

Cromhall Parish Council

Cromhall Parish Council, PO Box 129, Wotton-under-Edge, Glos GL11 9DH

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MINUTES

Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 23rd May 2023 at 7.30pm
at Cromhall Village Hall, Talbots End, Cromhall GL12 8AJ

***APPROVED at the next council meeting, held on 27th June 2023
Signed copy held by the Clerk***

Present:

Cllrs M Daniel, D Jeffery, M Line, A New and L Palmer and Clerk C Maidment

In attendance: Ward Cllr J O'Neill and four members of the public

Public Participation

Concern was raised by the public on potholes at Cromhall lane and the main road by the garage, but it was confirmed at the meeting that these had been reported to South Gloucestershire Council. Concern was also expressed about the access roads on to the Bristol Road in terms of the ability to safely join the road due to the speed of the oncoming traffic. It was also noted that speed signs and pedestrian pathways are in places being compromised by overgrown bushes and trees.

1. Apologies

None.

2. Declarations of interest and dispensations

None declared.

3. Minutes

AGREED that the minutes of meeting 25th April 2023 were an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Public and Press

AGREED that no agenda items should be taken with the public or press excluded.

5. Clerk's Report

The new Clerk provided a breakdown of activities carried out during the month to get up to speed with the administration function of the role and setting the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting and the provision of a co-option policy and reviewing planning applications sent through from South Gloucestershire Council. **NOTED**

Ward Councillor Report

The Ward Councillor explained that after the recent election there was no overall control of South Gloucestershire Council, so Labour and the Liberal Democrats have come up with an agreement to work as a cabinet. One of the areas of concern being looked at currently is the lack of bus services in rural areas.

Lithium Battery Test Facility

Concern was raised by the public on the Lithium Battery testing Facility in Cromhall Quarry which was given planning consent last year and the view from the public that inadequate public consultation had taken place with an inadequate environmental impact carried out. The Ward Councillor agreed to take back the concerns with South Gloucestershire Council Planning. The response from the senior planning officer is below:

The relevant consultations were carried out. This was in fact to all three adjoining parishes (Charfield and Tortworth and Cromhall), it appears from the summary sheet that Councillors were consulted. The HSE, EA and Environmental Protection Team were also consulted, amongst others. There were no objections to the proposals. It should also be acknowledged that the site is within part of an existing active quarry, in a relatively remote location. There are detailed technical notes within the submission on the processes, procedure, requirements, and mitigation.

The application was not categorised as a major application for the purposes of registration. This was determined, last year, so is an extant consent for the initial ten year temp. period agreed

This assessment is based on an extant permission for an industrial type setting with Health and Safety contacted and Environmental Health having no objections and it was not listed as a major application and that is why the consultation process only consulted nearby properties as required in the planning process. The Ward Councillor understands the public concerns regarding the safety aspects of the testing, and he has asked South Gloucestershire Council to contact the agent to supply details of the legal safety framework that they operate.

Earthworks

The Ward Councillor has been in discussion raising a planning enforcement investigation for a possible breach on Earthworks regarding mud on the road and the disturbance of noise and dust. The initial findings as part of the investigation are the following:

On reviewing our records, it appears that the details have not been provided in accordance with the condition. While on site, our investigator established that there is a road sweeper in operation and a jet wash that is used to clean the road and wash the wheels of any wagon leaving the site. It may be that the use of a jet washer would be sufficient to comply with condition 6 and I am seeking further details from the quarry operator so that an informed decision can be reached on this issue.

In the meantime, the issue of mud on the road, including stones and other detritus, is a matter for our Streetcare Team and I am referring this issue to them. I can confirm that there is no planning condition relating to noise and dust on the above planning permission and so I have therefore referred this issue to our Environmental Protection Team. Please note that I have advised both teams that you have made the enquiry and to respond to you direct on these issues.

7. Planning

7.1 PT17/3550/MW Variation of condition 1 attached to permission PT11/2203/MW to update the proposed timeframe in which works described cease and variation of condition 7 attached to PT11/2203/MW to increase daily HGV movement to and from the site.

