

AMPNEY CRUCIS PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY
11TH JANUARY 2024**

Present: Cllrs Doug Crook, Jan Mills, Lis Courtown, Jacky Leadbeater, Ross Leadbeater, Nick Wright, Clint Grimmer
 Presiding: Cllr Doug Crook
 Clerk: Roz Morton
 In attendance: 9 members of the public.

No:	Item:
067 23/24	To note apologies for absence Cllr Spivey
068 23/24	To note declarations of interest & gifts or hospitality given or rec'd None
069 23/24	To approve minutes of the meeting held on 6th December 2023 Resolution 40/23-24. It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 6 th December were a true and accurate record of the meeting. Proposed Cllr Crook, seconded Cllr R Leadbeater, all in favour.
070 23/24	Matters arising from the meeting held on 9th November 2023 All matters are covered by this Agenda
071 23/24	Matters arising from the meeting held on 6th December 2023 ACPC will be putting in an objection to the Ampney Park development in due course. Additional information requested from the applicant at that meeting is yet to be forthcoming. Glos Highways met with the agent this week, and we await his report. Once the Council is in possession of all the relevant information, a robust objection will be submitted.
072 23/24	To receive questions from the public Mr Tanner raised a question regarding drainage concerns given the ongoing tankering on School Lane and asked if there was any more information on the uprating of the pumping station at Ampney St Peter. Cllr Crook reported that the Council was in correspondence with Thames Water. TW have confirmed that an upgrade for Ampney St Peter is planned for 2026 and that TW are investigating the impact of groundwater on the sewer network in this area. Requests have been made for both the clean and foul water network maps. Cllr Crook also mentioned the importance of landowners looking after the ditches on their land and keeping them clear. Mr Ryder requested information on the Ampney Park development. Cllr Crook briefly outlined the concerns raised by the village, namely highways access and noise and reported that the Council would be submitting a robust objection. The Council will consider engaging a planning consultant to assist with the objection in due course.

	Discussion took place regarding the Land South of Dudley Farm - see item 75.2 below.
073 23/24	To receive reports from County and District Councillor No report was received.
074 23/24	Financial matters
74.1	To receive bank reconciliations for November & December 2023 Received without comment.
74.2	To consider and agree to approve statement of accounts and expenditure for the period up to 3 rd January 2024 Resolution 41/23-24. It was RESOLVED to approve the statement of accounts as presented. Proposed Cllr Crook, seconded Cllr Mills, all in favour.
74.3	To consider and agree to approve payments in the normal course of business. Resolution 42/23-24. It was RESOLVED to approve the payments as presented. Proposed Cllr Crook, seconded Cllr Mills, all in favour.
74.4	To consider and agree to award grass cutting contract to Countrywide Grounds Maintenance and agree the start date. Resolution 43/23-24. It was RESOLVED to award the grass cutting contract to Countrywide and to start the contract in March. Proposed Cllr Crook, seconded Cllr Mills, all in favour. ACTION: Clerk to request a copy of Countrywide's Health & Safety policies.
74.5	To consider and agree pay award for Clerk. Resolution 44/23-24. It was RESOLVED to move the Clerks remuneration to SCP26 from April 1 st 2024. Proposed Cllr Crook, seconded Cllr Mills, all in favour.
74.6	To receive a report from the Village Hall meeting to ascertain if any additional funding is required for the solar panel project. The Village Hall Committee representatives thanked the Council for the £5000 donation already received. Fundraising has been ongoing since the last meeting and additional donations have been received. A grant for £2000 from Glos CC is expected, but will miss the 19 th January deadline. If the total is not reached by 19 th Jan, then all monies will be returned. The Committee has shortlisted two companies to carry out the work, CP Jeffries and Cotswold Energy. The installation will consist of 24 panels and 3 batteries. The contract will be awarded after 1 st Feb to take advantage of new legislation which exempts charities from paying VAT on solar panels. Resolution 45/23-24. It was RESOLVED to donate the shortfall in funds required for the Solar Panel Project – the amount will be decided on 17 th January 2024 and will not exceed £3091. Proposed Cllr Crook, seconded Cllr Mills, all in favour. ACTION: Clerk to liaise with Village Hall Committee on 17th January and action the necessary transfer in accordance with Council financial regulations.
74.7	To consider and agree 2024 – 2025 Budget. It was agreed to add a line to the budget for “legal & professional costs” with a budget of

