



JANUARY MINUTES

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held at 7:00pm on **Thursday 14th January 2021** which was held remotely via zoom in line with the Covid-19 government restrictions.

- Present:** Cllr H. Small (Chair)
Cllr S. Amey (Vice-Chair)
Cllr S. Rhodes
Cllr H. Coombes
Cllr C. Mawby
Cllr A. Spence from 20.10 hrs
- In attendance:** Locum Clerk – Miss R Ward
New Clerk – Samantha Walsh
Maggie Wright - County Councillor.
- 20-099 Apologies for absence
None
- 20-100 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations
None
- 20-101 To sign as an accurate record the minutes of the previous meetings.
RESOLVED: Members agreed the chairman could sign the minutes of meetings on 10th December 2020 as a true and accurate record.
- 20-102 **Public Participation** (an opportunity for the public to speak and ask questions for 5 minutes).
None
- 20-103 **Reports:-**
- (a) County Councillor (Cllr M. Wright)
A report was issued to members prior to the meeting, Maggie joined the meeting at 7.25pm and had a short discussion.
- (b) District Councillor (Cllr D. Freer)
No apologies or report had been received
- (c) Police
The latest report was noted and will be issued on social media.
- (d) General Handyperson
A report was noted
- 20-104 **Action List Update**

- Croft Juniors – the contract is currently with the solicitors awaiting confirmation. Members wish to review the solicitors and look at other options. The locum clerk advised that NALC offer an hour of free legal advice through LRALC.
- No issues have been reported from the car park gates.
- New water trough for the allotments – Cllr Spence advised delivery is delayed.
- Grave markers amendments are still pending.

20-105 **Councillor resignation and consider co-option**

Councillor Carl King resigned from his post as parish councillor.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to accept his resignation and to publish a vacancy for the position for co-option.

20-106 **To agree the 2021/2022 budget**

Members were sent a basic budget by the locum clerk in December and discussed openly any issues.

The locum clerk advised the members that the new clerk would benefit from a finance package moving forward, the new clerk will advise options/costs at the February meeting.

RESOLVED: Members unanimously agreed the budget for 2021/2020

20-107 **To agree the 2021/2022 precept amount**

Members agree that there will be no increase in the precept request for the forthcoming year.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to present a precept request to Blaby District Council for £64,000 for 2021/2022 – the Chair to complete the proforma, sign and return to Howard Brier at Blaby District Council.

20-108 **Website Accessibility Update**

The website will be updated by 2commune Ltd and members await confirmation of a start date.

20-109 **S106 update**

Cllr Amey advised members that the S106 meeting with Anne Pawley went well and she is waiting for drawings to be added to the application and for Sovereign Ltd to confirm the price from the original quotation still stands.

20-110 **Planning**

No applications or decisions to be noted.

20-111 **Council owned sites**

a) Allotments

Cllr Coombes will collect all allotment documentation from Carl King (following his resignation from Council) and both she and Cllr Rhodes will take over as allotments representatives. All plot requests must follow the correct procedures and the waiting list is given priority and must view plots prior to agreement. The probationers plot is to be offered out now due to length of time it has not been tended.

20-112

b) Cemetery

The new sign has arrived but not yet been fitted, this is expected next week.

Council needs to review the Cemetery rules and the fees and charges – these will be included in the February agenda.

Cllr Rhodes/Cllr Spence have researched the replacement Walnut Trees which Council agreed to plant, unfortunately further work is needed and they will report back at next meeting.

Council had received a request for a RAF burial of a young serviceman to be buried at Croft Cemetery, the family are non-residents of the village and the Council took advice and discussed this issue on the 30th December 2020 due to the urgent nature of the request. The family have expressed how grateful they are for allowing him to be laid to rest here.

RESOLVED: Members agreed retrospectively to allow the burial to take place at Croft Cemetery. All non-resident requests will be dealt with on an individual basis and triple fees apply.

The chair advised that improvements are needed to the GOR (Garden of Remembrance) section and to consider ideas, look at other Cemeteries, ask funeral directors etc and to report back to Council.

Retired Councillor Phil Smith planted a small oak tree at the Cemetery which the view to it being a memorial tree, the tree is still very small so members are discussing other memorial options ie memorial wall.

Members discussed the movement of a memorial and the locum clerk advised that they must not move the memorial without the involvement of the mason who placed it originally in the wrong place.

Plots can be reserved at Croft Cemetery as they have 'exclusive rights of burial' which allows a family to buy the rights to a plot for 75 years.

20-113

c) Winston Avenue Sports Field inc MUGA and tennis courts

Concerns were raised regarding the care of the field when Croft Juniors have played on the pitch, the issues with mud being left on the car park and the MUGA.

