

NORTH CRAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL



Acting Clerk: Mrs S M Bushnell, 3 Folly Lane, North Crawley, Newport Pagnell, MK16 9LN (01234 391501)

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 4 September 2018 at 7.30 pm

Present: Parish Councillors: L Maclennan (in the chair), R Hatton, G Magee and J Sandall
MK Ward Councillors D Hosking and P Geary
Acting Clerk and RFO S M Bushnell
7 members of the public

01/09/2018 **Apologies for Absence**
Parish Councillor L Fryer
Ward Councillor K McLean
PCSO C1018 Arlene Ormston

02/09/2018 **Declarations of Interests:** None

03/09/2018 **Approval of Minutes:**
The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3 July 2018 were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting.

04/09/2018 **Membership of the Parish Council:**
The Chair reported that Roz Hatton had expressed an interest in re-joining the Parish Council. It was agreed to co-opt her with immediate effect. Proposed by Cllr Maclennan and seconded by Cllr Sandall. There were now two vacancies. Another resident had expressed an interest but had been unable to attend this meeting.

Matters Arising:

05/09/2018 **Minute 04/06/2018 – MK Play Association:** The Acting Clerk had received an application form from the Bucks Playing Fields Association with details of how to apply for grants towards activities, including those involving young people. She would send the details to Cllr Magee who would draft an application for a grant towards the cost of future play sessions. Cllr Magee

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also reported that he had heard about an incident that had occurred during some play sessions at another location where a child had fallen from a height and that the incident had not been dealt with satisfactorily. It was agreed that the first aid competencies of staff would be confirmed before any future sessions were set up through MK Play Association.

06/09/2018 **Minute 09/06/2018 - 16/01099/FUL and 17/01338/DISCO – site at the junction of Chicheley Road and Gog Lane, Little Crawley:**

The Acting Clerk had contacted the Enforcement Officer again about this matter and had copied in the ward councillors. However no response had been received. Ward Councillor Geary agreed to look into this.

07/09/2018 **Minute 10/01/2018 - Ring Croft Farm:** At the request of the owners of Ring Croft Farm, it was reported that a meeting had been held between them and Councillors Maclennan, Sandall and Fryer and the Clerk in the Village Hall on 16 July. The owners had been keen to meet before the consultation period for the Neighbourhood Plan had expired. It was made clear at the beginning that the purpose of the meeting was for them to be able to explain their future plans for the site and that no answers or comments on them would be made. It was also explained that the current planning appeal would not be discussed. Their plans were explained which were ambitious and related to sport.

Ward Councillor Geary reported that he understood that a Planning Inspector was due to visit the site the next day.

08/09/2018 **Minute 16/06/2018 - Churchyard matters:** Nothing further to report.

09/09/2018 **Minute 17/06/2018 - Highways:** It was understood that the Speedwatch equipment had now been mended and returned and Cllr Hatton agreed to look into borrowing it again.

10/09/2018 **Minute 18/06/2018 - Landscape:**

Trees: Cllr Sandall had looked at this tree and ascertained that it was not close enough to adjacent properties to require attention.

Dog Refuse Bin: The bin had been received and had been installed by John Hatton. Reports were that this new bin was appreciated by residents.

11/09/2018 **Minute 22/06/2018 - Trees on Kilpin Green:** It was agreed that this work at a cost of £475 would be carried out.

12/09/2018 **Minute 19/17/2018 - Ward Councillor's Report:** Cllr Maclennan had contacted Mark Lancaster about the traffic situation and he had written to the Head of Planning in Central Bedfordshire. This had been a good letter which had re-iterated the responses that the Parish Council had already made.

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13/09/2018 **Minute 26/07/2018 - War Memorial:** The Clerk reported that she had received an email from Historic England confirming that the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport had decided to add North Crawley War Memorial to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. The memorial was now listed at Grade II. This was very good news. With this Listing would come special responsibilities, etc. for its conservation, maintenance and management. The email had included links to further information and also grants that were available.

