



**Cresswell Parish Council  
Meeting Wednesday 29th March 2023**

**Cresswell Village Hall 7:00PM**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**

**22.22 Present**

**Councillors:** C Tyrie(Chair) D Laing(Vice chair)A Stoodley,S Haywood,S Tyrie,P Wilson,C Wilson

**In attendance:**

M Burn (Clerk)

Members of the public attending x8

**22.23 Apologies for absence**

None

**22.24 Declaration of Interests, and grant of any dispensations**

None

**22.25 Public questions**

None received

**22.26 Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting on 15th November 2022 were agreed as a true and accurate record with one change made to (22.18.01) to show date 4th January, they were signed and dated by the Chair. Clerk updated the website version accordingly.

**22.27 Matters Arising from the Minutes (unless separately on the agenda)**

<https://northumberlandparishes.uk/cresswell>



Initials

(22:27:01) Chair introduced to the meeting two councillors who accepted the role following the process of co option. Both Cllr Pat & Colin Wilson were welcomed to the meeting.

(22:27:02) Clerk informed the meeting that Crown Estates had completed the repairs to the dry stone wall at Fisher field.

(22:27:03) Cllr Laing confirmed that NCC had put into place the posts required for the roadside solar speed panels. The panels are expected to be in position by mid April 2023.

(22:27:04) Following recent anti social behaviour incidents (Fly tipping) clerk confirmed that NCC had cleared away the rubbish without undue delay and Crown Estates had responded quickly to close and lock field gates.

### **22.28 Correspondence (Clerk)**

(22.28.01) Clerk informed the meeting that all Cllr's had received electronic versions of correspondence relating to essential information items from NALC, Rural services, Powergrid Ltd and others.

(22:28:02) Information leaflets were made available to attendees regarding the future need to show photo ID during the voting process at government elections polling stations.

(22.28.03) Clerk introduced the RHS 'Your Neighbourhood scheme' suggesting the walled garden project would be an appropriate candidate. Lead agent Mr B Mead suggested CPC wait 12 months to allow the project time to progress and complete essential maintenance. Agreed.

(22.28.04) The NCC Tidy Britain scheme was introduced to the meeting. Discussion took place regarding the future use of litter pickers held by CPC and those who may wish to participate. Clerk stressed that individuals can take action (not only organised groups). Collection of bags of collected refuse is by NCC by arrangement.

(22.28.05) CPC acknowledged receipt of notification from the walled garden project that it would be necessary to place a small temporary compound in front of the pele tower entrance. Chair reminded the meeting that CPC cannot police the green and acknowledged it was reasonable to allow the project to complete their work. CPC had been assured the green will be fully restored without undue delay.

### **22.29 Financial Matters (Clerk)**

(22:29:01)The outstanding wayleave payment had been received.

(22.29.02) Internet funding request to clerk was agreed by council.

(22.29.03) Year end - dated 29th March banking reconciliation has been distributed to all councillors.

(22.29.04) Confirmation of precept payment dates to be 4th April & week commencing 3rd September 2023.

(22.29.05) Discussion took place regarding the requirement for internal audit. A member of the public agreed to aid the clerk to complete the audit as necessary.



### **22.30 Tree Planting Scheme**

(22:30:01) Cllr Tyrie (Chair) opened the discussion with a review of the tree planting scheme as supported by NCC. An open discussion took place regarding the planting, this was supported by information from Cllr Laing, who in turn, explained the planting of the trees without his prior knowledge in Feb. It was noted that as early as 2021 (Queen Elizabeth 2nd 'green canopy') the scheme was offered to council, noted in the newsletter of 2021, delayed by covid 19 but discussed further at meetings of CPC. The planting of the trees was intended to be closer to the dry stone wall of Fisher field, however agents of the sub contractor to NCC followed instructions to place trees 10 metres distance from objects as their standard working rule. Cllr Tyrie (Chair) confirmed that this agenda item was to confirm the new planting plan as discussed and agreed with those attending. The council accepts a revised planting scheme as discussed at an onsite meeting with NCC officials. Concerns from some parishioners living opposite the site were noted. Cllr Laing will liaise with NCC re the replanting. Discussion took place regarding the type of trees now planted, this was confirmed as Holly, Rowan & Hornbeam. The trees were selected as suitable for the site. Cllr Laing confirmed that the trees planted were expensive and that they do now belong to CPC.

