

# CROXLEY GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF the 279<sup>th</sup> MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER  
ON THURSDAY 25 OCTOBER 2012

Present: Cllr Shafe in the Chair  
David Allison – Clerk to the Council  
Amanda Taft – Administrative Officer

Cllrs Baldwin, Brading, Brand, Dann, Edmunds, Getkahn, Isard-Brown, Jordan, Martin, Mitchell, Ridley and Seeley

Voting Members: 13

CC1136/12 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Bennett, Vane and Wynne-Jones.

CC1137/12 Declarations of Interest by Members

The Chairman recommended that any declarations of interest be made, if necessary, throughout the meeting.

CC1138/12 Representations from the Public

There were no public present.

CC1139/12 Minutes

**Resolved:**

- That the Minutes of the 278<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting of the Council held on Thursday 27 September 2012 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

With regard to the draft Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 9 October, a sentence in paragraph two of CC1139/12/S read “Regarding costs, Cllr Brading advised that the law provides for costs to be awarded, and, should the appeal be successful, TRDC will be responsible for All Saints’ Church costs”. It was requested that this wording be replaced with “Regarding costs, Cllr Brading considered that a public appeal for funds to help finance the appeal costs may be unnecessary, since he believed the law provides for costs to be awarded by the Court. Should the appeal be successful, TRDC may therefore find itself responsible for All Saints’ Church costs. In this event they would be borne by council tax payers across the district, including Rickmansworth, Chorleywood, Sarratt and Abbots Langley.”

- That the amended Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 9 October 2012 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

CC1140/12 Matters Arising

CC1124/12 (Matters Arising; CC1104.2/12 Matters Arising; EA876/12 Representations from the Public). The Clerk was asked for an update and he replied that he had not received a copy yet of the report on Stones Orchard from Julie Hughes yet.

CC1124/12 (Matters Arising; CC1104.4/12 Matters Arising; PD1869/12 Watford Road Car Parking). The Clerk was asked whether there was anything further to report and he replied that he had no more information.

CC1124/12 (Matters Arising; CC1116/12 Community Centre – Village Hall). The Clerk was asked for an update to which he advised that a meeting date has not yet been established as the Chairman of the Association had failed to reply to his requests. A Councillor highlighted the fact that they are in breach of contract and they have taken money under false pretences and the matter needs to be addressed.

CC1124/12 (Matters Arising; CC1104.2/12 Matters Arising; EA884/12 Installation of Posts on the Green). The Clerk was asked whether the meeting with the owners of Saltram Cottage had taken place to which the Clerk replied that it had and the posts will be installed with extreme caution due to underground pipes and cables in that area.

CC1127/12 (Police Community Support Officers). The Clerk was asked why an email from a resident in support of Parish Council funded PCSOs was included with the Minutes. The Clerk advised that this was part of Public Representations and as the member of the public had not been present and had requested that his views be brought to the attention of Council and this therefore seemed the most appropriate way of doing so in this instance.

CC1139/12/S (All Saints' Church Bells). The Clerk was asked if he had written to Reverend Miriam Mugan and he replied that he had and a copy had been circulated to all Councillors. The Clerk added that he would advise Councillors of the Appeal date when we are notified.

CC1132/12 (Croxley Rail Link). Cllr Mitchell was thanked for all his work on the Rail Link and for attending the Inquiry on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllr Mitchell was asked by one Cllr if he could get drawings and plans of the Rail Link and it was pointed out that all the Rail Link documents were available in the Parish Council for viewing.

CC1141/12 Committee Reports

CC1141.1/12 Environment and Amenity Committee held on Tuesday 4 September 2012

**Resolved:**

- That the Minutes of the Environment and Amenity Committee held on Tuesday 4 September 2012 be adopted as a report of the meeting.

CC1141.2/12 Any matters arising

EA899/12 (Representations from the Public). The Clerk was asked if representations should have been made about Croxfest as it was not an item on the Agenda. The Clerk believed that this matter had been resolved either by email or telephone. He explained that although it was inappropriate, the Chairman could not be expected to know what someone may say. Cllr Edmunds, as Chairman of the meeting concerned said that he would of allowed it anyway as the representations were merely to inform Councillors that they could speak to the member of the Croxfest Committee after the meeting if they would like.

EA903/12 (Nectar/Oasis sites on third party land). Cllr Edmunds advised that he had attended TRDC's Environmental Forum and had raised this subject with the local Friends of the Earth group who were also pursuing this matter.

CC1141.3/12 Planning and Development Committee held on Wednesday 5 September and Wednesday 19 September 2012

**Resolved:**

- That the Minutes of the Planning and Development Committee held on Wednesday 5 September and Wednesday 19 September 2012 be adopted as reports of the meetings.

CC1141.4/12 Any matters arising

PD1916/12 (Croxley Rail Link). Cllr Mitchell reported that he had attended the Public Inquiry on 2 separate occasions. He added that the Council's presence at the Inquiry had been important and a number of concessions had been achieved in particular that the Parish Council would have the opportunity of reviewing the viaduct design in

its pre-planning application form. He added that concerns had been expressed at the Inquiry by local businesses namely the Croxley Car Centre and Cinnamonds as well as in regards to the facility used by the Sea Cadets and Morris Minors. Further concerns had been expressed also concerning the boat moorings adjacent to Beggars Bush Lane.

