

COPPLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING - 4th March 2025 at 7pm held at the Methodist Church Meeting Room

MINUTES

Present – Cllr Turner (Chairman), Cllr Faulkner (Vice-Chair), Cllr Dhinsa, Cllr Clark, Cllr Sharp + The Clerk.

Apologies – Cllr Eastman, Cllr Glover, Cllr Youngs, Cllr F Letch (County), Cllr N Letch (District) & Cllr White (District)

1.	Declarations of Interest None Provided
2.	Minutes of 4th February 2025 to be agreed and signed. The minutes were not signed from the past meeting. There were changes required relating to members comments and who contributed. The Clerk would circulate these again and seek corrections for approval in April. This was agreed.
3.	Open Forum - an opportunity for the Electors to address the Parish Council. The Parish Council encourages the use of an Open forum. 1 Resident. The report in the enlightener had a report on the speed awareness campaign and if this is progressing. The purchase of a speed device was to be made and this would be undertaken soon. The signage can be moved around the village at regular timely intervals. A general discussion on locations was undertaken. Sunnymead is still an issue as is the school. Cllr Dhinsa informed members that the PCSO has now attended the Primary School to consider issues with speeding and general traffic issues around the school at drop off and collection times.
4	Co-Option To consider co-opting one member to fill remaining vacancy. The Clerk has not received any notification to stand and one vacancy remains.
5	Principal Authority Reports: 5.1 To receive County Cllr report. 5.2 To receive District Cllr report. No reports were provided due to the County and District Councillors absence.
6	The Cross Hotel - To Receive an update on works to date. Members noted that a planning application was awaited for the demolition of the building.
7	Environment / Property 7.1 Fernworthy Park / Sunnymead Park Working Group Report. Sunnymead, the rails on one part of the play equipment became damaged, these have now been removed. The replacement equipment cannot be provided by Kompan, this must be remedied by the installer, South West Play. Cllr Turner is in contact with the installation company for progression. The swing is also broken. The bolts were left sticking out and this has been progressing for too long. A complaint has been put to Kompan about the lack of information and

	<p>not getting spare parts when required. The damaged play equipment is to be completed soon as Cllr Dhinsa has offered to liaise with Kompan and South West Play re the installation of spare parts.</p> <p>Discussion arose about the service that has been received and the chances of a new supplier for the next stage of the project. The Council are not obliged to use Kompan and it would seem sensible to seek alternatives again.</p> <p>The fencing arrangements are in place and the Clerk is still awaiting contact with a fencing contractor in Cheriton Fitzpaine.</p> <p>The Flag at the War Memorial still has not been replaced. Cllr Turner needs to obtain this but he states that the original order was plagued with delivery issues.</p> <p>It was also noted that the trees near Fernworthy Park had been removed.</p>
8	<p>Report after meeting held on 25th February 2025 at the recreation ground between CRA Football Club and Parish Council.</p> <p>A meeting was undertaken on the 25th February. The condition of footings for the storage Container are insufficient and this could cause sufficient instability of the container that it could move and cause a danger. This must be rectified. A member of the CRA / Football Club was supposed to have contacted the Parish Council by now but this had not happened outlining a request to provide materials. The Football Club and CRA thought that the containers could be moved by residents. This appeared to have been sorted out.</p> <p>It is thought that the levels of the ground need to be increased to provide a solid a level base for the containers. After discussion, it was thought that Andy Gey could be approached to see if he provide the Hardcore required. It was thought that 30 Ton would be required. The Clerk will speak with Andy Gray on this.</p> <p>In terms of Funding, a figure of up to £600 was mooted but no figures are fully agreed until the cost of the materials is ascertained.</p> <p>The second container that is present needs to be removed. This is dangerous and is required to be moved off site and scrapped now.</p> <p>Under the terms of the Lease, a 2-month time period is mentioned to remedy defects. This will have to be monitored. Due to the condition of the containers, it may be practical to close the site to all non-essential persons. This would also involve the temporary removal of parking for the school.</p> <p>Size of the Football Pitch – this was taken positively. They would wish for the work to be undertaken out of season. A planning application may have to be made to increase the size. Some concern was raised on the drainage to the left of the football pitch and site. This may need to be looked into the time of formal planning. Access was also mentioned as there appears to be informal access to the top of the site by an adjacent landowner. The Clerk is asked to look at the land register documents to consider this further.</p>
9	<p>Finance</p> <p>Current Account Balance - £41,204.11</p> <p>Savings - £9,423.03</p>

	<p>To sanction the following payments due:</p> <table> <tr> <th>Item</th><th>Ref</th><th>Payee</th><th>Purpose</th><th>£</th></tr> <tr> <td>9.1</td><td>01489</td><td>Clerk</td><td>Monthly Salary</td><td>435.80</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Stamps 2 x 1st Class</td><td>3.30</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td>3 months Wix Subscription</td><td>40.14</td></tr> <tr> <td>9.2</td><td>01490</td><td>Narked Ltd</td><td>Website Hosting</td><td>305.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>9.3</td><td>01491</td><td>John Lunn</td><td>Spring Clean refreshments</td><td>50.00</td></tr> </table> <p>The above payments were agreed by all members. Proposed – Cllr Turner Seconded – Cllr Faulkner</p>				Item	Ref	Payee	Purpose	£	9.1	01489	Clerk	Monthly Salary	435.80				Stamps 2 x 1 st Class	3.30				3 months Wix Subscription	40.14	9.2	01490	Narked Ltd	Website Hosting	305.00	9.3	01491	John Lunn	Spring Clean refreshments	50.00
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10	<p>Member Statements</p> <p>Cllr Faulkner - Lighting has been reported in Fernworthy Car Park but it still does not work fully.</p> <p>Cllr Clark - Volunteer Groups, can these be advertised on Facebook? Yes, this can. Community events can be posted on our PC page.</p> <p>Cllr Dhinsa - Flooding of the pedestrian walkway from Beers hill (A3072) crossing into Lychgate Park is still occurring. This is causing pedestrians, mostly school children to have to walk out of Lychgate Park and down beers hill back towards Copplestone. This road is notorious for motorists going too fast and jumping the lights. The oak posts of the lychgate into Lychgate Park may become damaged due to the continuous flooding of the footpath.</p> <p>Flooding of the A377 (from the A377/beers hill split, past Lychgate Park and to the bridge turning back into the village) is still occurring. The drains have not been cleared properly; these have been observed backing up when raining. These have been reported individually with photos of each drain attached.</p>																																	
11	<p>There were no further topics to discuss within the open meeting which finished at 19.50pm</p>																																	
12	<p>Part 2 - To resolve that under section 1(2) of The Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during consideration of items of business if publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted as it involves the likely disclosure of personnel, commercially sensitive or legal matters.</p> <p>A Part 2 was held to discuss matters relating to The Cross Inn.</p> <p>This meeting concluded at 20.05pm</p>																																	
	<p>Date of Next Meeting – 1st April 2025 at 7pm</p>																																	