

## **A meeting of Croydon Parish Council was held on Wednesday 18th May 2022 in the Reading Room at 7.30pm.**

**Apologies:** Cllr Kindersley - at another meeting, Mr Wenman - caught in traffic (email after meeting).

**Present:** Mr Barnes, Mr Sole, Mr Wheeler, Ms Newland, Mrs Sole and the Clerk.

The Clerk was asked to send thank you letters to the Councillors who did not stand for election.

**Minutes:** The AGM minutes were approved signed.

**Election of Officers:** Mr Wheeler was proposed for the office of Chair by Mr Sole and seconded by Mr Barnes. All were in favour.

Mr Barnes was prepared to stand for the office of Vice Chair. He was proposed by Mr Sole and seconded by Mrs Sole for this office. All were in favour. As required, all Councillors present completed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office Forms.

The Council had previously decided to adopt the new LGA Code of Conduct - all were in favour of this. Because this is a new Code, the Members Interest Forms had also changed and the Clerk handed out copies of the New Code and Members Interest Forms for Councillors to take home, read and return the required completed forms to the Clerk before the end of May. These will be copied and the originals sent to the Monitoring Officer at SCDC.

South Cambs District Council sent the following co-option information:-

*For those of you who had uncontested elections please be aware that any seats that were not filled at that election can go straight to co-option. There is no need to advertise the vacancies as you would the rest of the time. The election process was the advertisement for those seats.*

As the election for Croydon Parish Council was uncontested there was one vacancy. Council had been notified that one person had expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council. His letter (originally sent to SCDC) was read out to Councillors and after some discussion, it was determined that, in view of unresolved issues, it would not be appropriate to co-opt this candidate. This was agreed unanimously.

**Co-option Policy:** This had been circulated prior to the meeting. There was a discussion on whether to adopt it, modify it or dispense it altogether. After discussion it was proposed to adopt the policy in full. Proposed Mrs Sole, seconded Mr Barnes. All in favour.

**Declarations of Interest:** None received.

### **Matters Arising:**

**Community Group:** No reports

**Clopton Sign:** Nothing further has been heard from the person who offered to create a new information board. The Croydon sign, which is in the care of Mr Sole, did not come from Croydon Hill but from just outside the village at the Portelet end. It was apparently annihilated by a hedge cutter and found by a local, who dropped it off at Mr Soles' as "he is a Councillor". Clerk will contact Highways to discover if it could be re-erected on new supports at a different location.

**Dog/Litter Bins:** The bins are residing at the Clerk's property awaiting information on the next steps. Clerk informed the Focus Group that, if materials to site the bins are needed, Council is happy to reimburse the cost, subject to an invoice which must be made out to Croydon Parish Council.

**Licensing Hearing:** Nothing further has been heard about a date for this.

**Heavy Lorry Ban:** Cllr Kindersley asked if Croydon would support a 7.5T weight limit covering a square bounded by the A505, A1198, A428 and the A1M.

*It is understood the 7.5T limit cannot apply to any of the following.*

- *vehicles making deliveries or collections at premises within the restriction*
- *vehicles working on or near the roads in question*
- *emergency service and military vehicles*
- *agricultural vehicles*
- *vehicles involved with building*

- *buses, coaches and other public service vehicles*

*Such a limit is intended to be aimed only at vehicles trying to take a short cut through the area. Once satnavs are updated they would need to do this against the advice of such a satnav.*

Councillors discussed this at length and could not see any benefit to Croydon, as nearly every vehicle coming through the village is in the permitted category.

Clerk will inform Cllr Kindersley of this decision.

**Car Show Toilets:** There was a problem with the approved Company's quotation for the portable toilets. They do not deliver to Croydon in Cambs! They did recommend a company more local to Croydon and their quotation was better. All Councillors were in favour of this company being used.

**Litter Pick signs:** The Clerk had managed to find a company that has litter pick signs from stock. There is a budget for Community Group use, and this covered the cost, so Clerk will make enquiries from the company to check the cost and place the order. Councillors felt that as this is a safety issue then the signs are extremely necessary.

**Reading Room Bookings:** The outgoing Chair had informed Community Groups that the Council would fund their Reading Room bookings. It is up to the Groups to keep their dates/times of use of the Room, and inform the Clerk bi-annually of the cost, so that payment to the Room can be arranged.

**Planning Committee Representation:** The current complicated retrospective application may go to Planning Committee, but it is by no means certain that this will happen. An offer from an experienced professional to advise on how to proceed at the Committee has been made. Councillors discussed this and decided it would be prudent to take up this offer. Proposed - Mr Sole, seconded - Ms Newland. All in favour. The Chairman asked the Clerk to send her paperwork to the contact, with an offer of a gratuity, if needed.

#### **Correspondence:**

**Electoral Register:** Notifications were circulated for Councillors' attention, and the Clerk will update the Electoral Register.

**SCDC Procurement - Small Works Framework Contract:** SCDC has set up a register of recommended tradespeople for small construction works. Their details are available on the website. As Croydon PC does not own any land, it is unlikely that this will be needed.

**Virtual Roundtable with the Police and Crime Commissioner:** Councillors have the relevant information - the roundtable for this area is on Monday 13th June from 6-7.30pm.

#### **Circulated to Councillors:**

CCC Transport Strategy  
Henry Morris Conference  
Anthony Brown - May news  
April 2022 Cambridgeshire Matters newsletter  
Mental Health Week - Loneliness  
Foster Carers needed  
East West Rail update

**Subsequent receipts:** Were circulated to Councillors.

New Luton Flight paths  
Highway Events -Tour of Cambridge 11 - 12 June  
Midsummer Fair 19 June  
Cambridge Big Weekend 1 - 3 July  
Race for Life 3 July

Cambridge to Cambourne Active Transport Project - Public Consultation May 16 - July 11

Discussion from the preceding ensued:-

**Mental Health Week - Loneliness:** Some ladies in the village are talking about organising a monthly, or fortnightly if successful, coffee morning where people who might otherwise not join in can socialise with others.

**New Luton Flight Paths:** Apparently the village is experiencing far more disruption than the publicity led residents to believe. Other villages are trying to organise protest groups. It was agreed to add this to the next agenda for further discussion and possible action.

**Finance:**

**Bank Statement:** Balance on the current account, having received the first precept payment, stands at £7220 - 68.

**Payments:** The following were presented for payment:-

BHIB Insurance	£ 443 - 19
Reading Room rental	£ 169 - 00
Churchyard maintenance	£ 500 - 00
WC Portables	£ 282 - 00
Clerk's salary	£1360 - 00
plus:-	
IT allowance	£ 50 - 00
Petty Cash	£ 48 - 08
Zoom subscriptions	£ 43 - 17

The Chairman proposed that these should be signed and this was agreed. At the moment, he is unable to sign the cheques as his predecessor needs to be removed from the signatories list with both Barclays and the NSI. Fortunately, the other two signatories are still on the Council and the cheques were signed by them. The Clerk will action the change in signatories.

**Items for next agenda:** New flight paths noise  
Speedwatch update

**Date of the next meeting:** Wednesday 15th June 2022 in the Reading Room at 7.30pm

As there was no further business, Councillors were thanked for attending and the meeting was declared closed at 8.44pm.

Signed ..... Date .....