

A meeting of Croydon Parish Council was held on Wednesday 21 January 2015 in the Reading Room at 8.00pm.

Apologies: Mr Friend - work commitments, Cllr Smith - homeless issue.

Present: Mr Martin, Mr Wheeler, Mr Sole, Cllr Kindersley, Cllr Smith, two members of public and the Clerk.

Minutes: of the December meeting, previously circulated, were agreed and signed.

Declarations of Interest: None received

The Chairman invited Cllr Kindersley to give any updates:-

50mph extension: Cllr Kindersley reported that Cllr Smith was successful in her presentation of Council's bid for an extension to the 50mph speed limit on Lower Road to Tadlow. Council asked that their appreciation for both Cllr Smith's presentation and Cllr Kindersley's help be recorded in the minutes.

The surface of Lower Road has deteriorated despite recent expenditure of around £300,000 on the surface. Council felt that a lot of this is largely due to the many trees and their roots, along the side of the road.

Solar Installation: Complaints are being received about the Solar Installation currently under construction on land adjacent to Manor Farm in Croydon. Croydon Hill surface and verges have been ruined by the additional heavy lorry traffic, there has been Sunday working and traffic is using Church Lane instead of the new road into the site. The site itself seems to be spreading more than it should do, the ditches are silted and the field is waterlogged. Arrington is complaining that landscaping is needed to disguise the panels, although this is unlikely to be done until the site is completed. Cllr Kindersley will be speaking to the planners about this.

Article 4 and the Village Pub: SCDC is conducting a survey on the use of Article 4. Article 4 directions could be used to withdraw the permitted development rights which currently allow the conversion to other uses such as retail or offices, or for their demolition. An article 4 direction does not prevent the development but does require planning permission for the development to be obtained first. Cllr Kindersley encouraged Council to respond to this, citing the loss of the Pear Tree Pub in Hildersham as an example of what can happen without the use of Article 4. Consultation papers were distributed to Councillors for their response.

Street Lighting: The replacement of street lights with energy efficient versions has been a shambles, creating a terrible mess and taking far longer than it should have done. It is also likely that the new lights will be switched off at night to save energy!

Local Plan: There is a development of 2300 houses proposed for West Cambourne. This will greatly increase traffic on the A1198 and A428 and put further strain on the infrastructure in the area. Apparently the site is in the parish of Caxton and they are not best pleased. Council was encouraged to respond to the application.

CCC Budget: Council Tax will increase by 1.99%.

City Deal: Votes are currently held electronically so they are secret. A new member wants to change the system so that all votes are recorded and it can be seen how members actually voted. The worst that can happen is that there will be transparency in local government! Cllr Kindersley has already suggested that Council meetings should be filmed and put on YouTube, so that constituents can see what goes on and who does contribute to a meeting.

Rouse's Wood: Nothing further to report on this.

Queen Adelaide house: Cllr Kindersley pointed out that the Section 106 rules changed at the end of December, so it is unlikely that Council will see any contribution should the application be approved. As the matter was already under discussion, Council continued to peruse the plans before making the following comments:-

- immediate neighbours must not object
- car parking and access adequately marked
- no houses to be overlooked

Voting: 1 in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention.

Clerk to e-mail result to SCDC, as agreed.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Kindersley for his report and input, and as there were no further questions for him, left the meeting.

Matters Arising:

Reading Room: Nothing further to report - Mr Friend will let us know if anything changes..

QA: No further news on a projected opening date.

Hedges: CCC have been out and looked at the problem.

Push Energy: The agreement document has been returned to Push Energy - nothing further has been heard from them, to date.

Recruitment Leaflets: Final draft approved. Clerk will try and get them into the Parish Magazine for circulation.

CAPALC: Nominations required for the Queen's Garden Party in May - no suggestions.

Ermine Street Housing: Council has received the required information from SCDC - no Business Plan for Ermine Street Housing currently exists!

CLP: The Chairman welcomed Mr Ralph and Mr Firth from the Community Led Plan. They gave a brief update of how the Plan was progressing and gave Councillors a courtesy copy of it. There will be a village meeting on 28 February to present the findings to the parish.

Correspondence:

70th Anniversary of WWII: SCDC is planning to commemorate the 70th anniversary of VE and VJ Day in 2015. Groups are able to apply for small grants - please contact Gemma Barron - 01954 713340 or by e-mail gema.barron@scambs.gov.uk

ACRE Funding: ACRE asking for support for the continuation of funding from the Government.

SCDC Community Heroes: Five categories of awards:-

- Village Hero
- Parish Councillor of the Year
- Youth Group or Initiative
- Business Developing Talent
- Local Services and Amenities

So far there has been a very poor uptake, so the date for applications has been extended.

Spinal Injuries: Poster advertising suggested fundraiser to go into the notice board.

Carers' Health and Wellbeing: Poster to go into the notice board.

Electronic Correspondence: All circulated - nothing raised.

Planning:

All issues dealt with elsewhere in the meeting.

Finance:

SLCC Subs: Clerk asked if Council would be prepared to fund her subscription to SLCC. It was agreed by Council to do this and a cheque for £65-00 was signed, for which Clerk thanked them.

Bank Statement: Balance at 30 December is £3452-11

Precept: Clerk had already circulated the balances to Council - following a discussion it was resolved to precept as follows:

Insurance	£ 300 - 00
Rent	£ 100 - 00
Clerk	£1300 - 00
Subs	£ 150 - 00
Cemetery/Village	<u>£ 400 - 00</u>
	<u>£2250 - 00</u>

Proposed: Chairman, all in favour. Clerk to action.

Litter Bin: Clerk will check the price and delivery on the bin to replace the damaged one in the High Street with the company. The brochure shows it is currently priced at £118-00.

Items for the next agenda: None put forward

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 25 February 2015 in the Reading Room starting at 8.00pm.
Please note this a week later than our usual meeting date.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Signed

Date