

Cranham Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 24 May 2016 in the Committee Room at Cranham Village Hall.

Present: Councillor Marcia Lynall (Chairman), Councillor Nick Holyoake, Councillor Nigel Cooper, Councillor Andy Hopkins, Mark Crowther (CCMC), Dave Jones (Cricket Club), Phil Stick (CCT), Nicky Overs (CCMC) and Keith Upton, Caroline Field (minutes)

1. Apologies for Absence were received from – Councillor Teresa Clarke, District Councillor Julie Job, John and Janet Gazzard (Neighbourhood Watch), County Councillor Jason Bullingham
2. Approval of the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 26 May 2015
3. Reports:
 - a. The Chairman's Report was given by Councillor Marcia Lynall (attached to these minutes)
 - b. County Councillors Report from Cllr Jason Bullingham was read by the Chairman (attached to these minutes)
 - c. District Councillors Report was given by Councillor Nigel Cooper:
 - Planning

The Stroud Local Plan had been adopted in November 2015, which meant SDC was in a much stronger position to resist inappropriate development.
 - Waste and recycling

This service was being taken over by a new company (Ubico), in July who would look to retain current employees. Weekly collections of doorstep kitchen waste collection will start in November 2016.

For most properties in the district wheelie bins will be introduced at the same time for any residual waste (to replace the black bags) – this may cause some issues where people don't have space for a wheelie bin and the District Council are looking at providing beige coloured bags to these residents, (but only 3 bags per fortnight)

Collection days will remain the same but alternating week by week for recycling or residual waste. An extensive public information programme has been promised
 - Council Finance

Councillor Cooper warned that there was considerable pressure on Council finances as central government grants are reducing. Decisions will have to be taken regarding future efficiencies or service reductions. This situation has been further exacerbated by a miscalculation regarding the income from sale of recyclate (cans, bottles, paper etc.) A budgeted net income of £235k is now forecast as a net cost of £200k, blowing a £435,000 hole in the Council's annual budget. Councillors were only informed of this situation at Council meeting in April, a month before the new contract had to be in place.

- d. Colin Drewett PCSO did not present a report but Councillor Nigel Cooper proposed a vote of thanks for all the work he has done over many years. This was supported unanimously. PCSO Drewett will be presented with a small token from the Parish Council to mark the appreciation of the people of Cranham.
 - e. Cranham Common Management Committee (CCMC) – Mark Crowther, chairman of CCMC gave his report in which he said that there were significant delays in the installation of the invisible fencing to create open paddocks for the cows due to technical problems but these were being worked on and it was hoped to have it up and running very shortly. He reported that the reintroduction of the Large Blue butterfly had been a great success and that there was possibly more money being invested in this programme this year. Adders were also thriving on the Common. Natural England (who both manage the Common and act as regulator to activities) have recently been using Cranham Common as an exemplar of how a Common should be managed. They have taken on board the concern of Cranham people about scrub and a good working relationship is in place. Parking on the Common was causing concern and stone boulders are being used to demarcate some parking and turning areas. Parking by the village hall causing damage to the Common is still causing concern but it is hoped this can be resolved by negotiation. The cows on the Common are currently 5 Welsh Blacks, 3 Black Belties and 1 brown Beltie – the CCMC would like to thank everyone who regularly turns out to move the cows and create new paddocks. 80% of Cranham Common is owned by the Cranham Common Trust which is now being chaired by Phil Stick.
 - f. Playing Fields Trust Committee – Nick Holyoake was thanked by the Chairman for the years he has spent as Chairman of this Committee. He has now handed over the chairmanship to Alex Bumpstead who is supported by Katie Holmes as Treasurer, Chloe McCarthy as Secretary and Nicky Clapton, Kathy Donaldson and Marcia Lynall (representing the Parish Council). Nigel Cooper was thanked for the efforts he had made in successfully obtaining and planting new hedge plants and for his part in obtaining the ‘Active Together’ grant which had allowed the purchase and installation of 3 new pieces of adult exercise equipment – now in use. Thanks was also given to Kerry Newel for her great assistance and support with this project.
 - g. Cricket Club – Dave Jones reported that the last season had been very successful in terms of play, finishing 2nd in the league, and social success. Last year saw the successful and popular reintroduction of Ladies Cricket coaching and it is hoped to do this again this year. Children’s cricket is also coming on apace with the very popular Children’s teas on Friday night regularly attracted up to 50 or 60 children. This demonstrates that the cricket club is becoming more of a community centre and the cricket club are delighted with this development. Special thanks to Ruth, Caitlin and Kerry for organizing these and other events and to the team who help prepare and serve the food at cricket matches. The relationship between Cricket Club and Feast has grown closer with last year’s Feast being a particular success. The Cricket Club have permitted the Feast to install permanent storage for equipment such as marquees and chairs so that is more convenient for all to use.
4. Election of Members of the Cranham Common Management Committee was proposed en bloc by Councillor Nick Holyoake and seconded by Councillor Andy Hopkins. They

were elected unanimously and were Mark Crowther, Chairman; Nicky Overs, Secretary; Liz Haydon, Treasurer; Bryony Overs; Pete Bass; Rupert Chesmore; Richard Tyson, Landowner; Mike Drake, Grazier

5. Date of next Parish Meeting is to be decided.

Caroline Field
Clerk to Cranham Parish Council
26 May 2016