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MINUTES OF the 338th MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
 HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
 ON THURSDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2018

- Present: Cllr Saxon in the Chair
 David Allison – Clerk to the Council
 Ryan Bennett – Administrative Assistant
- Cllrs Baldwin, Benner, Collingwood,
 Gallagher, Hollands, Mitchell, Montague,
 Ridley and Wallington.
 Voting Members: 10
 Members of the public: 2
- CC1893/18 Apologies for Absence
 Apologies had been received from Cllrs Bains, Cole, Hobbs, Kaur & Vassiliou.
- CC1894/18 Declarations of Interests by Members
 The Chairman recommended that any declarations be made at the time.
- CC1895/18 Parish Matters
 A resident spoke about how the Croxley Green History Project had been creating a poster to help commemorate the soldiers from Croxley Green who served in the First World War. They explained that the posters would be going to every house along New Road whom had a soldier leave to fight. The resident thanked Cllr Wallington for his assistance with the project.
- CC1896/18 Representations from the Public
 No representations were made.
- CC1897/18 Minutes
Resolved:
 - That the Minutes of the 337th Monthly Meeting of the Council held on Thursday 26 July 2018 be approved and signed by the Chairman
- CC1898/18 Matters Arising
 The Chairman asked for an update and further explanation into the Parish Nurse project. Cllr Mitchell explained that he had spoken with the local doctors surgeries who were both supportive of the idea to varying degrees. Cllr Mitchell informed Members that he and Cllr Kaur would be making further enquiries into the project and reporting back to Council.
- CC1899/18 Committee Reports
 CC1899.1/18 Environment and Amenity Committee held on Tuesday 3 July 2018
Resolved:
 - That the Minutes of the Environment & Amenity Committee meeting held on Tuesday 3 July 2018 be adopted as a report of the meeting.
 CC1899.2/18 Any matters arising
 A Cllr asked how Council had gained feedback from residents about the 2017 Dog Show. The Administrative Assistant explained that they had spoken to residents that were in attendance at the event.

CC1899.3/18 Planning and Development Committee held on Thursday 2 and 16 August 2018.

Resolved:

- That the Minutes of the Planning and Development Committee meetings held on Thursday 2 and 16 August 2018 be adopted as report of the meeting.

CC1899.4/18 Any matters arising

There were no matters arising.

CC1899.5/18 Finance and Administration Committee held on Thursday 12 July 2018

Resolved:

- That the Minutes of the Finance & Administration Committee of Thursday 12 July 2018 be adopted as a report of the meeting.

CC1899.6/18 Any matters arising

There were no Matters Arising.

CC1900/18

Co-option for Casual Vacancy for Councillor in Dickinsons Ward

The Chairman opened the item and asked the Clerk to elaborate. The Clerk informed members that following the arising of the Casual Vacancy, 10 electors had not approached Three Rivers District Council to call for an election and as such it was now down to the Parish Council to appoint a new Councillor using the co-option procedure. He commented that due to the proximity with the main election in 2019 there was no legal obligation for the Council to fill the vacancy.

A Cllr commented that they thought it very important to fill the vacancy as it would help bring people's attention to the Council and helps to make Croxley Green Parish Council an open and attractive Council for people to join.

It was also commented that by advertising the post it will help to raise awareness of the election in 2019 and get people interested early in putting themselves forwards to stand.

A Councillor spoke that due to the potentially time limited nature of the position it may attract those who might not normally put themselves forwards and show the public that they have a chance to join the Council at every opportunity.

Resolved

- That the Council proceeds with the co-option procedure

CC1901/18

Groundworks Equipment Assets Replacements and Policies

The Clerk explained how at the F&A meeting of September 13 the Committee had agreed to recommend to Council the outlined asset replacement programme and associated policies. Following the decision a further meeting had been held with the contractor and up to date figures were collected and attached in the updated cost schedule that was circulated to members. He explained how this was the most cost effective way to replace the Council machinery and that some of the machinery was in need of near immediate replacement. The Clerk emphasised that the replacement programme would not affect the precept.

Resolved:

- That the Council proceeds with the asset replacement programme at the costs shown in the supporting paper.

CC1902/18

Land Transfer Working Party

The Chairman opened the item and asked Cllr Mitchell to elaborate. Cllr Mitchell explained how the working party had been meeting on a semi regularly basis and

that to move the project forwards more time and Council resources would be needed.

He added that this was not a decision to submit an application for the transfer of lands but instead a decision by Council to commit resources to developing an application in partnership with TRDC.

Cllrs were supportive of the idea to continue to progress with the land transfer. It was mentioned by the Chairman that the Parish Council had been given a mandate by the residents in response to the survey conducted for the community plan and that it was necessary for the Council to continue.

Resolved:

It was resolved that:

- The Council endorses the proposal to seek transfer of responsibility for the Green and Stones Orchard from TRDC to the Parish Council by way of a transfer of ownership (freehold) or long lease.
- The Council is prepared in principle to accept the consequent liabilities and opportunities (risks and rewards) of taking more responsibility for the land (which are, as yet, unquantified but will be quantified through negotiations with TRDC).
- The Council is prepared to accept the reasonable costs of developing a detailed proposal for the transfer of land (which may include legal fees and professional fees for advice). Approval will be sought before any actual expenditure in the usual way.

CC1903/18

Report from the 'How the Council Works Working Party'

The Chairman opened the item and asked Cllr Mitchell to elaborate. Cllr Mitchell explained that the working party had recently met and discussed potential changes which would help to make the Council more effective and efficient. Following the working party meeting they recommend to Council that each committee discuss separately the ways in which they could become more efficient and effective.

Resolved:

- That the E&A, P&D and F&A discuss at their meeting in October potential changes to their committees to help improve efficiency within the Council
- That a report is brought to Council in October with recommendations for changes on how the Council operates

CC1904/18

Flowers4Croxley Partnership with the Parish Council

The Clerk explained that he had a meeting with representatives from Flowers4Croxley and that the group in its current iteration would be disbanding due to a lack of available volunteers.

The Clerk commented that Flowers4Croxley will now be totally under the auspices of the Parish Council and it would be up the Council to help drive future projects forward. He continued that he felt no reason for the group to disappear completely and that the name 'Flowers4Croxley' would still be used to help promote volunteer days and events.

The Clerk advised that all funds currently held by Flowers4Croxley would be transferred over to the Parish Council.

CC1905/18

Budget Briefing 2019/20

The Clerk drew Member's attention to the new budget sheet. He advised Members that all proposals must be received by him before December 1st.

The Clerk informed Members that if they required any help at all they just need to get in contact with him and he will help guide them through the process. It was added that Cllrs can submit budget proposals in for any committee not just the one they sit on.

CC1906/18

Neighbourhood Plan

[This item was considered under Standing Order 9.1.15]

Cllr Mitchell explained how the Parish Council had reached very important milestone in regards to the development and potential adopting of the Neighbourhood Plan. He informed Members that the external examiner had recommended to TRDC that following some changes the Plan is put forward to a referendum. He explained that TRDC will be discussing the Neighbourhood Plan at their meeting on October 22 and urged all Cllrs to attend and give their support.

The Chairman commended the work carried out by the Neighbourhood Plan working party.

CC1907/18

Closure

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21:09