# CROWLE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Joe Tinson
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**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on:**
**Thursday 10th September 2026, 19:00 at Crowle Parish Hall**

**Present:** Councillors Ruth Dawson-Jones (Chair), Lawrence Wall, Steve Bott, Rod Smith, Donna Kennedy, Margaret Rowley, Linda Robinson and Clerk Joe Tinson

**In attendance:** 10 members of the public

**09.26.1 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

- Apologies were received from Cllr Denne (personal)

**09.26.2 Declaration of Interests & Dispensations**

- None

**PUBLIC SESSION**

**The meeting was now adjourned for Public Question Time**

- Crowle Bowls Club resurface funds
  - Crowle Bowls Club feels left out of the Facilities Project as no money has been put aside for the resurfacing of the bowls green, that will need doing in 2/3 years
  - Not happy that the tennis court and MUGA will get a resurface when it is claimed not to be maintained during the winter months, but the bowls green is by the club at their expense
  - Answer – The bowls green was protected during the project planning so it would not get moved or removed, and funds have been set aside to resurface this and the MUGA. However, the cost of resurfacing is high and the green is currently only used by a small number of people so a full cost benefit analysis will be needed before any work is undertaken. A professional assessment of the current surface will be undertaken and replacement costs confirmed to inform any decision on this. The tennis courts are maintained by the Field Manager but a check will be made regarding work undertaken and frequency with Cllr Denne
    - **Action** – Robert Moore to get a professional assessment of green to see when it will need replacing
    - **Action** – Robert Moore to look at funding for new bowling green carpet for phase 3
- Planning lessons
  - 150 (not yet approved) houses on land that was sold by the land-owner who originally tried to build 4/5 houses 5 years ago that was objected by the Parish Council and was subsequently rejected
  - Response – The original planning was not necessarily rejected due to any Parish Council objection as it was outside the development boundary and was likely not compliant with planning rules at the time due to this. However it was noted as a good lesson to bear in mind for the future
- End of village planters

- A thank you was given to Linda Boden and the other planter volunteers for maintaining the planters over the summer as they look great
- It was mentioned the Parish Council are still waiting on Highways to confirm what is happening with the village entrance signs at the Parish Hall side of the village

- Netherwood Lane issues at top of the hill
  - At the summit of the hill, coming into Crowle the junction to Netherwood Lane is blind and the concealed junction sign is currently obscured
  - For vehicles coming out of the lane need to use the mirror, which in cold weather steams or ices up
  - Highways have refused to put in a heated mirror
  - 
  - **Action** – Cllr Robinson to come out with Highways, to show them and report it as a formal risk
  - The Parish Council formally agree that there is an issue and they support the residents, but cannot officially intervene as it is Highways land

**09.26.3 Chair's Welcome and Remarks**

**a) Chair updates**

- Cllr Dawson-Jones did not have any updates this meeting

b) **Action List**

- **Action** – all councillors to review actions and add an update
  - Ask for assistance if needed

**09.26.4 Minutes**

- It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th July 2026 be approved as a true and accurate record. The Chair signed the minutes at the end of the meeting

**09.26.5 District and County Councillor Reports**

a) **District Council -** Cllr Margaret Rowley provided a report, the highlights were:

- Councillor ward budgets
  - Wychavon councillors have been given £10,000 to support small scale community projects
- Local government reorganisation
  - The government has paused the proposals for the new unitary councils. Further updates will be provided when available

b) **County Council** – Cllr Linda Robinson provided a report, the highlights were:

- Applications for school places in 2027 are now open
- "Severn Area Rescue Association (SARA) have upgraded their medical equipment and expanded their volunteer base, thanks to funding provided by Worcestershire County Council's Public Health Community Grant programme. The funding has enabled the search and rescue team to purchase new medical kits, upgrade existing equipment at Kidderminster Fire Station, recruit additional volunteers, and provide further training opportunities for its existing volunteer team."