This planning application was discussed, and concern was raised with what appeared to be a breach of current planning numbers for HGV movements. Coupled with what impact this would have on surrounding roads and the environment if it was approved. Councillors agreed to an objection being raised and the basis of the objections would be forward to the Clerk for inclusion on the planning portal by the 7th of June 2023.

Decision: **Object**

8 Items for consideration and decision

8.1 Coronation mugs and teddys were distributed to the school with the remaining items given to the shop for distribution. **NOTED**

8.2 Discussions took place on the current Parish Bank account which was not meeting the needs of the council and it was agreed that the Clerk would look at the implications of moving the current banking arrangement to Unity Trust Bank **NOTED**

8.3 To consider grant applications and decide which to approve.

At the meeting the request from Cromhall Road Safety Project (CRSP) request to provide funding and support as a senior responsible officer and owner for the procurement/installation/maintenance of a safe speed camera in Cromhall was discussed. At the time of the meeting the expected funding from the police had not come through. Councillors' discussion still had concerns on what the implications would be on the council of being the senior responsible officer and owner of the installed system on finances and resources. Further discussion with CRSP would be required on these issues. **NOTED**

Although no grant applications had been received it was agreed that two previous applications be approved:

- St Andrews School PTFA portable Netball posts, Large Basketball post with a blackboard, a smaller basketball hoop and netballs and basketballs £738.21
- Cromhall Village Shop and Post Office Coffee Machine £339

Agreed

8.4 To consider further grant applications and to decide which to approve.

No further formal grant applications had been received but a request from Cromhall Flower Show and Fayre to use the school playing field has been received with a request for a community grant for the event to follow. It was agreed that the school playing field will be made available and when a grant application is received it will be considered.

Agreed use of school Playing Field

8.5 To consider wayleave ownership request from National Grid. This item was agreed to be pushed back to South Gloucestershire Council.

Agreed

8.6 To approve the recruitment of Colin Maidment as Cromhall Parish Clerk and RFO.

Agreed

8.7 To consider the need for the Clerk to enrol on the introduction to local council administration.

Agreed

8.8 To consider the provision of essential Councillor Training for new councillors.

It was agreed that these would be useful for new Councillors. The Clerk to find out next available courses and report back to the Council.

Agreed

8.9 A draft co-option policy was circulated pre meeting and it was agreed that the policy was acceptable.

Agreed

9 Finance- all approved

9.1 To NOTE signed reconciliation statement up to the 31st of April will be available next month
NOTED

9.2 To Note accounts for payments made for invoices received in May Paid see Table 1.
NOTED

10 Items for information only

10.1 To NOTE there are two spaces available for co-opting councilors which we are hoping to fill with applicants received. These will be considered at the next Parish Council Meeting in June.

NOTED

11.Date of next meeting

27th June 2023 at 7:30 pm.

Chairman:

Date: 27th June 2023

Table 1 Invoices paid in May 2023

| Payments for May 2023 | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|--|-----------------|---|--------------|
| Name | Invoice no | Details | Net | VAT | Total |
| Cromhall Parish Hall & recreation trust | CPC0423 | May Parish Meeting | £20 | | £20 |
| SGC Grounds Maintenance | 3805253056 | Grass cutting April 2023 | £403.40 | £80.68 | £484.08 |
| SGC Dog Waste & Grass Cutting | 3805254673 | Dog waste bin collection and grass cutting. | £185.25 | £37.05 | £222.30 |
| Arthur J Gallagher Insurance Brokers | 523750863 | Hiscox Cromhall Parish Council Insurance renewal 1/6/23 to 13/5/24 | Premium £537.01 | Insurance premium tax £64.45 & Fees £50 | £651.46 |
| Monarch Print | SI-136792 | Coronation Mugs and Bears for St Andrews School | £519.00 | £103.80 | £622.80 |
| Cromhall PCC | Grant Money | Tea at 3 | £155 | N/A | £155 |
| Income CIL PAID 28/04/23 | | Planning ref Land at Rectory Lane and land and building at Ivy Cottage | | £349.94 | |