14/09/2018 **Minute 28/07/2018 - Landscaping:** It was reported that a meeting had taken place the previous evening between Cllrs Maclennan and Sandall and the Clerk with Kay Pettit from MKC regarding the proposal to devolve landscaping to Parish Councils from April 2020. 23 of the parish councils in MK had already indicated that they were interested plus a further six who were already delivering these services. Unfortunately, the PC had missed the original details sent last year and had therefore not been invited to several meetings and workshops which had subsequently been held this year. The proposal was that the landscaping in the village currently undertaken by MKC contractors could be devolved, along with funding, to the Parish Council. The advantage of this would be that the Parish Council would have more control over the grass cutting that took place and would have certainty of the service to be received once the existing MKC contract expired. Disadvantages however could be that the level of funding received might be insufficient to pay for the service required along with the additional burden of having to manage the contract. It was agreed that an additional meeting would be held to discuss this in detail with a view to making a decision before the MKC deadline of the end of October 2018.

15/09/2018 **Minute 29/07/2018 -Phone Box:** The Acting Clerk reported that she had received confirmation from BT that the phone box would be removed by March 2019.

16/09/2018 **SCAN Reporter:** It was agreed that, rather than have a Scan Reporter each month, the Clerk would arrange for slightly abridged versions of the minutes to be included in Scan.

17/09/2018 **Update from PCSO Arlene Ormston:** Via an email, she had reported that there had been a burglary in North Crawley since the last meeting when a car was stolen from a drive. Operation Drover had also taken place recently where farmers were given police radios and it involved Northants Police and Beds Police as well at Thames Valley.

Planning:

18/09/2018 **18/01763/TCA -2A High Street Removal of Sycamore Tree** It was reported that this had been approved. Cllr Maclennan asked the Ward Councillors why this had been approved as it had been a seemingly healthy tree that had been removed for “anti-social” reasons. Cllr Geary said that these

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applications were for notification purposes only. The MKC Tree Officers would have been given 28 days to inspect and to decide whether a Tree Preservation Order was warranted or not. If a TPO was not appropriate then the tree could be removed. The Tree Officers would always put a TPO on a tree if they possibly could but they had to work within the extensive case law that was in existence.

**19/09/2018 18/01849/OUT – Erection of detached bungalow on land at Orchard Way
18/01850/OUT – Demolition of house and erection of detached house at
3 Orchard Way**

These applications were related to the Maslin land. There were no objections in principle (also see Minute 21/09/2018).

20/09/2018 18/01632/PANAGC – Change of Use from Agricultural Building to Residential at Horncastle Barn, Gog Lane This had been granted. Although an objection to this was submitted, it was reported that this had not been appropriate. This was because it was a Prior Notification rather than a planning application and, as such, was not subject to objections. Ward Councillor Geary reported that even though changes of use were applied for and granted, planning restrictions as to how a barn could be converted often meant that the actual conversion to a dwelling never took place.

21/09/2018 Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Sandall reported that following the end of the consultation period, approximately 20 comments had been received from stakeholders and residents. These had all been considered in detail and some had resulted in minor changes being made to the draft Neighbourhood Plan. These changes related to an additional parcel of land being added to an existing potential site and a reduction in density for dwellings on another site. Although these changes were relatively slight, it had been recommended by the Planning Consultant that a further 6-week consultation should be set up so that residents were fully aware. This would be organised as quickly as possible. It was also noted that the planning application for the Maslin parcel of land was for just two dwellings which was less than that proposed in the draft plan. The Planning Consultant was going to contact the owners to see if they would be interested in increasing the number of dwellings to match the number included in the draft plan.

22/09/2018 Ward Councillor’s Report: Cllr Geary reported that there would soon be a decision on Plan MK. It was understood that the Inspector felt it was a sound plan and that it would be likely to be approved with only minor modifications. Stakeholder meetings were being held once a month connected with the MKC Infrastructure Bid. This Bid could potentially open up land for 5,000 houses east of the M1 between Newport and extending up to Moulsoe. This group was against the bid because it was not well thought out and would potentially have major financial risks. A representative from the Parish Council attended these Stakeholder meetings.