- "Worcestershire County Council will begin its scheduled second verge-cutting programme shortly, helping to maintain visibility for road users, control problem weeds and keep the county's road network safe, despite the exceptionally hot and dry summer."
- Cllr Wall recently hired a skip to clear out the Green Pool, in doing so he had to take out a permit for the skip to be parked on the verge
    - **Action** – The Clerk to send details and invoice to Cllr Robinson for her to raise it
- It was asked what will happen to a small strip of land between a hedge and the pavement now it is becoming overgrown due to the hedge being cut on the boundary of the Cala estate/Church Road
    - **Action** – Cllr Bott to send What3word for this land
    - **Action** – The Clerk to send details to Cllr Robinson to raise with Highways

**09.26.6 Land & Highways Management Matters**

a) **Parking issues in Crowle and ongoing management**
- No update

b) **Community Recreational Facilities Project**
- Crowle Players and The Shop at Crowle container foundations are being put in next to the shop and the containers will be delivered 15/09
    - Crowle Players and The Shop at Crowle container licence agreements were signed by the Chair and the Clerk
        - **Robert** – Robert Moore to send scanned copy to the Clerk
- The new binding gravel surface added to the exercise track around Jubilee Field has been completed and received positive feedback
- The planning application consultation for the project ends on 16/09, so far without any public comments and statutory consultee comments are as expected

c) **Flooding on OTR and Lower Crowle**
- Some of the drains that were fully blocked and reported are now clear but some are blocked again
    - **Action** – Cllr Smith to send What3word for blocked drains
    - **Action** – The Clerk to send drain locations to Cllr Robinson to raise

d) **Parish Paths Warden**
- Cllr Robinson reported that the trainer position for Path Warden's has still not been filled

e) **To discuss any other highways related matters and agree any actions necessary**

i. **Lower Crowle junction**
- No update – the road has still not been cleared and is getting worse

ii. **30mph sign placement**
- No update

iii. **School Lane blocked drain**
- This has now been resolved as far as we are aware and a recent water leak on School Lane was also repaired

**iv. VAS solar upgrade**

- Cllr Rowley informed council that Tibberton got money for their solar VAS through their county councillor, using the Divisional Fund Scheme
- Cllr Robinson said that the fund has already been used for Crowle in the past and it is limited, but it might be possible to pay towards new solar VAS

**v. Bus stop seat**

- Highways to come out and survey area for adding a concrete plinth and have confirmed they will do this at no cost
- **Action** – The Clerk to confirm the size of bench to the Chair

**vi. Grit bins**

- The Clerk will refresh the existing grit bin quote for three new bins agreed previously and confirm locations with relevant parties
- Highways said they would need to come out and survey the placement
- **Action** – The Clerk to get the What3word locations for the bins from Robert Moore and the Lengthsman

**vii. Bredicot Lane footpath issues**

- It was clarified that the issue is that there is no drop curb at junction to Church Road, meaning those with pushchairs and wheelchairs have to go into the road
- What3word for the location – design, skews, dignity
- **Action** – The Clerk to send the details to Cllr Robinson for her to raise

**viii. Road naming**

- Wychavon planning have requested three suitable street names for the Cameron Homes (formerly Piper Homes) development on Church Road
- As with previous road naming the suggestion is to use war heroes, with a list of eight still to use. Three names were selected based on those known to still have local contacts and relatives will be contacted for permission if at all possible
- **Action** – Cllr Dawson-Jones to finalise road names and circulate
- **Action** – Cllr Denne to contact families when provided with contact details from parishioners to obtain permission if possible

**ix. 20mph speed limit**

- Cllr Bott proposed that Crowle would benefit from a 20mph speed limit
- It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council would support this proposal
- Cllr Robinson also expressed her support
- **Action** – Cllr Bott to write a letter to Highways
- **Action** – Cllr Bott will go to local housing developers for their support

f) **To discuss any other land management matters and agree any actions necessary**

i. Noticeboards

- Both now erected
- Thanks given to Cllr Smith, Robert Moore and Mike Coleman

ii. Allotment trespass
- No new issues

- Cllr Wall formally thanked volunteers for help with clearing green pool, and the Parish Council for skip hire to remove the rubbish