	<p>£1000. The Clerks salary line was amended to reflect the change in spine point agreed above. With these changes, a budget of £26,883.65 was agreed. A copy of the budget will be filed with these minutes.</p> <p>Resolution 46/23-24. It was RESOLVED to agree the budget. Proposed Cllr Crook, seconded Cllr Wright, all in favour.</p>
74.8	<p>To consider and agree 2024 - 2025 Precept request.</p> <p>Resolution 47/23-24. It was RESOLVED to request a precept of £26,884. This will be an increase of 2.5% on last year. Proposed Cllr Crook, seconded Cllr Mills, all in favour.</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to send precept request to CDC.</p>
74.9	<p>To consider and agree way forward to replace missing VAS unit.</p> <p>Discussion took place.</p> <p>It was agreed that solar option was preferred, however further information on the reliability of the batteries, how often they have to be changed/charged and the efficiency of charging in dull weather was required. The chosen unit should have a smiley/sad face display.</p> <p>Resolution 48/23-24. It was RESOLVED, in principle, to approve the purchase of one unit to replace the missing one with a view to perhaps replacing the unit currently sited at Ampney Park in the future. Proposed Cllr R Leadbeater, seconded Cllr Grimmer, all in favour.</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to get additional information from ElanCity regarding battery life etc. and get a quote for consideration.</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to contact Glos Highways to ascertain if there are alternative sites that could be used to place the unit in the future.</p>
74.10	<p>To consider and agree to appoint an internal auditor</p> <p>Resolution 49/23-24. It was RESOLVED to appoint Mrs V Lawrence as internal auditor. Proposed Cllr Crook, seconded Cllr Mills, all in favour.</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to contact Mrs Lawrence to arrange a date for the audit.</p>
75 23/24	Planning Matters
75.1	<p>To receive decision notices: received without comment.</p> <p>23/03490/FUL Variation of condition 18 (passing bay) of permission 21/04443/FUL - Erection of 1 no. detached dwelling with basement and attached garage Land South Of Back Lane Ampney Crucis Gloucestershire – REFUSED</p> <p>23/01741/FUL Erection of 1 no. detached dwelling with detached carport Land South Of Back Lane Ampney Crucis Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5RZ – PERMIT</p> <p>23/01865/FUL Erection of 2 no. dwellings with associated ancillary development Land South Of Back Lane Ampney Crucis Gloucestershire – PERMIT</p> <p>23/02729/FUL Erection of one and a half storey rear extension, new dormer windows to front elevation and associated works Ash House Bungalow Ampney Crucis Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5RY - PERMIT</p> <p>23/02929/COMPLY Compliance with condition 3 (sample roofing), 4(Details), 5 (Rooflights) & 6 (Staircase / balustrade) of permission 22/01682/FUL and condition 2(Roofing material), 3 (Details), 4 (Rooflights) & 5(Staircase / balustrade) of consent 22/01683/LBC - Conversion of garage into ancillary</p>