Cllr Coombes will email the club to discuss:-

- Consideration on if the pitch is playable
- No football boots inside the MUGA
- Use the boot scrapers and bring additional as needed
- Children to be supervised at all times
- Clauses to be included in the contract for cleaning costs
- Do not clean boots in the car park and leave mud
- Be neighbourly

New signs were agreed for the boot scrapers and for no football boots in the MUGA.

RESOLVED: Cllr Coombes to advised costs of the signage and Cllr Small to update Croft Juniors on the issues raised and amend the contract accordingly.

20-114

d) Pavilion

Following the asbestos survey confirming removal is required, Cllr Amey was informed this can be dealt with by the builders when the renovation to the pavilion takes place and she confirmed that an architects drawing is required.

20-115

d) Fun Park

The bench fitting will be deferred until safe to fit under Covid-19 restrictions.

20-116

e) Repairs and maintenance

RESOLVED: Members agreed £250 for the installation of the new allotment noticeboard.

The war memorial sits on parish owned land and now that the RBL representative has retired, members agreed that the handyman will monitor and do any garden maintenance. If residents wish to volunteer they will need to either set up a volunteer group separate from the parish council or the parish council will agree to supply them with PPE and do risk assessments etc for the site.

20-117

Quarry

Cllr Mawby advised he has attended a meeting with Croft Quarry, MP Alberto Costa and Cllr Maggie Wright to discuss the planning permission for the quarry and the request for renovation, a new extension hole, landscaping and reinstatements of areas. MP Costa requested that the quarry consider pay back to the local area for the noise and inconvenience of the site. Minutes will be issued if received.

20-118

Summer Gala

RESOLVED: Members agreed to defer the Summer Gala due to Covid-19 restrictions and to make Christmas extra special, the agreed date for the switch on is Saturday 4th December 2021 at 7pm.

20-119

Defibrillator Installation update

Cllr Howard to contact Webnos for advice on the telephone box defibrillator and to confirm costs for the installation of box, electrics etc and to consider replacing the heritage photos.

The handyman to do the weekly checks on the 2 defibrillators.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to £1000 for Cllr Howard to complete the works on the defibrillator.

20-120

New Year Fireworks Complaint

Following complaints regarding the fireworks display at 8pm on 31st December 2020, the council confirmed that this event was not organised or authorised by the parish council, it was a private event.

It was discussed to be 'neighbourly' in the future that events of this nature should be circulated well ahead of time via social media and the like to make residents aware so they can make arrangements for their pets, children etc that may be affected.

20-121 **Croft Juniors**

No further issues raised.

20-122 **Clerks Vacancy**

The council welcomed Samantha Walsh as the new Parish Clerk and RFO with effect from today.

The chair asked all members to make contact with Samantha.

20-123 **e) To approve accounts for payment**

The chair sent all the payments for approval prior to the meeting and they will be approved and authorised by Cllr Mawby, Cllr Amey and Cllr Coombes.

The chair also sent the bank statement to members to be noted.

SO	Davina Meade	Dec Wage for Pavilion Cleaning	£78.00		£78.00
SO	Lloyds Pitchcare	Dec Grass cutting	£518.75		£518.75
BACS	Graham Stoker	Dec Handyman Wage	£435.00		£435.00
BACS	NEST	Graham Stoker Pension Contributions	£33.60		£33.60
BACS	HMRC	Tax and NI Payments	£16.20		£16.20
BACS	Mastery Design Limited	New Allotment Gates	£297.00	£59.40	£356.40
BACS	Graham Stoker	Dec Expenses	£31.16		£31.16
BACS	Mastery Design Limited	Cemetery Grave Posts	£200.00	£40.00	£240.00
BACS	Blaby District Council	Council Tax	£219.00		£219.00
BACS	ALP	Payroll Accounting	£35.00	£7.00	£42.00
BAC	Roz Ward	Temp Clerk Cover	£130.65		£130.65
Debit Card	Zoom	Dec Zoom Subscription	£14.39	£6.00	£20.39
BACS	LRALC	Clerk Salary Scaling	£100.00		£100.00
BACS	Waterplus	Water Rates	£204.00		£204.00
BACS	2Commune	Website Accessibility Upgrade	£350.00	£70.00	£420.00
			Total		£2,845.15

20-124 **Chairman's Time**

Cllr Howards chased his expenses – the chair to organise.

The council discussed the postal address options for the council moving forward and will set up a P O Box address.

The handyman to be asked to clean some of the road signs.

The speed sign repair has been reported to Highways.

20-125 **Date of Next Meeting:** Thursday 11th February 2021 at 7.00 pm to be held remotely via zoom in line with Covid 19 restrictions.

Meeting closed at 21.08pm