**09.26.7 Correspondence**

a) **Correspondence since last meeting**

i. Overgrown trees from Wychavon land above drive
- **Action** – The Clerk to go back to the parishioner to ask for photos of the issues to determine whose issue this is based on location

ii. Planning query
- Clerk resolved via email

iii. Planning sewage condition discharge query
- Due to this being raised by the parishioner the Parish Council formally commented
- Crowle's Member of Parliament gave some information that went to Cllr Denne to help with NDP

iv. Overgrowth on path and VAS query
- Overgrowth dealt with by Lengthsman
- VAS ongoing

**09.26.8 Planning**

a) **New applications / decisions for information**
- W/26/00859/FUL - 67 Froxmere Road - Erection of a single dwelling - (Variation of Conditions 2 and 5 Ref. W/23/01601/FUL) – **Approved**
- W/26/01000/HP - Quernmore, 17 Froxmere Road, Crowle - Two storey rear extension and extension to existing garage – **Approved**

- W/26/01377/FUL - 2 Court Barns, Bredicot Lane - Creation of two openings within an existing wall - (consultation ends 16/09)
  - No issue and so no comment to be made
- W/26/01800/CAN - Martins Cottage Church Road - Fell one sycamore, as detailed on the application form and any other accompanying information - (for information only as not a standard consultation)
- W/26/01966/HP - 6 Old Turnpike Road - Erection of a two storey extension to side of existing property; and detached single garage to rear of property (Removal of condition 7 Ref. W/04/00715/PP) -(consultation ends 17/09)
  - This was reviewed and the issue relates to a restriction imposed by planning 20 years ago relating to a hedge boundary, so appropriate for them to make the decision and no comment to be made by the Parish Council

b) **Major applications**
- **Action** – The Clerk to check planning at least fortnightly to check for extra conditions on existing plannings as the Parish Council are not consulted about these

i. W/26/00314/RM - Land At (Os 9282 5586), Froxmere Road - Reserved Matters application for scale, layout, appearance and landscaping following a grant of permission W/23/00647/OUT for the erection of 65 dwellings, landscaping, parking and associated works allowed on appeal ref: APP/H1840/W/3343597; and to discharge details required by conditions 10 - 13 and 16 - **ratify objection submission**

- It was **RESOLVED to** approve the submitted objection

ii. W/25/02193/OUT - Land At (Os 9282 5586), Froxmere Road - Outline planning application for the erection of up to 85 dwellings (including 5% self-build/custom build housing), together with the formation of access on to Froxmere Road, public open space, sports pitches and associated drainage infrastructure - (consultation ends 04/09 – extension requested for after PC meeting)

- It was **RESOLVED** to approve the objection to be summitted
- **Action** – The Clerk to upload objection 11/09

iii. W/26/01685/CCO - Land At (Os 9241 5578) Church Road - Discharge of condition 5 (Foul Drainage Strategy) of planning permission W/22/01706/FUL **– ratify objection submission**

- It was **RESOLVED** to approve the submitted objection

iv. W/26/01345/CCO - Land At (Os 9214 5555) Church Road - Discharge or Condition 4 (Disposal of Sewage), Condition 16 (Travel Welcome Pack) and Condition 19 (Waste Water) of planning application W/24/02223/FUL - (consultation ended 12/08)

v. W/26/01442/CCO - Land At (Os 9241 5578) Church Road - Discharge of conditions: 3 (construction environmental management plan); and 19 (construction management plan) of planning permission W/22/01706/FUL – (consultation ended 28/08)

vi. W/26/01934/FUL - Land At Os 9241 5578, Church Road - Erection of 62No. dwellings (including 25 affordable), creation of new access off Church Road and associated works, SUDs and landscaping (-Variation of condition 2 (Approved Plans) Ref. W/22/01706/FUL) - (consultation ends 18/09)