### **22.31 Planning**

(22:31:01) Cllr Tyrie (Chair) explained that the draft neighbourhood plan had once again been updated. This will now be inspected by the ecology group at NCC. The final plan will be put forward to the 'stakeholders' at NCC with a parish wide referendum to finalise the plan on behalf of the parish of Cresswell. (22:31:02) Cllr Tyrie (Chair) confirmed CPC had objected to the Parkdean planning application 23/00433/FUL however no further information at this time was available. Chair has written to Parkdean to request a copy of the policy held by Parkdean in relation to the environment. To the date of this meeting this has not been made available.

### **22.32 Communications**

(22:32:01) Cllr Stoodley confirmed that CPC have 150 Facebook followers to their dedicated CPC page and have received 139 Likes. Cllr Stoodley requested all attending to consider helping with content suggestions. Discussion took place regarding the use of text & images. Questions from the public led to discussion on the format of newsletters and the clerk confirmed a copy would be available upon the village notice board. Clerk also confirmed that minutes of meetings and other information can be viewed on the website for Cresswell Parish Council (NALC - National Association of Local Councils).



### **22.33 Devolution**

(22:33:01) Cllr Tyrie (Chair) confirmed the possible devolution proposal creating a new area of governance across the NE area which will allegedly open a provision of a larger budget for the entire zone. Council to obtain more information and report in due course.

### **22.34 King Charles 3rd - Coronation event**

(22:34:01) Cllr Tyrie (Chair) informed the meeting that there had been no interest to date, however discussion took place with an agreement to encourage the parish to participate in a village clean up with a follow up 'tea' to be held at the village hall. Date agreed is Sunday 7th May starting at 14:30 and meeting for 'Tea' at 16:00. Parishioners are requested to prepare & bring along food & drink to the village hall for the enjoyment of all. Those wishing to participate in the 'clean up' should attend the village hall from 2:30 where litter pickers, gloves & collection bags (Kindly donated by CELL - pre covid) will be available. Cllr Tyrie will arrange for disposal.

### **22.35 Travellers site - Report of meeting held 10th March.**

(22:35:01) Cllr Laing stated he had attended the above meeting where discussion took place regarding the future use & ownership of the site. It was stated by NCC that costs to repair and clean could be as high as 1 million pounds. Members of the public asked questions of the site and its use. Discussions to progress the next step are required, Cllr Laing will report back to council on the issue.

### **22.36 Town & Parish Conference 23rd Jan 2023**

(22:36:01) Cllr Tyrie (Chair) explained to the meeting that CPC had expressed concerns that the parish council, when objecting to planning applications, was ignored, and planning was repeatedly passed. It was discussed that the flooding issue on the C110 was also not resolved despite CPC discussing and working with NCC highways officers.

(22:36:02) A member of the public raised the issue of EV (Electric vehicle) charging points not available to the parish. A discussion took place regarding the provision of EV points in the local area with a view expressed that tourists could be the main benefactor and therefore the emphasis should be on the holiday parks to provide the EV points.

### **22.37 Water Fountain Grant Scheme**

(22:37:01) Chair informed attendees that there had not been enough time for council to participate in this scheme. Discussion took place and agreement made that another opportunity next year would be considered.



**22.38 Domestic Solar Panels - Update**

(22:38:01) (Chair) 8 Properties had expressed interest in a bulk purchase scheme led by NCC. However the climate change team had not responded to Cllr Tyrie’s email to this effect.

**22.39 Cleaning of Public Toilets - review**

(22:39:01) Cllr Laing confirmed that a meeting with the cleaner (Mr Batey) had taken place on March 22nd. Mr Batey confirmed all was in order with no issues to report to council. Cllr Laing informed the meeting that the toilets were currently closed due for refurbishment taking place. The council noted, and gave appreciation to Mr Nigel Thompson of Golden Sands holiday park who was meeting 100% of the costs of this refurbishment.

The meeting closed at 8:15pm

**Date of Next meeting:**

**Annual Parish Meeting 19:00 & Parish Council Annual General Meeting  
Wednesday 24th May 19:30  
Cresswell Village Hall**

**Signed**..... C Tyrie (Chairman)

**Date**.....



Initials