TCONR T1 - Hazel - fell Cumberland House Ampney Crucis Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5RY – NO OBJECTION</p> <p>22/03586/TCONR Portuguese Laurel to reduce in height to 1 m above the boundary hedge. Damson to reduce by 50% and remove the regrowth and tidy. Crab apple to reshape. Beech hedge on boundary to reduce the overhanging branches in line Annexe At Nurses Cottage 9 Ampney Crucis Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5RY – NO OBJECTION</p> <p>22/03264/COMPLY Compliance with Condition 7 (Construction Method Statement) of permission 19/02050/FUL- Demolition of existing buildings and erection of a new</p>

	outbuilding for garaging, stabling, storage, office use and ancillary self-contained accommodation Waterton House Waterton Lane Ampney Crucis Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5RR - PERMIT
72.2	<p>To consider and agree response to the following planning applications: Further information has been received on the wall and hedge planned for Barnes Cottage on School Lane. The Council raised concerns on the height of the proposed hedge and the location of the wall in relation to the pavement. The Council would like to request that the application has further communication with neighbouring residents as their outlook is going to be impacted by the proposed wall and hedge.</p> <p>ACTION: Cllr Crook to contact the applicant/agent to express the concerns of the Council.</p>
72.3	<p>To consider and agree response to tree work applications: 22/03843/TCONR T1 (Whitebeam) - Previously shaded to north and has significant crown bias. Reduce top height by c.2m and reduce southern lateral spread by c.2m to balance crown The Rectory Ampney Crucis Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5RY – No objections were raised by the Council.</p>
073 22/23	To receive update regarding Highways issues
73.3	<p>To consider and agree the next steps for the bus shelter project. Information on where the proposed bus shelter at The Pleydells could be located has not been received. Once the Council has that information, the village will be canvassed to ascertain if the shelters are wanted by residents.</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to chase Glos Highways for information.</p>
73.4	<p>Update on highways trees at the top of School Lane & A417 verge and to consider and agree any action to be taken by ACPC. The tree is on land owned by the Parish Council and therefore the Council will arrange for the lower branches to be lifted.</p> <p>ACTION: Cllr Crook to arrange for the branches to be removed.</p>
074 22/23	Financial matters
74.1	<p>To consider and agree to approve payments in the normal course of business (see attached list). Resolution 35/22-23. It was RESOLVED to approve the payments, Proposed Cllr Mills, seconded Cllr Fowles, all in favour.</p>
74.2	<p>To consider and agree to approve statement of accounts and expenditure for the period up to 1st November 2022 Resolution 36/22-23. It was RESOLVED to approve the statement of accounts and expenditure for the period up to 1st November 2022, Proposed Cllr Mills, seconded Cllr Fowles, all in favour.</p>

74.3	<p>To receive reconciliation statements for October 2022 Discussion took place regarding consolidating the three Lloyds accounts, two of which are not used. It was agreed that this was a sensible approach. Cllr Wright suggested that the Council should look to move an amount of money from Lloyds into a longer-term saving account to keep within the £85k limit for protection under the FSCS. The Council agreed that this was a sensible approach.</p> <p>ACTION: Cllr Crook and the Clerk to look at potential accounts and report back to Council for a formal decision.</p>
74.4	<p>To consider and agree first draft budget for 2023/24 A draft budget was circulated. The following changes were made: Ampney Times increased to cover printing costs £500 Grants & donations to be reduced to £1000 Additional quotes for CCTV to be obtained. Clerk's salary to be increased to the agreed NALC scale point 24 rate. Precept increase to be kept to as close to 2%, or lower, as possible.</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to make changes to the budget and present it at the January Agenda for agreement.</p>
75 22/23	Burial ground & War Memorial
75.1	<p>To consider and agree to commission Thames Water to instal a new connection at a cost of £5,655 It was agreed to not go ahead with a water connection, instead, 4 new water butts will be installed at the Lych Gate.</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to purchase 4 x 220l water butts and interconnecting equipment.</p>
76 22/23	Village Matters
76.1	<p>To receive update on playground matters The main gate into the playing field requires a spring to shut it after opening. The Playground Committee would like the Council to consider taking on the responsibility for the Playground in 2024.</p> <p>ACTION: Cllr Crook to purchase a spring for the gate. ACTION: Clerk to add to a future Agenda at the formal request of the Playground Committee.</p>
76.2	<p>To consider and agree to set up an Ampney Crucis Parish Council Facebook page The Council agreed that a Facebook page is not currently necessary.</p>
76.3	<p>To receive an update on the response from Psst regarding forming a committee to run the parish newsletter. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council will take on the job of producing a bi-monthly Newsletter for distribution in Ampney Crucis and the surrounding villages.</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to produce a bi-monthly newsletter with articles and information from local groups and the Church starting in March 2023.</p>

	<p>ACTION: Cllr Crook to put out a Psst requesting that local groups send the Clerk their diary of events and associated posters.</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to contact Rev'd. John Swanton to discuss including info from the church.</p>
76.4	<p>To receive an update on the Cricket Club Trust and agree any actions The Council has requested information on the Trust from Mr N. Tanner. The information has not yet been received.</p> <p>ACTION: Cllr Crook to contact Mr Tanner to request the information.</p>
77 22/23	To receive correspondence
77.1	<p>Regular news updates from GCC & CDC A card from His Majesty King Charles II in recognition of the letter of condolence sent.</p>
78 22/23	<p>Any other business: to discuss minor matters, not included elsewhere on the agenda, or matters received after the publication of the agenda. Not an opportunity for debate and decision making.</p> <p>Cllr Mills reported on a meeting with the Head Teacher of the primary school. Parking at school drop off was discussed and Cllr Mills requested that staff park at the front of the school rather than on the road to alleviate parking at drop-off times. The school were unable to accommodate this request however an email was sent out to all parents requesting that drivers are considerate of the neighbouring properties and do not block driveways.</p> <p>The idea of a Council representative on the PTA was mooted.</p>
79 22/23	<p>Date and time of next meeting Thursday 12th January 7.15pm</p>

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.40pm