- **Action** – Cllr Dawson-Jones to provide comments relating to access points on plans to Jubilee Field, street lighting, sewerage and request S278 support for 20mph limits on Church Road

c) **SWDP update**

- **Action** – Cllr Rowley to ask if District Council planners should stop plans like those submitted by Gleeson using SWDPR as it is now in force or if this is not effective as it was submitted prior to that plan being adopted

d) **Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**

- This is progressing as quickly as possible from the Parish Council side but must go through several formal stages before it can be “Made”, including a referendum in the parish. The plan is not likely to complete this process until early in 2027 due to delays in the Inspection stage of the process
    - This means the Parish Council could miss out on £40k through additional CIL funds paid as part of the new development process
- **Action** – Cllr Rowley to chase and see if the plan can be prioritised when it returns to Wychavon for their stage
- **Action** – Cllr Denne to produce an NDP update to go in the next Cryer

e) **Sewerage Action Group**
- No update from Severn Trent

**09.26.9 Parish Hall Matters**

a) Chequers banner – the Chequers decided to put a banner up somewhere else rather than at the Parish Hall site

b) Benches to be delivered 18/09

c) Looking into a cooling system for the halls and considering air conditioning but the final decision will be dependant on costs and overall benefits

**09.26.10 Finance & Risk Management**

a) It was **RESOLVED** to approve payments, receipts and reconciliation against bank statements for June (appended to these Minutes at Appendix 1)

b) **National Grid excavation – update**
- Cllr Wall has emailed to chase for an update

c) **Facilities project revised budget**
- Robert Moore went through his separate budgets for phase 0 & 1 and phase 2
  - Cllr Dawson-Jones also provided a budget for the whole Parish Council spend for the next few years with conservative figures to ensure the project costs were affordable and not impact other expenditure
- **Action** – Robert Moore to make sure the budget numbers include VAT
- Phase 0 & 1
  - There were no questions or concerns raised by councillors for phase 0 & 1
  - It was **RESOLVED** to approve budget for phase 0 & 1

- Phase 2
  - It was asked if Crowle Men's Shed will be self-funded
    - Answer – Yes – but it is unknown if they will do it independently or through the Parish Council
    - Crowle Men's Shed is looking at grants, and these will be coordinated with any Parish Council applications. No decisions on this have yet been made.
  - It was asked how the income for the padel court was calculated
    - It was based a local padel court's bookings in a month, multiplied by twelve and then halved
    - Cllr Dawson-Jones reduced this further in her forecast for full Parish Council spend
  - It was asked if money will be set aside for the bowling green (see previous comments in in Public Session)
  - It was confirmed that any PWLB loan would require consultation with parishioners, but a formal vote was not required for approval if there is no increase to the precept. A question was raised about what will be done about any comments made by parishioners during this process and it was confirmed that these would be considered and addressed as appropriate. It was noted that:
    - The amount of the loan actually taken could be less than in the budget if grant applications are successful but the full loan amount will be applied for to ensure there is no shortfall

        - If there is a great concern from parishioners, there could be a reduction in the project scope or changes to timings
        - The explanations need to be clear to avoid any misunderstanding, therefore it will be another leaflet with the Cryer with appropriate detail
        - **Action** – Cllr Denne to draft an update and consultation document to circulate to all parishioners, to be reviewed by all councillors prior to printing.
    - It was **RESOLVED** to approve the project budget for phase 0 & 1 and phase 2

