

NORTH CRAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL



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 1 October 2019 at 7.30 pm

Present:	Parish Councillors: R Hatton (in the Chair after item 02/10/2019), D Harpur, G Ridgeley and J Sandall (after item 24/10/2019) Clerk and RFO S M Bushnell Ward Councillors K Maclean and P Geary 20 members of the public	
01/10/2019	<p>Resignation of Parish Councillor: The Clerk reported that Lucy Maclennan had resigned as a Parish Councillor and read out her resignation statement as follows: “As you will be aware the village has voted ‘No’ to the Neighbourhood Plan proposed by the Parish Council. It goes without saying that I am disappointed in the result given that 3 years hard work went into generating a plan which truly reflected the wishes of the village as per the surveys that were completed. As Chair of the Council, I have to take responsibility for this and hereby tender my resignation. Please note that this is not a knee-jerk reaction, but something that I have considered carefully over recent weeks. I feel horrified for North Crawley’s future as a result of this referendum, given that it has also been announced that MK has less than 5 years’ land supply so I fully expect developers to start submitting their planning applications. This is not something that I have the strength, energy or will to fight and would suggest that, given the ‘No’ campaign were so effective at voicing their opinion, this is something that they should have to resolve. I have no intention of doing this for them given the personal attacks that I have routinely been subject to over the last few months. I have enjoyed working with you over the past couple of years and wish you luck with the future running of the Council”</p> <p>This resignation was accepted with regret and many thanks were due to Lucy for the work she had undertaken for the Parish Council.</p> <p>Councillor Sandall had confirmed before the meeting that he would continue as Vice Chair. Nominations were therefore requested for</p>	

Signed: Chair Clerk Date

	the position of Chair and as a result Cllr Hatton was elected (Proposed by Cllr Harpur and seconded by Cllr Ridgeley).	
02/10/2019	Apologies for Absence Parish Councillor K Shaw; Ward Councillor D Hosking and PCSO C1018 Arlene Ormston	
03/10/2019	Declarations of Interests: None but councillors were asked to declare any during the meeting if appropriate.	
04/10/2019	Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3 September 2019 were agreed by all councillors after the deletion of "Broadmead" in Minute 18/09/2019 and signed as a true record.	
05/10/2019	Items from members of the public: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic calming This item would be considered during the meeting. Following a question by a resident, there was a discussion as to the change of format of the Parish Council meetings. Residents were referred to the minutes of the previous meeting and also the September edition of Scan when this change was explained.	
	Matters Arising from the previous meeting	
06/10/2019	Minute 06/09/2019 - Control of Dogs: The Clerk had taken the artwork to the manufacturer of the signs and proofs were awaited for approval.	
07/10/2019	Minute 07/09/2019 - Bend by Ring Tail Farm: There was nothing to report on this matter.	RH
08/10/2019	Minute 08/09/2019 - School banner: It was understood that the church had not approved the sign to be put within the boundary of the churchyard next to the notice boards. It was agreed that a site meeting would be held to ascertain whether the sign could be put on the other side of the fence on the Parish Council land.	
09/10/2019	Minute 09/09/2019 – Highways Weight/Speed limit: There was nothing to report on this at the moment.	JS
10/10/2019	Minute 10/09/2019 – Rural Paths: There was nothing further to report at the moment on the registration of Peter's Path with the Land Registry but the Clerk understood that this was being followed up by North Crawley United Charities. The Clerk had written to the owners of 47 High Street again about the leaning fence but no reply had been received to date.	
11/10/2019	Minute 11/09/2019 Rural Paths: There was nothing further to report on the installation of the kissing gates. The Clerk would monitor this.	Clerk