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23/09/2018 **Finance Matters:**

RECEIPTS:

RECEIVED FROM	AMOUNT	CHQ/CASH	DETAILS
H W Mason and Sons	£150.00	Cheque	Monument fee – The late Thelma Goodman

PAYMENTS:

PAYEE	AMOUNT	CHEQUE	DETAILS
Sage UK Ltd	£7.20	DDebit	Payroll software – August 2018
Cancelled cheque		101984	
Frontrow Fencing	£1,280.00	101985	Repairs to fence in recreation ground
Glasdon UK Limited	£103.82	101986	Dog bin
RTM Landscapes Ltd	£511.82	101987	Grass cutting
BALC	£129.48	101988	2018-19 Subscription
SCAN	£150.00	101989	2018-19 Grant
North Crawley IMC	£2,000.00	101990	2018-19 Grant
Sage UK Ltd	£7.20	DDebit	Payroll software – Sept 2018
Cancelled cheque		101991	
North Crawley United Charities	£40.00	101992	Rental of land at Broadmead from 1.9.17-31.8.18
RTM Landscapes Ltd	£561.02	101993	Grass cutting

Note: Payments include VAT where appropriate

24/09/2018 **Churchyard Matters:** The late Thelma Clare Goodman – Memorial fee received for Plot 1-190 and erection of monument approved.

25/09/2018 **GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation):** The Acting Clerk reported that under GDPR, it was preferable for councillors to have a Parish Council email address rather than to use personal email addresses. It was agreed that Chair@ and ViceChair@ email addresses would be allocated to Cllrs Maclennan and Sandall respectively.

26/09/2018 **Councillors' Items:**

Highways: Cllr Sandall reported that he was trying to get in touch with the appropriate person at MKC about the possibility of downgrading the road to stop haulage trucks. He was also hoping to arrange a meeting between a traffic management officer and the PC.

The Clerk reported that she had been asked by a resident whether some hatching or something similar could be put on the road in front of the bus stop as on two occasions the bus had allegedly not stopped due to parked cars. It was thought that this had been discussed in the past but had been rejected as it would make the village appear more urban. It was also noted that the bus should have stopped in any case if there was someone in the bus shelter.

Planning: The Chair reported that she had been in touch with Cranfield about forming a liaison group and she was hoping that a meeting would be arranged soon.

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27/09/2018 **Consultation with other bodies:**

IMC: At a recent meeting, the following matters had been raised:

- Car Park – The IMC wanted it to be noted that the car park was for users of the Institute only and was not a public car park.
- Website – The IMC wished to have more extensive information on the Parish Council website. The Clerk requested that material was sent to her and she would then upload it. Cllr Hatton agreed to organise this.
- Play Area: A resident had complained that the ground got very muddy in wet weather and had requested that a different surface be considered. The Clerk agreed to contact MKC to ascertain who was responsible for this.

The Acting Clerk reported that she had received an email from the Air Ambulance Service asking for permission to place a recycling clothing bin in the car park. This was an IMC matter and Cllr Hatton agreed to deal with this.

NAG and Community Forum: The Acting Clerk had attended the meeting on 15 August. Matters discussed included crime statistics, policing levels and community speedwatch. A suggestion was made by an attendee that Parish Councils could perhaps all precept to provide the funding for an additional PCO. This did not receive support as the cost would be prohibitive.

28/09/2018 **Questions from residents:**

Road Diversions: A resident had been in touch with MKC about the lack of providing diversion signs when the roads in North Crawley were recently closed due to roadworks. He had not received a satisfactory reply and had escalated the matter via MKC's complaints procedure.

North Crawley Road: A resident mentioned the bad state of the verge on the North Crawley Road where the wooden and metal barrier had become damaged and was dangerous. It was thought that this had been mentioned to MKC a few months ago and the Acting Clerk was asked to contact MKC again.

Brook End: A resident commented about the business which appeared to have started there. It was thought that it was connected with dog training and that the Enforcement Officer may already have been out to visit. If any residents had already raised this with MKC, they were asked to forward the Case Number on to the Clerk.

Nixies Walk: The surface was in a very bad state of repair and was dangerous. Cllr Sandall agreed to email MKC about this matter.

29/09/2018 **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 2 October 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

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