- Market garden – market gardener giving up 30% of land
    - It was **RESOLVED** to reduce the market gardener's hire charge by 30% and have a yearly agreement like the rest of the allotment holders
    - The market gardener has asked to maintain and use unused allotments until they are taken by others
        - It was **RESOLVED** to allow the market gardener to do this at no charge as maintaining unused allotments benefits the Parish Council and future allotment holders

d) **AGAR – update**
- The independent examiners came back asking for additional information on variances between the last financial year and the previous year, which have been provided
- They also found an error in the figures from last year (not raised at the time) and this year as a grant from Wychavon was included in the precept amount, due to both being part of the same payment
    - This was corrected and sent back
- The Parish Council is now just waiting for final sign off to be confirmed

**09.26.11 Police and Crime**

a) **Police and crime related issues**
- An email from the Droitwich Safer Neighbourhood Team was sent 10/09 to report
    - 09/09 reports of poachers in a field in Netherwood Lane
    - 10/09 reports of a vehicle in the hedge in Old Turnpike Road
- A councillor also reported the theft of a number plate from a vehicle on their drive recently

b) **Speed enforcement and SmartWater schemes**
- No update

c) **Parish priorities for October - December**
- Burglary from houses
- Theft of vehicles
- Speeding/road safety
- **Action** – The Clerk to send priorities to the police team

**09.26.12 Field Management Group Updates**

a) **General updates**
- The new strimmer has been purchased by the Field Caretaker and is working well
- **Action** – The Clerk to find out if new strimmer needs to be reported as a new item to insurers and check they have no issues with this being stored off site

b) **New tables construction – update**
- Missing parts delivered and tables completed

c) **Mud track safety – update**
- Robert Moore has put up some signs

d) **Playing field usage and mowing – update**
- Due to the damage to Jubilee field from the extreme heat local groups were asked to not use the field for organised activities for a few weeks
    - Now there has been some rain they have been informed usage can restart
- Following recommendations from Top Cut Mowing, with some of the cost covered by Searchers Football Club, Cllr Denne proposed spending £2900 on various grass care, with £1187 being paid for by the Parish Council
    - It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payment
    - This work needs to be added to next year's budget as the playing fields are likely to need it going forward
- **Action** – The Clerk to check if Top Cut Mowing have been asked to cut the back field as it is believed they have started mowing it again

**09.26.13 Community Events**

a) **Crowle 10K update – Cllr Steve Bott**
- The field that was used for parking for the 10k and football tournament has been harrowed and therefore it is unlikely it can be used for parking next year
- Next year's 10k event will be on 09/05

b) **Wychavon Games – Cllr Lawrence Wall**
- The angling event happened last week but it was unknown how well Crowle did

**09.26.14 Communication and Information Provision**

a) **Cryer new software – update**
- The editor has had Canva training to replace the current Publisher software, which is being removed by Microsoft in September 2026. There is currently no need to use the paid version but this will be kept under review depending on the features needed for production
- The editor has asked for an increase in the number of Cryer's being printed for the new houses, which was agreed

b) **Gov.uk domain – update**
- No update

c) **To discuss any other issues relating to the Crowle Cryer, website or social media page**
- None

**09.26.15 Councillor Updates and Items for Future Agendas**
- It was confirmed that the next Parish Council meeting will be on 8th October 2026

The meeting ended at 22:03



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Signed _____ Chair Date_____

**Appendix 1**

**Bank Reconciliation – July 2026:**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Opening Balance Current Acc | 79,999.00 |
| add | receipts for period 01/07/26 to 31/07/26 | 293.50 |
| less | payments for period 01/07/26 to 31/07/26 | -3,066.90 |
| | balance per cash book | 77,225.60 |
| | | |
| | | |
| | Bank Statement Current Acc | 77,225.60 |
| less | unpresented cheques | 0.00 |
| | balance C/F | 77,225.60 |

**Bank Reconciliation – August 2026:**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Opening Balance Current Acc | 77,225.60 |
| add | receipts for period 01/08/26 to 31/08/26 | 628.50 |
| less | payments for period 01/08/26 to 31/08/26 | -6,939.40 |
| | balance per cash book | 70,914.70 |
| | | |
| | | |
| | Bank Statement Current Acc | 70,914.70 |
| less | unpresented cheques | 0.00 |
| | balance C/F | 70,914.70 |

