

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING

HELD WEDNESDAY 15th MAY 2019 @ 6.00pm
IN THE VILLAGE HALL, TALBOTS END CROMHALL

There were 7 residents, 3 councillors and the Clerk present. Apologies were received from Cllr Aston. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

Annual council report - Cllr Mike Line

Council meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month in the village hall. Councillors Roland Hobbs, David White, Steve Aston, Daren Jeffery (Vice Chairman) and Mike Line (Chairman) represent the parish.

During the last year the council has:

- considered 21 planning applications.
- Reviewed 16 consultations
- Monitored footpaths throughout the parish and reported issues
- Maintained various green areas within the parish including The Green and common land around the Royal Oak.
- Commissioned dog bin emptying and municipal grass cutting.
- Provided regular updates to the website and produced articles for 5Alive outlining and updating residents on council activities and local road issues.
- Raised awareness of dog worrying and the importance of clearing up after you dog.
- Liaised with South Gloucestershire council over signage to prevent problems with SatNav directions encouraging large lorries down Cromhall Lane and Knapp Lane and getting stuck.
- Continued to work with SGC to address speeding in the village.
- Reviewed ANPR cameras
- Laid wreath at the Remembrance Service
- Participated in StreetCare's Doing More Together consultation
- Responded to parishioners' concerns raised at meetings or in correspondence with the clerk.
- Worked with parishioners to try and address the poor provision of broadband at Bibstone. Sadly, this has been unsuccessful
- Successfully obtained a little owl box from Hawk and Owl Trust
- Approved the purchase of a new parish council notice board at Townwell. The council wishes to thank the village shop for allowing it to display agendas on it noticeboard.

The council had represented the parish on:

- Community Engagement Forum
- Quarry Liaison Group
- Frome environmental group
- Cromhall Poor Allotment Charity

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) came into force in 2018 regulating the use of personal data. Cromhall Parish Council recognises its responsibility and has introduced

- Data Protection Policy
- Email contact privacy policy
- Privacy notice for residents

The village gates project has been agreed and gates will be installed by South Gloucestershire Council as a speed reducing measure. Unfortunately, there has been very long processes with unexpected delays, but the parish council hopes the gates will be installed soon.

A Spring clean was held on 14th April 2019.

The council wishes to thank Ward Councillor John O'Neill for his support throughout the year and attendance at council meetings.

A new budget was agreed for 2019/20 and the precept set at £21,000. This will help ensure the council can continue to build up appropriate levels of reserves to cover future replacement of play equipment, funds to maintain the village greens and

Grants made to community group:

T@3 (senior citizens)	£190
St Andrews school PTFA	£608
St Peters Hospice	£100
Benefice Newsletter	£300
Royal British legion	£200
Above and beyond	£200
Brandon Trust	£174
Total	£1772

Cllr Hobbs has stepped down as a councillor and thanks were extended for all his hard work. Following uncontested elections, the council has 3 vacancies. Parish councils are important, and the parish needs a few more individuals to join, it only takes a few hours a month.

REPORTS FROM GROUPS:

Poors Allotment APA Report 2019 - Cllr White

Brief outline of the charity.....

The object of the charity is for the relief of the poor in the parish of Cromhall and its income is distributed to people over 65 who have been in the village 5 years or more, near Christmas, in the way of vouchers to be used in the village shop. (One voucher per couple.)

Individuals can apply for assistance if they find themselves in need, and all requests will be considered.

The charity is run by four Parish Council appointed trustees – currently, David White, Caroline Massey, Doug Collett and Clive Young.

All were saddened by the death of Eric Scolding, last year, who had been a trustee since before 1978 and his experience and knowledge will be greatly missed.

Brief presentation of Accounts 2018....

Income was generated, as usual, primarily by the Grass Keep, a Rural Payment Agency payment and electricity wayleave which totalled £3,572 (It is still not known how long the RPA payment will be made and, if it is not, then the income will be greatly reduced and therefore the amount available for the purposes of the charity will fall.)

Expenditure included water rates, secretary fee, agent's fees and the Christmas Gifts (69 at £25 each - £1,725) and grant to '5Alive'. There was also a grant given a village family in need of assistance and total expenditure had been £3,487. Profit over the year = £85

It is important to note that the new list of recipients, of vouchers, held by the secretary now complies with the new General Data Protection Regulations as all on this list have given their written consent. However 9 of the 69 distributed last year have not returned their consent and consequently are not recorded. With rare individual requests made for assistance, the trustees are looking to devise an application form for such help to clarify the situation. This should allow the trustees to respond fairly and consistently to all. Sue Wray, Secretary 27.3.19

PCC annual report - Stephen Youngs - available at <http://www.saintandrewscromhall.org.uk/>

A new noticeboard has been installed by the school.

Radio microphones linked to hearing loop have been installed in the church.

Church attendance averages 18 although there are concerns over long term attendance with an aging parishioner base.

2018 income £21,000 expenditure £19,500 of which £10,800 cover clergy costs in the area although no incumbent. There are two chaplains to lead services. 2018 saw 4 baptisms, 1 wedding and 3 funerals.

There has been no increase in the roof funds. Repairs will cost in the region of £250K and external funding will be needed. A new Friends group is being set up to support the church - following the National Churches Trust guideline with own website and Facebook page. The church is the oldest building in the village and a grade 1 listed building so is important to the village. Group is looking for people with skills and time to support grant applications and develop ideas for more community use. More details will be published in 5Alive.

Village Hall Stig Agotnes

Annual meeting was held in March, full details on Cromhall.com website. Hall has been open a year since major refurbishment. New heating is now working effectively. Many regular user groups have returned and there are weekly fitness classes and a monthly Country and Western night. Currently there are 8 committee members and more support would be welcomed.

Cllr Line opened the floor to questions.

None

Cllr Line thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 6.40pm when refreshments were available.