

# NORTH CRAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 3 March 2020 at 7.30 pm

Present:	Parish Councillors: R Hatton, D Harpur and G Ridgely Clerk/RFO S M Bushnell Ward Councillors P Geary and D Hosking 2 members of the public	
01/03/2020	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> Ward Councillor K McLean	
02/03/2020	<b>Membership of Parish Council:</b> The Clerk reported that Councillor Shaw had resigned as a Parish Councillor. Councillor Sandall had also resigned as he had been unable to attend meetings of the Parish Council over the last few months due to family and work commitments and was unable to give the time that the role deserved. He thanked the Parish Council for the work it carried out and said that “it was the machine that keeps the village moving in the right direction and, with the help of the Ward Councillors, we have a voice in front of Milton Keynes Council so issues at a Parish level are heard and dealt with”. He confirmed that he would still be continuing to work with the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and assured the Parish Council that it would continue to have his support. The Clerk had put a notice in Scan to ask again for potential parish councillors to come forward. Ward Councillor Geary confirmed that, in the event of the Parish Council not being able to operate due to a lack of Councillors, Milton Keynes Council would have no option but to close the Parish Council down. All the work that the Parish Council carried out would then be done by Milton Keynes Council and the residents would be charged more through their precept to cover the cost. All of the Milton Keynes area was covered by a Parish or Town Council and the Council was rightly proud of this achievement. It was therefore important that the Parish Council in North Crawley continued to exist. He hoped that residents would realise the situation and would put their names forward to become Parish Councillors.	
03/03/2020	<b>Declarations of Interests:</b> None but Councillors were asked to declare any during the meeting if appropriate.	
04/03/2020	<b>Approval of Minutes:</b> The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7 January 2020 were agreed by all Councillors. The meeting due to be held on 4 February 2020 did not take place because it was inquorate.	
05/03/2020	<b>Items from members of the public:</b> The Chair asked members of the public for any items that they would like to be discussed at the meeting or to be considered by the Council. A resident expressed her concern about the state of the road through North Crawley. It was reported that work was	

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	scheduled to take place on 6 March. This situation would be taken up further with MKC should the repairs again be inadequate.	Clerk
06/03/2020	<p><b>Planning matters:</b> Carrie Chan (Planning Officer – Development Management at MKC) was present at the meeting. She began by outlining her role and she said that any planning concerns could be passed on to her if it was not possible to contact the particular case officer. Matters discussed included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The process for publicising planning applications – normally only residents within a close area of the dwelling concerned would receive a letter. Applications that had a wider significance might also have a notice placed in a prominent position.</li> <li>• How big did an extension have to be to come under permitted development and therefore not require planning permission? There were many criteria to take into account in order to ascertain whether there were permitted development rights but extensions of 50% of the whole plot excluding the original building could be possible.</li> <li>• Checking building against planning approvals – the Enforcement Officer did not check on the outcome or progress of planning approvals unless there were particular conditions that had to be met. Reliance was therefore put on residents or the Parish Council reporting a concern and this had to be made in writing. The Enforcement Officer should then investigate.</li> <li>• Trees – there was concern that the views of the Parish Council were not taken into account. The arborist had to follow strict policy before deciding whether a Tree Preservation Order should be put on a tree. Providing that this process had been followed correctly, and a TPO was deemed not appropriate, work could then be done to the tree or it could be felled, even if in a conservation area. Trees in conservation areas usually did not have TPO's on them because approval had to be gained before any work was carried out on them. The necessary process would then be followed before approval was given for the work. The MKC Tree Officer (Stephen Narborough) would always be willing to give advice. It was possible for Parish Councils to apply for a TPO to be put on a tree. However, the process would take a while to complete.</li> <li>• Mirrors on highways – It was confirmed that if mirrors were on the highway to help vision for motorists then approval would have to be obtained from Highways. Planning permission would also be required.</li> </ul> <p>The Chair thanked Carrie Chan for her attendance.</p>	
07/03/2020	<p><b>Ward Councillors' Report:</b> Ward Councillor Geary reported that a decision had still not been made on the Infrastructure Bid. The MKC budget had now been approved which would result in a 3.5% increase in council tax. Two amendments suggested by the Ward Councillors for funding for potholes and white lining had not been</p>	

Signed: Chair ..... Clerk ..... Date .....

	accepted. There was however a sum of £20,000 available for grants towards VE Day celebrations	
	<b>Matters Arising from the previous meeting</b>	
08/03/2020	<b>Minute 05/01/2020- Bend by Ring Tail Farm:</b> There was nothing to report on this matter.	Chair
09/03/2020	<b>Minute 06/01/2020 - noticeboard:</b> The Ward Grant of £300 had been received. The Chair thanked the Ward Councillors for this. During the discussion with Carrie Chan, it had been confirmed that the Parish Council would need to obtain planning permission to erect a sign on the Wasteground to house the village map. It was agreed that a site meeting would be held in the first instance to consider the best location for it.	
10/03/2020	<b>Minute 10/01/2020 Bryans Crescent car park:</b> The Clerk reported that she had received a phone call earlier in the day to the effect that Neighbourhood Services were not responsible for maintaining this area and that it was Highways. A lot of buck-passing was therefore occurring which was unacceptable. This would continue to be pursued through MKC.	Clerk
11/03/2020	<b>Minute 11/01/2020 – Recreation – cricket ball protection nets:</b> There was nothing further to report on this matter.	
12/03/2020	<b>Minute 15/01/2020 - Tennis court lights at Ringcroft Farm:</b> There was nothing further to report on this matter.	
13/03/2020	<b>Minute 19/01/2020 -Planning:</b> 19/03414/OUT – Outline planning permission application for the erection of five new dwellings off Orchard Way, North Crawley – This application had been withdrawn by the applicant.	
14/03/2020	<b>Minute 25/01/2020 Councillors’ Items:</b> <b>Highways</b> – As mentioned by Carrie Chan above, Highways would need to be contacted about installing the mirror. The Clerk would investigate further. <b>Queuing traffic at recycling centre</b> - Nothing further was reported on this matter. <b>Kissing gate and stile</b> – Cllr Ridgley reported that he had contacted the landowner who had confirmed that these would be repaired.	Clerk
15/03/2020	<b>Planning:</b> 20/004115/FUL – Single storey rear extension at 27 High Street, North Crawley: It was agreed that there were no objections to this extension as it would not be viewed from the High Street and the existing thatch roof would not be disturbed. Concern was however expressed about the potential disruption to the High Street by deliveries of materials, etc. and that there should be a plan in place to ensure that such disruption was kept to a minimum. The Clerk was asked to respond to MKC accordingly.	Clerk
16/03/2020	<b>MK Play Association:</b> Details of play sessions had been received and it was agreed that these would be organised in the village again as they had been so successful last year. The Chair agreed to take this forward.	Chair

