



Cropwell Butler Parish Council



Minutes for Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 14 January 2025 at 7.00 PM

Location: Cropwell Butler & Tythby Village Hall, Main Street, Cropwell Butler, NG12 3AB

MINUTES

Welcome and open the meeting.

- The meeting was opened at 7.00pm.
- Present: Cllrs David Wells (Chair), Jeremy Williams (Vice Chairman), Chris Davenport, Paul Goodwin, Roy Morledge, Tony Teatum; Dermot Daly (Clerk); County Cllr Neil Clarke; One member of the public.

- 24/25/161** Receive and approve any apologies for absence.
- Borough Cllr Ted Birch had tendered his apologies.
- 24/25/162** Receive disclosures of interests from Councillors on matters at this meeting.
- Cllr David Wells declared an interest in items relating to Sheldon Field (24/25/170).
- 24/25/163** Agree the co-option of a Councillor to the remaining Casual Vacancy and complete relevant forms.
- There was no interest in the position to date.
- 24/25/164** Suspend Standing Orders (for this item only) and allow for Parishioner Questions and Observations and to receive reports from the County and Borough Councillors.
- The Chair suspended Standing Orders.
- A member of the public raised issues regarding potholes on the road at the entrance to their drive, which were reported and were resolved very quickly albeit in a very amateur manner, but the potholes reported in other areas of the village were not addressed.
- There was some discussion about the use of private land for flood alleviation – this is part of the proposed natural flood management scheme. The Parish Council is not involved nor aware of the detail of these proposals or any negotiations with the landowners.
- The Chair reinstated Standing Orders.

MEETINGS

- 24/25/165** Approve the Minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on 9th December 2024.
- It was unanimously RESOLVED to accept the Minutes as circulated.
- There is a need to submit the approved Minutes in a more timely manner.
- There were concerns raised over the manner of alerts to the public for flooding information (with a suggestion of the possible use of other available alert systems) and the need for published access to flood wardens on the website.

FINANCE

- 24/25/166** Review and agree the Financial Report for the period.
- It was RESOLVED to accept the report as circulated.
- 24/25/167** Review and approve the Accounts for Payment.
- It was RESOLVED unanimously to approve the accounts for payment as circulated.
- It was RESOLVED for the Clerk and Chair to analyse the over-spend on the Grounds Maintenance budget.

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- 24/25/168** Agree financial budget for 2025-26 and associated precept.
- The new format of the budget provided by the Chair was reviewed.
 - It was RESOLVED to agree the budget as circulated and to set the precept to £15,500 for 2025-26. This will result in a 10.7% increase in a Band D property (or 11p per week per property).
 - The forecasted potential overspend in the budget will continue to be absorbed from reserves.

- 24/25/169** Agree for the identification and recommendation of an internal auditor for the forthcoming year.
- It was RESOLVED to allow the Clerk to identify the benefits of using a Local Association Internal Audit service or local Auditor focussed on Parish Council. This will not only gain financial audit but that associated with proper process.
 - There was a view that the Parish Council does not currently see the benefit of the increased cost of moving to an Internal Auditor focussed on Parish Council process compared to a local financial expert completing a financial year-end closure.

GENERAL

- 24/25/170** Review and agree application for grant from Sheldon Field Committee.
- It was RESOLVED to defer to next month.

- 24/25/171** Discuss and agree request for cemetery plot.
- It was RESOLVED for Clerk to progress memorial stone and ashes interment.
 - The memorial bench is a matter for the Sheldon Field Committee.

- 24/25/172** Discuss issues and follow-on actions for the Lychgate repairs.
- Contact has now been made with the contractor, who has indicated that work should be able to commence on 5th February. No cemetery services are planned.

- 24/25/173** Review flooding issues over the festive period and recognise any learning points.
- There is still effluent coming out of drains, lifting the covers (including within residents' properties). Rainwater is getting into sewage system and it can't cope with the volume. Severn Trent Water (STW) have stated, three years ago, they will carry out a survey but to date have not come up with a plan. Some rainwater flood risk can be alleviated through clearing of leaves from the drain grids but this currently needs wardens on point until the flooding risk subsides.
 - The Parish Council has not yet had sight of the overall Natural Flood Management scheme.
 - Main Street receives flood waters from Hardigate and Back Lane, whereas both the latter receive flood water from the field and road run-off.
 - There needs to be an improvement in how a call-to-arms is achieved for the flood wardens - Cllr David Wells to investigate.

REPORTS (information only)

- 24/25/174** Update report on flooding, including the natural flood management plan.
- The flood team had meetings with a landowners to discuss water attenuation to reduce the rate of water flow coming into Back Lane and Hardigate, for example from the direction of the A46.
 - It was pointed out the health hazard of sewage flooding on to private land - this needs to be escalated, with the lack of action from STW to find a solution for the sewage pollution.
 - There appears to be significant rainwater run-off from residential roofs into the drainage system.
 - County Cllr Neil Clarke committed to write to the Managing Director of STW to return to the issue as the Lead Flood Authority and the Director of Environmental Health at Rushcliffe Borough Council.

- 24/25/175** Update report on road and traffic issues.
- Rookery Corner: Asbestos contractor has been appointed. Clearance work occurring mid-February. Then the trench will be constructed for the pipework – this will not be a quick job but at least the work is now being carried out.
 - No further update on the speed strips - County Cllr Neil Clarke will chase.
 - Design work for the kerb-lines on the Main Street/Radcliffe Road junction is being chased by County Cllr Neil Clarke.
 - Some discussion ensued about ideas to reduce speeding and risk of accident in areas of the village, such as up Back Lane and along Main Street.

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24/25/176 Clerk's report.

- There has been a request for housing Hens on the allotments - the Council felt that this was not appropriate as it may attract vermin and other predators, and that this may have a negative impact on nearby residents and other allotment users.
- Allotments update: plot 1 has been allocated on special terms; plot 8 is vacant; and plots 7 & 11 will be vacating on 31/3/2025.
- A letter has been received from Elston Parish Council (via NottsALC) regarding whether we would be in support of a 20mph speed limit in village - the Council suggested the Clerk respond positively.
- There was no appetite to respond to the consultation on the Notts Local Waste Plan at this time.
- Cemetery Plot enquiry to be placed on the next agenda.
- Cemetery ashes/plot/memorial stone request - to be progressed and memorial bench offer to be passed to Sheldon Field Committee.

NEXT MEETING

24/25/177

- Consider agenda items for the next meeting on 10th February 2025 commencing 7.00pm.
- Cllr Paul Goodwin to ask the Village Hall Committee whether there is any objection to sharing the Village Hall WiFi connection details with named users such as Councillors and the coffee van for card payments, and other users of the Village Hall facilities.
 - Sheldon Field grant.
 - Request for cemetery plot including family member from neighbouring parish.
 - Confirmation of spreading of cemetery ashes and memorial stone on common area.
- Close meeting.
- The meeting was closed at 9.47pm.

Authorising Signature
Name: A Wells Date: 10/2/25 Signature: 