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12/10/2019	Minute 13/09/2019 Councillors' Items - Footpaths: The Clerk had contacted a member of the North Crawley Historical Society about photos of the path and its condition in the past but unfortunately there did not appear to be any in existence. MKC had confirmed that queries about the car park in Bryans Crescent should be directed to the MKC parking team. The Clerk would contact them.	Clerk
13/10/2019	Minute 14/09/2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nixeys Walk: The Chair confirmed that this path was included on MKC's footpath works schedule for 2020/2021. • The Clerk had phoned G Moore about vehicles passing through the village and had been advised that evidence was needed so that the matter could be discussed with individual drivers. A note therefore needed to be taken of registration numbers and dates and times which then needed to be passed on to the company. 	
14/10/2019	Minute 23/09/2019 - Recreation: It was agreed that the Clerk would send to Cllr Shaw the application procedure for grants from the Bucks Playing Fields Association. The possibility of being able to obtain financial assistance to extend the cricket ball protection could then be investigated further.	Clerk
15/10/2019	Minute 25/09/2019 - Visit by Milton Keynes Mayor: The Clerk had not yet invited the Mayor to visit but it was agreed that this would be considered at a later meeting.	Clerk
16/10/2019	Update from PCSO Arlene Ormston: As Arlene was not present there was no formal report. However the only crime in the village since the last meeting had been criminal damage to the fence around the Cricket Club patio. The damage had been repaired by a resident to whom thanks were due.	
17/10/2019	Planning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19/02360/FUL – To recondition and convert a disused agricultural barn for the use of a children's day nursery at Rectory Farmhouse, 5 Brook End: It was agreed that there were no objections to this application. • 19/02271/TCA and 19/02380/TPO Work to trees in North Crawley Churchyard: These were applications submitted on behalf of the Parish Council in order to carry out remedial work identified at a recent site meeting. • 19/02245/TCA – Prune back lateral branches on walnut tree at 20 Church Walk: There were no objections to this application. • 19/02439/TCA – Intervention to crown-reduce a cherry laurel and remove a sycamore to ground level at 16 Church Walk. The reason for removal of the tree was not apparent from the application and Cllr Ridgely agreed to investigate further. 	GR
18/10/2019	Strip of Lane in Orchard Way – The Clerk reported that she had	

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	<p>received the necessary evidence forms that needed to be completed for an application to register land as a village green to be considered. She agreed to pass the information on to the other parish councillors for their information and also for them to consider whether any other areas in North Crawley should be considered for village green status. She would also forward the information on to the North Crawley Heritage Society asking for the forms to be completed and returned to her for submission to MKC. Cllr Ridgely wondered whether Kilpin Green would be suitable to be registered as a village green. Ward Cllr Geary pointed out that the information required and the procedure to be followed was onerous, similar to a planning application, and that no guarantee could be given for success. It therefore had to be considered whether the work necessary would be justified by the end result.</p>	Clerk
19/10/2019	<p>Ward Councillors' Report: Cllr Maclean reported that, out of the 7 or 8 Neighbourhood Plans with which he had been involved, North Crawley's had been the most divisive. The result was very disappointing and ironically, as doubt had been cast on the MK's land supply the day before the referendum, the lack of a Plan potentially put North Crawley in a very vulnerable position as far as speculative planning applications were concerned. Legal advice was being sought about MKC's land supply as there was conflicting opinions due to two appeals in Hanslope being dismissed and one being upheld.</p> <p>There was nothing further to report on the HIF Bid but it was understood that it was still being considered and might be approved. Speedwatch training courses would soon be held for volunteers who wished to learn to be operators.</p> <p>He had asked Lucy Boddington at Thames Valley Police about the use of the ANPR cameras and had been told that they would be operated both in real time and for investigatory purposes. It would be possible to look at real time footage for information when a crime had been committed.</p> <p>He would be going round the 19 wards with Cllr Geary and Michael Bracey (Chief Executive, MKC). In North Crawley, the Neighbourhood Planning sites and speeding in Folly Lane would be looked at and he asked for details of other relevant areas to be passed on to him. The Chair mentioned the railings and bollards at Ring Tail farm which were unsightly and had not been rectified despite MKC being informed.</p> <p>Cllr Geary said that the top priority now was to resolve the issue over the lack of a Neighbourhood Plan. He felt that it was unlikely that MKC would be able to fund another referendum (£3,000 to £4,000) unless there was a radical change to the plan. He hoped that it would be possible for minor changes to be made and then, after consultation, that the Plan would obtain the support of the majority of the voters through another referendum. Funding would</p>	