**July Payments In**

| Date | Supplier | Reference/Reason | Receipts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 06/07/2026 | Climb Worces Ltd | 10k payment - CPC/26/0003/4 (Redpoint and The Buzz) | 200.00 |
| 15/07/2026 | WDM HC Services Ltd | Cryer ad - Radfield | 52.50 |
| 22/07/2026 | Jamie Bedford | Cryer ad - Ovenclean | 41.00 |

**July Payments Out**

| Date | Supplier Ref | Supplier | Payments |
|---|---|---|---|
| 01/07/26 | PCL-MT000093 | PAYE Cloud Ltd (payroll) | 27.36 |
| 22/07/26 | 59GJ222GH9XAQ | Paypal - Lebara phone contract | 4.50 |
| 27/07/26 | Lenghthsman Jul 26 | Jeremy Moore | 264.00 |
| 27/07/26 | Crowle Cryer 24309 | Pace Print Design | 276.00 |
| 30/07/26 | 14805 | Top Cut Mowing | 613.38 |
| 30/07/26 | 14823 | Top Cut Mowing | 90.00 |
| 31/07/26 | CPH2425 | Parish Hall Trust | 138.00 |
| 31/07/26 | INV-0637 | Business Space Midlands (Tiem) | 66.00 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 31/07/26 | INV-0648 | Business Space Midlands (Tiem) | 180.00 |
| 31/07/26 | Salary Jul 26 | David Steade | 203.62 |
| 31/07/26 | Salary Jul 26 | Joe Tinson | 891.90 |
| 31/07/26 | 064PB00194941 4 | HMRC PAYE | 305.14 |
| 31/07/26 | | Unity Trust Bank - Service Charge | 7.00 |

**August Payments In**

| Date | Supplier | Reference/Reason | Receipts |
|---|---|---|---|
| 03/08/2026 | Debora Harding | Happy Steps (Hall hire mistakenly paid to the council) | 350.50 |
| 18/08/2026 | Worcestershire CC | Lengthsman July 26 | 264.00 |
| 21/08/2026 | Sarah Handley | Cryer ad - Sarah Cleans | 14.00 |

**August Payments Out**

| Date | Supplier Ref | Supplier | Payments |
|---|---|---|---|
| 03/08/26 | PCL-MT000093 | PAYE Cloud Ltd (payroll) | 27.36 |
| 12/08/26 | 154722 | Ron Smith & Co | 511.00 |
| 12/08/26 | Crowle PC Grant | Crowle Men's Shed | 500.00 |
| 12/08/26 | Crowle Cryer 24395 | Pace Print Desgign | 276.00 |
| 20/08/26 | 59GJ222GH9XAQ | Paypal - Lebara phone contract | 4.50 |
| 20/08/26 | INV-SE26083 | Sharpe Ecology | 2,334.00 |
| 25/08/26 | INV-0642 | Esther PW | 195.00 |
| 25/08/26 | Crowle PC | England Athletics | 210.00 |
| 25/08/26 | Debbie Harding Q1 | Parish Hall Trust (Hall hire mistakenly paid to the council) | 350.50 |
| 25/08/26 | Lengthsman Aug 26 | Jeremy Moore | 264.00 |
| 28/08/26 | Salary Aug 26 | David Steade | 203.62 |
| 28/08/26 | INV-0658 | Business Space Midlands (Tiem) | 180.00 |
| 28/08/26 | 064PB00194941 0826 | HMRC PAYE | 305.34 |
| 28/08/26 | INV-0654 | Business Space Midlands (Tiem) | 66.00 |
| 28/08/26 | Salary Aug 26 | Joe Tinson | 891.70 |
| 28/08/26 | 14901 | Top Cut Mowing | 613.38 |
| 31/08/26 | | Unity Trust Bank - Service Charge | 7.00 |