	<p>accommodation Ampney Brook House School Lane Ampney Crucis Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5RT – PERMIT</p> <p>23/03504/CLEUD Certificate of Lawful Existing Use or Development under Section 191 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for confirmation that the development granted under permission 20/02285/FUL has lawfully commenced Land South Of Back Lane Ampney Crucis Gloucestershire - PERMIT</p>
75.2	<p>To consider and agree response to the following planning applications:</p> <p>23/03194/LBC Partial replacement of windows and doors and installation of PV panels to former cowshed Ampney Brook House School Lane Ampney Crucis Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5RT</p> <p>Cllr Crook requested that the applicant consider installing less obtrusive solar panels to be more in keeping with the setting. He also queried the inclusion of wood cladding on the building as to whether it was appropriate.</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to chase up Planning Officer to ascertain if such a request has been made.</p> <p>23/03415/FUL Permanent mobile home for equestrian rural worker Talland School Of Equitation Ampney Knowle Barnsley Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5FD</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to chase up planning officer for a response to queries raised by Cllr Crook.</p> <p>23/03368/FUL Change of use of existing residential and ancillary buildings, demolition of modern buildings and structures and erection of new buildings together with access, parking and landscape works, repair of existing listed and curtilage listed structures, all in association with the proposed new use of the site as a function / events venue location including visitor accommodation and associated facilities (sui generis mix of uses) Ampney Park Ampney Crucis Cirencester GL7 5RY.</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to add to February Agenda for consideration.</p> <p>23/03158/FUL Demolition of garage and erection of detached garage/gym Well Cottage Hilcot End Ampney Crucis Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5HG.</p> <p>PLANNING APPEAL:</p> <p>Site Address: Land South of Dudley Farm Ampney Crucis Gloucestershire GL7 5SG Description of development: Erection of 2 no. dwellings, detached garage, detached annexe/garage, landscaping and other associated works Application Reference: 22/04296/FUL Appellant's name: Ms F. Huck Appeal Reference: APP/F1610/W/23/3324386 Appeal start date: 18 December 2023 – DEADLINE 22nd January 2024</p> <p>Mr Baxter shared his submission to the appeal and asked for support from the Parish Council. The Parish Council thanked Mr Baxter for the information. Cllr Crook will draft a submission which will reflect the original objection submitted by the Council. The Parish Council has also encouraged Glos Highways to comment on the appeal as they did not previously submit a comment on the original application. Cllr Crook has also contacted Cllr Spivey to ask her to support the Council's position.</p> <p>ACTION: Cllr Cook to draft a submission</p>

75.3	To consider and agree response to tree work applications and note decisions: received without comment. 23/03765/TCONR Tulip tree (T1) located at the back of the property, one low limb protruding over the wall and neighbours property, reduce limb back to the boundary wall The Old Rectory Ampney Crucis Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5RY – NO OBJECTION 23/03601/TCONR 2 x May Trees - fell to ground level Craiganmore Ampney Crucis Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5SG – NO OBJECTION
76 23/24	Burial ground
76.1	To note date for tree works to be carried out – 23 rd January Cllr R Leadbeater reported that the Rowan tree has been delivered and is ready to be planted. ACTION: Cllr R Leadbeater to liaise with Tony Williams to get the tree planted in the right place (opposite the WI tree). ACTION: Clerk to order a plaque for the tree and Cllr Crook to contact Harold to request that he creates a mount for the plaque.
77 23/24	Village Matters
77.1	To consider and agree to take on the management of the playground in light of the Playground committee being disbanded. The PTA will continue to organize the weekly check of the equipment. Resolution 50/23-24. It was RESOLVED to take on the management of the playground. Proposed Cllr Mills, seconded Cllr Crook, all in favour. ACTION: Clerk to contact Verity Hempson-Jones to request that the monies in the playground committee account are sent over to the PC. ACTION: Cllr R Leadbeater to contact Tony Williams to ask him to continue to cut the grass in the playground as he currently does, but to bill the Council.
77.2	To consider and agree attendance at the meeting at The Crown to discuss ways to alleviate the parking situation. Cllrs Wright & Mills agreed to attend the meeting on 12 th January and report back to the Council. There was no discussion at the meeting regarding the choice of attendees as the Chairman had advised Cllr Spivey (chair of said meeting) prior to the ACPC Council meeting.
78 23/24	To receive correspondence
78.1	Regular news updates from GCC & CDC
79 23/24	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.
80 23/24	Date and time of next meeting 8 th February 2024 at 7.15pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.55pm.