Regarding the land swap, this did not go ahead and the Clerk confirmed that the application for an exchange land certificate in relation to the land at Lavrock Lane was no longer required and the relevant parts of the draft Order legislation had been amended.

PD1917/12 (TRDC Site Allocation – School Site, Baldwins Lane, Croxley Green). It was asked when a decision would be made and Cllr Brading advised that the Site Allocation document will go to the Secretary of State for approval. He added that there was currently no planning application for this site and confirmed that TRDC do not support this site as the site for the school. He further added that TRDC prefer one and County Council prefer the other of the two sites (Maple Cross and Mill End).

PD1918/12 (Community Plan). Cllr Jordan informed those present that work on the questionnaire was in its final stages. Cllr Mitchell thanked her for her work on this project.

CC1141.5/12 Finance and Administration Committee held 13 September 2012

**Resolved:**

- That the Minutes of the Finance and Administration Committee held on 13 September 2012 be adopted as a report of the meeting.

CC1141.6/12 Any matters arising

FA833/12 (External Redecoration of the Council Office). The Clerk was asked if the external decoration would start next week to which he replied that the external decoration had been completed.

CC1142/12 Events held/organised or supported by the Parish Council

The Chairman introduced this matter and asked Cllr Ridley if he had a seconder for his proposal and Cllr Brand said that he would second it. A long discussion ensued; Cllr Ridley said that he wants events to be successful but he felt that all Cllrs should have input and be advised of forthcoming events earlier. He added that he knew nothing about the Parish Council stall at Croxfest until the week before the event. It was noted that some events, for example the Revels and Croxfest are not organised by the Parish Council.

Other Cllrs felt that as Parish Council events are included in the budget, Cllrs should be fully aware of forthcoming events. There was also a general understanding that the Cllr who submits a budget item for an event will lead the organisation of the event but if other Cllrs wished to become involved they could offer their help. It was also considered that 16 Cllrs would be too many to organise an event as it would be very difficult to get things moving and it would not work well. It was felt that Cllrs are quite able to organise events without having to hold meetings. It was also pointed out that if any Cllr was unsure about what was going on, they could always ask.

Cllr Martin put forward a counter proposal that any events to be run by the Parish Council are to be included on the relevant agenda a month prior to the event taking place. Also a plan of action to be drawn up & held in the office to give details of preparations/activities/responsibilities prior to the event.

It was then suggested that forthcoming events are put as a standing item on agendas but some Cllrs felt that as they are elected by the public, their time should not be wasted in this way and it was also acknowledged that the Parish Council has only 2 staff to undertake all the administration for Croxley Green Parish Council. It was considered that emails were a satisfactory method of dealing with event organisation

as it was mainly an administrative task. The Clerk reiterated that the Parish Council only has two staff to deal with the administration of the Council and events and that Cllrs fail to understand the level and volume of work that is undertaken in the office.

There was no seconder for Cllr Martin's counter proposal and Cllr Ridley requested a recorded vote for his proposal original proposals. Cllrs Baldwin, Brading, Dann, Edmunds, Getkahn, Isard-Brown, Jordan, Martin, Mitchell, Seeley and Shafe voted against the proposal. Cllrs Brand and Ridley voted for the proposal.

**Resolved:**

- The motions put forward by Cllr Ridley were not agreed.

CC1143/12 Non sensitive information to be placed on Councils web site

The Chairman introduced this matter and asked Cllr Ridley if he had a seconder for his proposal but he did not and the motion failed.

**Resolved:**

- There was no seconder for Cllr Ridley's proposal and the motion failed.

CC1144/12 Budgets 2013/14

The Chairman introduced this matter and the Clerk reminded Cllrs that budgets would appear on all agendas and any budget proposals should be submitted as soon as possible. The Clerk was asked about the items which are automatically included in the budget and it was pointed out that Parish Council monies will be spent in a cost effective basis. The Clerk was then asked if suppliers can be changed and another Cllr advised that the budget and spending of the budget are two different matters.

CC1145/12 Farmers Market

The Chairman introduced this item and advised that Cllrs Martin and Mitchell have been working on this project. Cllr Mitchell informed those present that rather than 'Farmers Market', it will be called a 'Local Producers Market' and that it will be held on 9 March 2013 and hopefully would then be held once per month. The location has yet to be finalised but Cllr Mitchell has been given a contact at TRDC so that he can discuss using the area around Community Way. It was asked if it could be held in different car parks but it was felt that it should be established in one place and the location kept the same. Cllr Martin and Mitchell had visited a few local markets and now had a list of local people to contact, with the focus kept on Croxley businesses and the nearby community. Roberts greengrocers of Baldwins Lane have agreed to have a stall. It was expected that there would be 15-20 stalls.

Cllr Mitchell reminded Cllrs to put the date in their diary.

CC1146/12 Closure

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.08pm.