

CRUWYS MORCHARD PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council meeting was held in Cruwys Morchard Parish Hall on Thursday 11th February 2016 at 8 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mrs S. Smyth (Chairman), Mr D. Berry, Mrs J. Mitchell, Mr A. Chave, Mr M. Lake, Mr G. Kingdom, Mr G. Hall, Mr N. Baker (Flu), Cllr P. Colthorpe (District Councillor)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr M. Squires (County Councillor)

ABSENCE NO APOLOGY GIVEN

None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2016 had already been circulated prior to the meeting.

Proposal: Agreement to the content of the minutes was proposed by Mr. Berry and seconded by Mr Lake unanimously agreed by the meeting and duly signed by the chairman.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

MATTER ARISING

None

PLANNING APPLICATION (15/01962/CLU) Certificate of lawfulness for the continued use of agricultural building as an agricultural engineering business (Use Class B2 and B8) for a period in excess of 10 years at South Eastway Farm

Mrs Mitchell and Mr Berry left the meeting

A short discussion took place

Proposal: Mr Hall proposed and Mr Chave seconded recommending acceptance of this application and the meeting unanimously agreed.

Mrs Mitchell and Mr Berry returned to the meeting

PLANNING APPLICATION (16/00027/CLU) – Certificate of lawfulness for existing residential dwelling and associated use of land as residential garden for a period in excess of 10 years at Higher Yeadbury Farm, Pennymoor

A short discussion took place.

Proposal: Mr Lake proposed and Mr Baker seconded acceptance of this application and the meeting unanimously agreed.

PARISH HALL HIRE FEES

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The clerk stated that she kept a log of the parish hall usage for the year 2015 and total cost was £114.00 based on £6 per hour.

Proposal: Mr Berry proposed and Mr Chave seconded agreement to this payment and the meeting unanimously agreed. A cheque was duly drawn and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

PARISH GRASS CUTTING

The clerk reported that in December 2015 she had received an email from Mid Devon District Council concerning the changes to the way the County council's grass cutting is done in parishes. At present the work is contracted out by Mid Devon DC. From 2016/7 the district council could only continue to do this work if a parish pays for the planned 6 cuts per year (The County council pays Mid Devon DC some money but this is not enough). If a parish is not prepared to pay the extra cost then Mid Devon DC would no longer provide this service and it would revert back to the County Council who would give the parish some money, but this would not be enough to employ someone to do the work or another option was for the residents to do the work instead.

Unfortunately, when the original consultation was issued to parish councils in September 2015 the maps held by both Devon CC and Mid Devon DC showed all of Nomansland being in Thelbridge parish and therefore Cruwys Morchard was not contacted until December. The only bit of grass cutting the County Council has responsibility for in Cruwys Morchard parish is in Nomansland. Because of the different parish councils being responsible for some of the main road through Nomansland, any decision made will need to be the same for both parishes.

The Chairman disputed that there was grass to be cut as shown on the map and would investigate further. The clerk was asked to contact Thelbridge PC to find out what their decision was on the different options available.

It was thought that a site visit by a Mid Devon DC maybe warranted to clarify exactly what areas of grass they cut.

TRANSPARENCY CODE GRANT

The clerk reported that the parish council had received £449.96 in respect of the requested Transparency Code Grant.

It was decided that the clerk would purchase a laptop, bag, security software, mouse and MS Office with this money. A printer would be purchased at a later stage when required.

TAP FUND

The clerk stated that time was running out to apply for TAP Fund monies.

A discussion took place about the need for parish councils to pay for the following items:

- Village Sign
- Fingerpost signs
- Grit Bin
- Grass cutting

The clerk was asked to find out the cost of a village sign for Pennymoor as this was the longest outstanding item on list. Cllr Squires also mentioned she does have some locality funds available which could be used to pay for signs or a grit bin.

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HIGHWAY PROBLEMS

- It was reported that there are several potholes between South Linhay and East Ruckham
- There are several areas where leaf clearing needs to be done to stop blocked drains, especially through Pennymoor and Way Village. Cllr Squires stated that leaf clearing is the District Councils responsibility.

Meeting closed 9:00 p.m.

Signed (Chairman)..... Date.....