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	<p>however be an issue. A resident questioned the number of years of housing land supply as it was currently stated as being above 5 years on the MKC website. Cllr Geary explained that this figure was a moving target that was changed constantly due to building land being added to the figure and other land being removed from it due to not being delivered within the time scale. Without a neighbourhood plan, villages were very vulnerable as the argument of building in open countryside could not be used if the land supply figure was less than 5 years. He said that Tracy Darke (MKC) would be happy to meet the Parish Council/Steering Group to ascertain a possible way forward. If the alterations to the Plan were minimal and action was fast, it might be possible to have another Plan ready for a referendum in about 9 months' time. He emphasised that it was necessary to accept some housing development in order to take advantage of the protection of a Neighbourhood Plan.</p>																																																					
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21/10/2019	Churchyard matters: There was nothing to report.																																																					
22/10/2019	<p>Councillors' Items:</p> <p>Landscape: Cllr Ridgeley reported that he had received quotes for replacement trees of £75 per tree. The Chair reported that she had received a message from a resident who would be prepared to do straightforward tree work and replace trees free of charge. It was agreed that this was a very generous offer that would be investigated further. The Chair would pass the information she had received to Cllr Ridgley.</p>	Chair																																																				
23/10/2019	<p>Correspondence and new consultations:</p> <p>Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service: Consultation was to begin on the new Public Safety Plan for the provision of fire and rescue services in Bucks and MK. Details of the Plan and how to</p>																																																					

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	<p>respond to the consultation was via the following link: https://bucksfire.gov.uk/psp.</p> <p>YMCA: The Clerk had received an email from the YMCA in Milton Keynes requesting a small contribution towards the cost of furnishing a room in their new building which was due to open next year. Although it was recognised that this was a good cause to support vulnerable young people, it was decided regrettably that a contribution could not be made. The Parish Council did not have a budget for general grants of this nature.</p> <p>North Crawley Ladies: This group had requested permission to decorate the bus shelter over the Easter period with knitted daffodils. This was approved.</p>	
24/10/2019	<p>Neighbourhood Plan update: Cllr Sandall read out the following statement: “The villagers of North Crawley went to the polls on 26th September and were asked - Do you want Milton Keynes Council to use North Crawley’s neighbourhood plan to help it decide on planning applications in the neighbourhood area? - 61.9% turned out and of those numbers 169 said Yes and 206 said No. Part of the No campaign’s manifesto was to declare we didn’t need a neighbourhood plan as we would be protected under PLAN: MK. They said there was a buffer of 6+ years. Ironically on the same day as this village went to the polls, an appeal statement from Her Majesty’s planning inspector was released and stated that in fact Milton Keynes Council only had 4.4 years housing supply and thus allowed 100 extra homes on open countryside in Hanslope. Where was that protection? If we had a neighbourhood plan we would have been safe to a level of 3 years’ housing supply, a number Milton Keynes has never been below. I therefore believe it is in the village interest to request the support of the Parish Council and re-form a steering group, ask members of the village to come back to the drawing board and make the amendments necessary to put it back to the village at another referendum. It won’t be something that will happen overnight so we will need to continue to fight any application that comes along with everything we have at our disposal but I’m sure with the support of the village and ward councillors we can do it together. Thank you for your time.”</p> <p>It was agreed that an update on this matter and the way forward would be made at the next Parish Council meeting.</p>	
25/10/2019	<p>Traffic Calming: Cllr Sandall reported that a costed scheme had not yet been received from MKC and that this was awaited. The scheme would be considered at that time and would be subject to consultation with residents before deciding on any scheme.</p>	
26/10/2019	<p>Date and time of next meeting: Tuesday 5 November 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.</p>	

Signed: Chair Clerk Date