

NORTH CRAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7 March 2022 at 7.30 pm in the Institute

Present:	Parish Councillors: Steve Garner (in the Chair), Sue Garner, D Harpur, T Smith and J Weatherley Clerk/RFO S M Bushnell Ward Councillors K McLean and David Hosking PCSO Arlene Ormston Two members of the public	ACTION
01/03/2022	Apologies for Absence Councillors G Baxter and M Hold and Ward Councillor P Geary	
02/03/2022	Declarations of Interests: None were declared at this stage.	
03/03/2022	Approval of Minutes: The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7 February 2022 were approved.	
04/03/2022	Items from members of the public: There were two members of the public present at the meeting but no issues were raised for discussion at this point.	
05/03/2022	Brook End Nurseries site: It was reported that the Clerk had sent off the Parish Council's objections to the appeal to the Planning Inspectorate as had the Ward Councillors. Nothing further could be done at this time as the process had to take its course.	
06/03/2022	Update from the PCSO: PCSO Arlene Ormston was pleased to report that no crime had been reported in North Crawley or Little Crawley during the previous month. In her other villages however, there had been crime reports including fly tipping, anti-social behaviour and theft of oil from tanks.	
	Ward Councillors' Report	
07/03/2022	MKC Budget: Cllr McLean reported that the budget had now been set and that it represented a 3.75% increase. £20k had been allocated for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and he understood that parish councils would be able to apply for funding for events. He was not sure of the procedure but would inform parish councils as soon as possible.	CMcL
08/03/2022	MK East: Following on from the previous meeting, Cllr McLean would be making enquiries as to the possibility of organising a forum for parish councils and other interested parties to discuss issues such as MK East, the Marshall development at Cranfield, etc.	CMcL
	Matters Arising	
09/03/2022	Minute 12/02/2022 - Plank at top of recreation field: It was agreed that it would be best to use a contractor to widen this bridge and the Clerk agreed to take this forward.	Clerk

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10/03/2022	Minute 16/02/2022 – Trees: The Chair reported that he had not spoken to the resident about work to the trees as he needed to ascertain the circumstances under which permission was needed to perform work on non TPO trees in a conservation area. The Clerk confirmed that she had contacted MKC on this subject	
11/03/2022	Minute 19/02/2022 – Streetscape: The Clerk had identified some bins for the bus shelter and it was agreed to purchase the one which appeared to be the most suitable.	Clerk
	Councillors' Reports	
12/03/2022	Traffic: Cllr Harpur reported that, thanks to a Ward Councillor's grant, a speed gun would shortly be purchased. At the last Working Group meeting the question of why double-decker buses were now being used on the C10 route was discussed and James Sandall was investigating whether grants might be available for SIDS. The Chair asked whether the possibility of introducing weight restrictions to the High Street and a 20 mph limit could be more fully considered and explored and this was agreed by Cllr Harpur. The Clerk would also pass on the contact details of the traffic expert at St James Consulting.	Clerk
13/03/2022	Streetscape: Cllr Sue Garner asked for permission for North Crawley Ladies to decorate the bus shelter for Easter and for the Queen's Jubilee. This was agreed.	
14/03/2022	Brook End building work: It was noted that damage had been caused to the grass verge opposite 10 Brook End during the extensive building work that had been carried out. Verbal assurances had been given to the Chair by the contractors that the verge would be reinstated at their expense. The Clerk was asked to write to the resident about this.	Clerk
15/03/2022	The Ford at Broadmead: The Chair reported that he was aware of a recent lively discussion on the Community Facebook page about the ford at Broadmead and that feelings had been expressed that it should be reinstated to its previous status of being a ford. It was recalled that when the decision was made to close the ford and change it into a nature reserve, there had been extensive discussions at Parish Council meetings and that there had been very valid reasons for this course of action. It was however agreed that some de-silting would be advisable and also a suggestion was made to plant some wild flowers in the area to encourage even more wildlife. Cllr Harpur agreed to circulate some recommendations to the councillors.	DH
16/03/2022	School Road Crossing Attendant: It was noted with regret that Paula, the current "lollypop lady" had handed in her notice and would be leaving at Easter. She had carried out the role with friendliness along with her traffic stopping duties and she would be sadly missed. It was imperative that she was replaced and it was noted that other solutions such as physical road crossings	

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	would not be popular with residents and would be inappropriate in a conservation area. The Chair agreed to put something in the next parish bulletin about this to raise awareness of the vacancy so that there would be potential candidates waiting to apply when the post was advertised by MKC.	Chair																																																																				
17/03/2022	Neighbourhood Plan: The Chair reported that Historic England had now confirmed that it required a Strategic Environmental Assessment to be carried out. This would look at the potential impacts on the Historic Environment and would take up to three months to complete which would further delay the Plan. Work had already begun on this and thanks were due, yet again, to Helen Beauchamp for taking this forward																																																																					
18/03/2022	Landscape Maintenance Tender: The Clerk reported that three tenders had been received and a tender report had been sent to the councillors prior to the meeting. The tenders were reasonably close in value but the cheapest from RTM represented an 81% increase on the current contract price and was much higher than the amount included in the budget. The Clerk was asked to contact RTM for their comments on this price as the Council would need to be able to justify such an increase to the residents.	Clerk																																																																				
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	e-mango (Kimcell Ltd)	£576.00*	Bank transfer	Hosting & support re PC website	
	Datacenta (Kimcell Ltd)	£60.00*	Bank transfer	Provision of 10 email accounts	
	Datacenta (Kimcell Ltd)	£150.00	Bank transfer	Domain name renewal to 12.2.2024	
	* Payment includes VAT				
20/03/2022	Churchyard matters: The late Dawn Gillian Goff – Interment in Garden of Rest Plot 2/29.				
21/03/2022	Meetings with other organisations: The Chair reported that he and the Clerk had recently attended an informative meeting via Teams with Marshall Aerospace. An account of this meeting had been sent round to the other councillors. A face-to-face meeting would also be held with Marshall the following evening where there would be an opportunity for councillors to ask questions and raise concerns.				
22/03/2022	Correspondence received: The Parish Council had received information from MKC over the last few months concerning the possible devolution of grass verge cutting and other landscape work to the Parish Council. It was proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Sue Garner that the time and circumstances were not right for the Parish Council to agree to the devolution of this service. This proposal was carried unanimously.				
23/03/2022	Annual Parish Meeting: This meeting for the residents had been traditionally held at 6.30 pm prior to the May Parish Council meeting. Due to COVID-19 it had not been held since 2019. The meeting had been increasingly poorly attended and it was agreed that it was time to change the format to see if that would encourage interest. It was therefore suggested that it would be held on a Saturday with some refreshments available. This would be looked into further and the date of 18 June was suggested, subject to the availability of the Institute.				Chair/Clerk
24/03/2022	Date of next meeting: Monday 4 April 2022 at 7.30 pm in the Institute				

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