

Cresswell Parish Council

Annual General Meeting Wednesday 10th May 2017

Cresswell Village Hall 7PM

DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting

17.1. Present

Councillors M. Wright (Chair), C. Tyrie, T. Steele, L. Wright, S. Haywood, G. Phillips, D Laing

In Attendance

I. Robson (clerk) and six members of the public

17.2. Acceptance of office and disclosure forms.

These were completed by all Councillors and submitted to the clerk.

17.3. Election of Chair

Cllr Laing proposed Cllr M. Wright, seconded by Cllr Phillips.

There being no other nominations Cllr M. Wright was duly elected as Chair

17.4. Election of Vice-Chair

Cllr M. Wright proposed Cllr Laing, seconded by Cllr Phillips.

There being no other nominations Cllr Laing was duly elected as Vice-Chair

17.5. Questions from the public

There were no questions from the public

17.6. Minutes of annual meeting - 13th April 2016

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

Matters Arising

a) (13) Dog Fouling – this was reported as still being an issue despite being reported on several occasions. The clerk outlined the correct procedure for reporting offenders to NCC and encouraged Cllrs and the public to do so.

17.7. Financial report

Cllr M Wright produced a summary of the year end accounts for approval which were subject to internal audit & governance before issue to the external auditors.

He noted that the profit was mainly due to a one off wayleave agreement with BT Openreach & that he had claimed back the VAT for the previous two financial years. This was the first time Cresswell PC had reclaimed VAT & is now registered.

Approval given

17.8. Pele Tower

Cllr Wright said that no agreement had been signed with Parkdean Resorts but that he and Cllr Laing had met with their estates development manager on 9th May.

A follow-up meeting has been organised to agree a long term lease on a peppercorn rent. It was suggested that there was a proposal for log cabins in the adjacent woodland and that this should be investigated before any lease is signed.

Barry Mead (member of the public) said that he was working up a bid for another community archaeology dig based on the recent findings in the field & around the tower

Progress noted.

17.9 Village Hall

Cllrs M. Wright and L. Wright declared an interest as they sit on the Village Hall Committee.

Cllr M. Wright said that there was problem with the electrics that needed to be resolved before the insurers would agree to provide insurance – he was obtaining quotes for the work which would need to be completed within 60 days. Cllr M. Wright suggested that the work required should be paid for out of PC funds allocated to the Village Hall. There is £8,000 allocated to the Village Hall & the PC should be able to reclaim the VAT

Agreed: To pay for electrical work from PC funds if the quotes and specification are acceptable.

Cllr Laing suggested that an air conditioning system for heating and cooling the hall would be more efficient – Cllr Laing agreed to investigate this.

17.10 Parish Council Website

Cllr M. Wright proposed that the current website wasn't fit for purpose. Cllr Wright stated that no invoices had been received from the website providers which left the PC vulnerable should provision be withdrawn.

The clerk said that NALC had funding available for PC's via the Governments transparency fund for PC's and were developing a portal for parish council websites.

Agreed – The clerk to apply via NALC for transparency funding.

17.11 Planning

Recent Applications:

17/00667/FUL – Removal of flat roof and extension of pitched roof – Alville, Cresswell Road. The PC made no comment and the application has been approved.

17/00670/FUL – Single storey extension - Cresswell Village Hall – The PC made no comment.

17/01325/FUL – Installation of air-source heat pump – Wavecrest. – The PC made no comment

NCC also advised that 16/04712/FUL - extension to existing entertainment venue had been withdrawn at the request of the applicant.

17.12 Correspondence

a) – D. Lawrence – Village of the year- suggested that Cresswell could enter. The clerk agreed to forward details of the scheme to Councillors for their consideration.

b) - Cllr Haywood – Memorial benches. Cllr Haywood had been asked if people could add plaques to existing benches. It was agreed that these benches had been donated and therefore the PC could not give permission. It was agreed that a list should be drawn up of things that people could fund in memorial.

c) – Cllr Haywood – Christmas Tree/Lights. Cllr Haywood suggested that a Christmas tree would be a good idea for the village. Agreed that Cllrs Haywood and Laing investigate the practicalities.

d) NCC Highways – Had written to say that the road between Lynemouth and Cresswell would be surface-dressed as part of the current programme. Cllr M. Wright said that Cresswell Road should be a priority.

Agreed: That the clerk write to NCC to ask when Cresswell Road was scheduled for improvements.

e) D. Lawrence – Conservation area. Mr Lawrence asked about the status of Cresswell as a ‘conservation village’. The clerk stated that Cresswell had been proposed as a Conservation Area in the Castle Morpeth Local Plan but this had never been designated. A general discussion ensued and it was **agreed** that a planning officer from NCC be invited to talk to Councillors about Neighbourhood Planning.

Agreed: The clerk write to NCC.

f) D. Lawrence – Village Signs Mr Lawrence suggested that the highway ‘entrance’ signs for the village could be replaced to include a suitable message.

Agreed: The clerk to seek a price for this from NCC before the decision is made to replace the signs

g) D. Lawrence – Bus shelter sponsorship – Mr Lawrence asked whether the two bus shelters could be sponsored by his café in return for advertisements within/on the shelters. The PC noted that advertisement consent may be needed and would need further information.

Agreed: Mr Lawrence to provide more detailed proposals for consideration by the PC.

h) Allotments – It was brought to the PCs attention that there was further misuse of the allotment sites to the north of the village and that one of the occupants was running a business from the site.

Agreed: The clerk to write to NCC Planning Enforcement.

17.13 Risk Assessment

Cllr M. Wright said the risk assessment needed to be checked and updated.

Agreed that Cllrs M. Wright and Laing review the risk assessment

Agreed: The clerk to enquire how much the new bus shelter at Embleton Village cost to build.

The meeting closed at 20:55

Date of next meeting 6th September 2017, 7pm, Cresswell Village Hall.