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17/03/2020	<p><b>Traffic Calming Scheme:</b> It was agreed that this matter would be restarted due to the lack of progress over the recent attempt with MKC. The recent SIDS data received had shown excessive speeding between 1030 and 1830 hours entering the village and something had to be done to try to reduce this. The Chair suggested that slightly raised rumble strips at the two main entrances to the village, but away from houses, might be a solution to slow the traffic down. The Chair agreed to investigate further.</p>	Chair																
18/03/2020	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan Update:</b> Cllr Harpur reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A new member had joined the Group (Ruth Ambridge) in place of Andy Gresty who had recently resigned.</li> <li>• The feasibility of sites was still being investigated and two new sites had been put forward – Lower Croft Field on the Chicheley Road and a site adjacent to Site 9 on Folly Lane. A vote was taken which excluded the land past the bridleway in Folly Lane as it was too isolated.</li> <li>• Letters had been sent to landowners giving them 28 days to respond. Landowners of isolated sites had been contacted to explain why their land had been discounted and asking others whose sites had been identified to engage with the Steering Group.</li> <li>• The withdrawn outline planning application for five houses in Orchard Way had been discussed and confirmed that it would still be considered in the new plan.</li> <li>• The definition of affordable homes was too restricting as a site would have to be found for at least eleven houses. It was decided therefore that reference would be made to providing 2, 3 and 4 bedroom homes on any site.</li> <li>• Green boundaries to be included around new sites to prevent sprawl into open countryside.</li> <li>• A public meeting had been held on 27 February with 17 members of the public in attendance. Three large maps had been displayed at the meeting showing the parish boundary, the settlement boundary and the conservation area.</li> <li>• Questions had been asked at the public meeting about the definition of “open countryside” and whether the sewerage system would be able to cope with additional housing.</li> </ul>																	
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20/03/2020	<p><b>Churchyard matters:</b></p> <p>The Late Betty Ethel Smith – Interment of cremated remains in existing grave number 3/126. Fee of £180 received. Additional inscription on an existing headstone approved - fee of £70 received.</p> <p>The Chair reported that someone had attempted unsuccessfully to trim the box hedge around the Garden of Rest. The arisings had been left where they fell and some parts of the hedge appeared to be dying off. There were also other areas of the churchyard that needed clearing including various unauthorised items that had been placed in the Garden of Rest. It was agreed that a site meeting would be held to discuss any work or clearing that needed to be done and the Clerk agreed to place an item in Scan to inform people that unauthorised items would be removed by a certain date.</p>	Clerk																																																				
21/03/2020	<p><b>75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day:</b> The Chair indicated that she would be unable to organise an event without a great deal of help from residents and she had doubts whether sufficient help would be offered. In view of this, and the uncertainty of whether there would be enough people wanting to attend, it was reluctantly decided not to organise an event. It was noted that the Historical Society might be organising an event.</p>																																																					

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22/03/2020	<p><b>Councillors' Items:</b></p> <p><b>Brook End pavement crossing:</b> Cllr Harpur reported that there was a problem with vehicles parking on the High Street very close to the pavement crossing towards Brook End and that the grass verge had been seriously damaged. He suggested that bollards similar to those on the High Street could perhaps be installed on either side of the crossing to deter people from parking in this way. The Clerk would contact Highways about this.</p> <p><b>The Ford:</b> It had been reported that a tree was down at the Ford. Cllr Harpur agreed to investigate this.</p>	Clerk DH
23/03/2020	<p><b>Correspondence and information matters:</b> The Clerk reported that a recycling wheelie-bin pilot was taking place from June/July for six months. Residents would have 3 extra wheelie-bins in addition to the current green waste bin (Grey, Red and Blue bins). Residents would be encouraged to send their comments on the pilot scheme to MKC. Further details would be available in due course.</p>	
24/03/2020	<p><b>North Crawley Annual Parish Meeting:</b> The Clerk reported that, legally, an Annual Parish Meeting had to be organised and in North Crawley, it was usually held in May at 6.30 pm prior to the regular Parish Council meeting. This meeting was not a Parish Council meeting but was a meeting for residents who could contribute to the agenda but the meeting was poorly attended. Members were asked to consider what could be done to improve the attendance at this meeting and it was agreed that a note would be placed in Scan to ask residents to send in agenda items to the Clerk and to encourage them to attend the meeting.</p>	Clerk
25/03/2020	<p><b>Date and time of next meeting:</b> Tuesday 7 April 2020 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.</p>	

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