

CRANSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in Cransley Village Memorial Hall On Thursday 9th April 2015

PRESENT:- Cllr. R Barnwell
Cllr. P Appleby
Cllr. S Ablett
Cllr. A Southwell
Cllr. R Whalley
KBC Cllr. C Morton
KBC & NCC Cllr. J Hakewill
K Burton- Footpath Warden
Mrs P Appleby – Village Hall Committee Member
Mrs T Lacy

14.157.1 CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

Cllr. Barnwell welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that the new Village Hall kitchen was being installed which was the reason for the seating being nearer to the entrance than normal.

14.158.2 APOLOGIES

Received from Cllrs Littler & D Whalley, Mrs S Cattell, Mrs K Payne, Rev. Withington

14.159.3 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD APRIL 10th 2014

As these had been on the PC Notice Board it was agreed these be taken as read and they were signed as accurate by the Chairman.

14.160.4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

14.161.5. CHAIRMANS REPORT

Cllr. Barnwell thanked all Cllrs. and Clerk and many others by name who had helped throughout the year. A new Cllr. had been co-opted- possibly the youngest in the District! A full complement of meetings was achieved in the year, and as he was unwell for most of that time he said how grateful he was for the work put in by Cllrs. Other meetings were attended by Cllrs. on behalf of CPC. Many issues were tackled, questionnaires completed, reports given, Best Village competition entered (with some success), Litter Pick organised and the Village show supported.

Various decisions were made eg, to have a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish and to take over the ownership of the War Memorial- which will make it easier to obtain funds for its upkeep (thanks to Cllr. Whalley for his work on this) and to alter the name of the Council to Great Cransley Parish Council.

The CPC will have a web site up and running soon which will contain items about the history of the village, details of the Millennium Sculpture, and items such as agendas, minutes, financial arrangements etc. that are obligatory for all Parish Councils.

The Cransley Chronicle continues to be produced monthly with great help from Mary Rogers and this is printed free by a resident of the village and distributed to every house by a team of helpers, all these people deserve our grateful thanks.

The bus shelters and War Memorial continue to be kept clean by residents on a rota system and a decision has been made to refurbish the PC Notice board.

Two new Bollards have been installed on the Village Green with the generous help from KBC Community Fund and the NCC Highways.

Financially, the Council has had to absorb the loss of the KBC Grant to all Parish Councils by increasing the precept.

All in all a good year and the Chairman thanked everyone who helped to achieve this.

14.162.6. COUNTY CLLRS REPORT

Cllr. Hakewill thanked CPC for keeping in touch on a regular basis. He said NCC has looked at every aspect of the budget, with regard to building new homes, and providing essential services. The adult social care budget is always over spent, the numbers of children in care has increased by 100 this year. NCC services are to go to companies who are better able to do various works, KierMWSP is successful in this.

14.163.7. BOROUGH CLLRS REPORT

Cllr Morton said he is now on the planning committee and planning policy committee and other groups including the research & development committee. He has worked on the East Kettering Development. KBC has budget pressures but front line services have not been reduced and no one has been made redundant.

Cllr. Hakewill said he is now Chairman of the Rural Forum. Broadband issues are being worked on and this will continue. He said again what a good play area the village now has.

14.164.8 POLICE REPORT

None

14.165.9. VILLAGE HALL REPORT

Mrs Sue Cattell's report said how much the Village Hall is used for a variety of activities. These include weekly bookings on most evenings and some daytime ones such as the sewing club. Joint fund raising events have taken place with the Church and these have proved successful and more are arranged for the future. The Annual Village show in Sept. will be the 70th so this is special, followed by the Nov. Christmas Fair which is always busy.

Improvements are ongoing, eg the ramp for the disabled has been repaired, a new kitchen is being fitted, new tables have been bought. In the pocket park the rubbish has been removed, the trees will be pruned thanks to Cllr. Richard Barnwell. Grass cutting and cleaning inside has been arranged. Thanks are due to Joyce Burton who retired last year after many years of voluntary work keeping the hall clean and tidy. Thanks are also due to the seven committee members and many others who give their help in many ways.

The Chairman said how proud he was of the village hall, just the right size for the village and able to pay its way and encourage its use with improvements.

14.166.10. ST. ANDREWS CHURCH REPORT

The report by Rev. Withington indicated an encouraging year despite changes to the diocese. The WWI exhibition in the church was well received and ended with a Service of Commemoration followed by a shared lunch. Revd. Nickie Hobbs was welcomed in June. Andy's Café continues to attract support and Little Andy's is

being developed as a messy church activity for families.

14.167.12. HIGHWAY WARDEN REPORT

Cllr Southwell said he had replied to many questionnaires in connection with highways. He had completed a survey from KBC re. the position and numbers of lamp standards in the village. He had suggested work which needs to be done through the 'Enhancement Gang' project. This has worked successfully but more needs to be done than be achieved in a single day. Cllr Southwell was thanked for the hours he has spent on these issues

14.168.13 FOOTPATH WARDEN REPORT

Kevin Burton said this was the best job to have –this week he had seen buzzards, kites, swallows, woodpeckers etc. The farmer regularly blocks the gate on the footpath to Cransley Park. On the path to Loddington, yellow way markers were put in place but now they have been removed. There is a bull in one field through which the footpath goes. The owner of No 7 bridle way regularly cuts the grass on the footpath at the side of his house. The gate on Northfield Rd which has a broken stile at the side is also in need of replacement. There is need for a stile in case the owner decides to lock the gate in the future.

Mrs Appleby said the metalled track which is a bridle way and continues beyond the end of Church Lane is being abused by speeding traffic, which she considers is travelling at about 60mph. She now resorts to wearing a safety jacket with the words 'Slow Down' printed on the back. Slow down signs have been removed. The owner of the adjacent field does adhere to the slow speeds needed but he seems to be the only one.

Kevin will discuss these matters when he attends a Right of Way course at NALC. The Chairman thanked Kevin for his work

14.169.14 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT

Mrs Payne reported that although the team in Gt. Cransley has not met this year the members have been in regular contact, and the NHW leaflets have been delivered to each house. Her report listed crimes in our area which were obtained from the NHW web page. The police had not notified her of any of these crimes and the communication between police and NHW is very poor. Mrs Payne has not had a visit from the local specials contacts for at least a year.

14.170.14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was mentioned that the Council does need a new notice board. The present one is not large enough for the amount of notices that the Council is obliged to display and the 'transparent' door can no longer be described as such. In the present situation of the Council having a precept for all its requirements Cllrs. did not wish to add the cost of a new board. Cllr. Hakewill suggested CPC send him an email about this and he would see what he could do to help. He still has a Councillors fund to which CPC could apply.

14.171.15. CHAIRMANS CLOSING REMARKS

Cllr. Barnwell thanked everyone and said CPC would now continue with the normal Council Meeting.

Signed..... Date.....