

CROXLEY GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF the 246th MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
ON THURSDAY 25 JUNE 2009

Present: Cllr Birch in the Chair Amanda Taft – Administrative Assistant

Cllrs Bains, Bennett, Brading, Brand, Hollands, C Jefford, Martin, Norman, Saxon, Seeley and Vassiliou

Voting Members: 12

Not Present: Cllr Seabourne

Also Present: Helen De Courcey, Croxley Green Community Centre/Village Hall

There were 2 members of the public present (one left at 8.25pm)

CC659/09 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Dann, Shafe and Wynne-Jones

CC660/09 Declarations of Interest by Members

The Chairman recommended that any declarations be made at the time.

CC661/09 Representations from the Public

Representations were made by one member of the public as follows:

“I would like to publicly give a vote of thanks to Amanda Taft. Not only did she cover the office while the Clerk has been away on holiday in a most efficient and professional way, but she successfully co-ordinated the preparation leading up to the Revels. On the day of the Revels, Amanda, on behalf of the Parish Council and for the benefit of the public, worked long and hard from start to finish. In my opinion, and I do hope you will all agree that this went far beyond the call of duty. I consider Amanda to be a fine Ambassador for the Parish Council and I wish to thank her once again for all her hard work.

Overall I felt it was a good team effort from all the Councillors present together with the volunteers who helped on the day. If Councillors were not helping with the smooth running of the Revels on site, then they were helping on the desks. I would like to give special thanks to Cllr Martin for all her hard work. I have a few ideas/observations, which you may wish to consider for next year. I will pass these onto the Clerk.

Turning now to another matter, I once again find myself asking the question ‘When will the Parish Council have their website up and running?’ I posed this question when I first started attending Parish Council meetings back in May 2007 and again about 3 months ago when I addressed this Council.”

The Chairman thanked the resident for all her help with the Revels.

CC662/09 Village Hall/Community Centre

The Chairman introduced this item and thanked Helen De Courcey, Honorary Secretary of Croxley Green Community Centre (CGCC) for attending the meeting to give a verbal update on the Village Hall and membership of the CGCC. It was advised that so far, five community groups have taken up the opportunity to use the Village Hall free of charge and there was the potential that other groups may also do so. Members were advised that Croxley Green Residents Association had recently held a fundraising evening. Regarding new Members, 71 application forms had been approved comprising of 78 family members, 14 single applications and 30 senior

citizens meaning a total of 122 new members. There are also 24 applications passed on by the Parish Council but pending approval by the CGCC Committee. Cllrs asked several questions which were unexpected given that the Agenda item was to receive a verbal update. It was asked if there were facilities to make tea and coffee and it was confirmed that there were. It was then asked if a Parish Councillor could sit in on meetings of the CGCC and it was clarified that a Cllr or the Clerk could sit in on meetings. It was then asked when the AGM is held and Members were advised that this meeting is held in January. It was asked if there had been any discussion about the outside works and Cllrs requested to be informed of any quotes received for work.

CC663/09

Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Seeley and seconded by Cllr Norman that the Minutes of the 245th Monthly Meeting of the Council held on Thursday 30 April 2009 be accepted. The proposal was agreed and the Chairman signed the Minutes.

It was proposed by Cllr Seeley and seconded by Cllr Saxon that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 30 April 2009 be accepted. The proposal was agreed and the Chairman signed the Minutes.

It was proposed by Cllr Saxon and seconded by Cllr Hollands that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 14 May 2009 be accepted. The proposal was agreed and the Chairman signed the Minutes.

CC664/09

Matters Arising from the Council meeting held 30 April 2009.

It was again asked why those who make representations are not named in the Minutes. A Cllr repeated the Clerk's previous response - that this is the format needed to achieve Quality Status. The Chairman recommended that if any Cllrs have strong views on this matter that they put a proposal forward when Standing Orders are being reviewed.

CC665/09

Committee Reports

CC665.1/09

Environment and Amenity Committee held on Tuesday 2 June 2009

It was proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Martin that the Minutes of the Environment and Amenity Committee held on Tuesday 2 June 2009 be adopted. The proposal was agreed.

CC665.2/09

Any matters arising

EA574/09 Minutes (EA568/09 Electricity). This item arose again as one Cllr believed that it was an environmental matter but the Chairman stated that this subject had already been discussed and a satisfactory explanation had previously been supplied by the Clerk.

EA575/09 Matters Arising (EA563/09; EA552/09 Parish Pump Delivery). It was asked if there was any more information regarding the problems with the recent delivery and the Chairman stated that this item would be placed on the Environment and Amenity Agenda for further discussion.

EA575/09 Matters Arising (EA566/09 Play Areas). A Cllr asked if the quote for the playground markings had been accepted and it was confirmed that it had been. The administrative assistant advised that work would begin during the week commencing 13 July 2009.

Concerns were raised that the wording in Minute EA566/09 stated 'under law' and in reference to the electricity (Minute EA574/09) that it 'may be illegal'. It was requested that in future if the law is quoted, that the relevant part of the law is stated.

- CC665.3/09 Planning and Development Committee held on Wednesday 6 May, Wednesday 20 May, Wednesday 3 June and Wednesday 17 June 2009
- It was proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Hollands that the Minutes of the Planning and Development Committee held on Wednesday 6 May, Wednesday 20 May, Wednesday 3 June and Wednesday 17 June 2009 be adopted. The proposal was agreed.
- CC665.4/09 Any matters arising
- There were no matters arising.
- CC665.5/09 Finance and Administration Committee held Thursday 11 June 2009
- It was proposed by Cllr Norman and seconded by Cllr Bains that the Minutes of the Finance and Administration Committee held Thursday 11 June 2009 be adopted. The proposal was agreed.
- CC665.6/09 Any matters arising
- FA512/09 Matters Arising (FA503/09; FA496/09 Parish Council's Communication Strategy). The Chairman advised that the domain name had now been confirmed as had new email addresses. The Chairman added that there staff training was scheduled for July and advised that only two days notice is needed for the website to go live.
- CC666/09 Chairman's Charity for 2010
- The Chairman introduced this item and informed those present that she had chosen the Scouts as her charity for 2009/10 and there was no objection from Cllrs. The Chairman added that she plans to organise a treasure hunt for 6 September 2009 to raise money for this Charity and requested that Cllrs put this date in their diaries.
- CC667/09 Land rear of 115 New Road, Croxley Green
- This item was introduced by the Chairman who referred Members to the correspondence that had been circulated with the Agenda. After some discussion it was proposed by Cllr Norman and seconded by Cllr Bains that the Parish Council requests that Derek Lofty and Associates appoints an engineer to provide a report detailing the ramifications and impact on the existing utility services following the intended build. It is also to be pointed out that we are only one of the three parties who have to agree to any access to mains services. The proposal was agreed.
- It was then requested that the Parish Council contacts Three Rivers District Council to clarify their position. It was asked that this matter be placed on the list of Cllr requested correspondence.
- CC668/09 Correspondence
- The Chairman referred those present to the list of relevant correspondence that had been circulated with the Agenda.
- CC668.1/09 Councillor requested correspondence
- Members noted the list of Cllr requested correspondence.
- CC668.2/09 Other correspondence
- Members noted the list of correspondence which was not exhaustive and it was clarified that the letter to NFU Mutual was regarding alleged damage to a vehicle from stones being flicked up by the side arm flail.
- CC669/09 Closure
- There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55pm.