CROWLE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Joe Tinson
Email: clerk@crowlepc.co.uk Tel: 07352 103631

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on:
Thursday 8th October 2026, 19:01 at Crowle Parish Hall

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

In attendance: 7 members of the public

10.26.1 To receive and approve apologies for absence

- Apologies were received from Cllrs Denne and Smith (personal)

10.26.2 Declaration of Interests & Dispensations

- None

PUBLIC SESSION

The meeting was now adjourned for Public Question Time

- Netherwood Lane mirror
    - The parishioner from the last meeting contacted Barry Barnes from Highways via email and highlights from his response were:
        - Highways had already looked at the junction a few years ago and rejected the need for an upgrade
        - The mirror is a Highways adopted mirror
        - A solar powered mirror was mentioned but not asked for, the one suggested was with heat pads
        - Highways cannot afford to get a heated mirror
    - The parishioner responded on 24/09 asking for Highways to come and see it for themselves but has not had a response
    - They would like the backing of the Parish Council and Cllr Robinson that the mirror is unsafe in certain weather conditions
    - Cllr Robinson responded:
        - Good news it is adopted and Highways have taken responsibility
        - Barry Barnes will be retiring soon, so not long to get him to come out
        - The accident data for the junction however is weak
        - She suggests a petition and to ask if anyone has had an accident or near miss
        - As Highways have taken responsibility for the mirror, she cannot fund a new one and if Highways does replace it, it would need to be from an approved supplier
          Action – Cllr Robinson to ask Barry Barnes to come out and see for themselves
    - Parishioner will set up a petition

- Recreation Facilities Update leaflet delivered with Cryer

- Parishioner was shocked that the Parish Council were planning to borrow £500k with a repayment total of over £800k, which they felt no one knew about
- Answer
  - The prospect of a loan was in the project's original plan, alongside other funding routes, and in subsequent communications
  - It is up to £500k - the Parish Council will be applying for grants and will see if there are any cost-cutting opportunities
  - The aim of the leaflet was to get the information out to parishioners on proposed costs and funding for the project
  - Section 106 money cannot be used for this phase of the project as this can only be used for specific items, but CIL can be
  - The Parish Council have kept parishioners informed during the year by way of Cryer articles and leaflets distributed to every home and posted on the website (together with minutes of meetings) as well as three public drop-in meetings
  - Only one parishioner had so far asked for extra finance details, and they had the detailed spreadsheet shared with them and met with the project lead to review
  - The Parish Council is open to other suggestions as to how to inform parishioners about the project
- It was suggested that the "A" frames were used
- A councillor pointed out that negative views are still a very small proportion of the parish population
- The Parish Council will be replying to all those who have contacted and raised concerns or questions

- Speeding – would like VAS along Froxmere Road
  - Answer – speed is an issue, but the Parish Council needs to replace the existing VAS units first, which is expensive so at this time cannot add anymore into the village. Any new units would need to be approved by Highways first

- Parking around the school
  - Member of the public who has children attending Crowle Primary School raised issues with parking around the school, mainly around the danger of Church Road and the tight fit down School Lane, especially with a disabled child
  - They requested that brambles are cut, down School Lane; they also asked if it was possible to create a disabled space next to the school
  - Answer – Highways have come out previously and added new painted lines and a no parking zone outside the school, but due to the location of the school there is not much more that can be done
  - **Action** – Cllr Robinson to contact Highways about cutting back the brambles
  - **Action** – Clerk to ask Lengthsman if he can cut back the brambles

10.26.3 Chair's Welcome and Remarks

a) Chair updates

- The latest Recreation Facilities Project details are being added to the PC website and will then be promoted (e.g. via the PC FB site and the village WhatsApp site)
  - These details have also been emailed to two dozen local community groups

b) **Action List**

- **Action** – all councillors to review actions and add an update as applicable

- **Action** – Clerk to check yellow action and get it updated
- Cllr Robinson gave dog poo poster to Cllr Kennedy
    - **Action** – Cllr Rowley to get more of these posters for Crowle

10.26.4 Minutes

- It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10th September 2026 be approved as a true and accurate record. The Chair signed the minutes at the end of the meeting

10.26.5 District and County Councillor Reports

a) **District Council -** Cllr Margaret Rowley provided a report, the highlights were:
- More planning applications will be decided by Planning Officers, which will reduce applications going to committee
    - An application is more likely to go to committee if it has more comments
    - Committee to reduce from 15 to 13 members
    - **Action** – Cllr Rowley to send over details to Cllr Dawson-Jones
- No further news on Worcestershire Unitary Authority plans
- Cllr Rowley has arranged to meet Robert Moore to see how best to use the new Wychavon Ward Grant Fund for the benefit of the project

b) **County Council** – Cllr Linda Robinson provided a report, the highlights were:
- Worcestershire Parkway Improvements –
    - The outdoor mobile coffee unit outside the station has recently been replaced by a café inside
    - There are also plans in place to improve the waiting room area and ultimately expand the parking
- Sale of County Hall Site
    - "WCC have launched the sale of its former offices in Worcester marking the next step in plans to bring the vacant site back into use."
- Older adults share their secrets for staying active and healthy
    - "Older adults across Herefordshire and Worcestershire are among the most physically active in England, according to the latest Sport England Active Lives Survey."
- Learning to drive? Get free theory test support with your local library
    - Find out more and access Theory Test Pro on the Worcestershire County Council website.

10.26.6 Land & Highways Management Matters

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

b) **Community Recreational Facilities Project**

i. **Update**
- Robert Moore provided a report, the highlights were:
    - £200 saving as Nigel White provided a digger and his time free for a morning
    - Possible additional funds from District Council fund
    - Allotments - some deep holes dug to assess ground for fence posts
    - Wilding Area - Trial holes dug at the two Pond locations and eleven tree pits dug
    - 8-page leaflet and reply form issued with the Cryer

ii. **Bowls green resurface – update**
- Robert Moore shared a quote gained November 2025, which included a percentage increase per year
- Resurfacing the bowls green has been added to phase 3 under the condition that more users can access it

c) **Flooding on OTR and Lower Crowle**
- **Action** – Clerk to chase Cllr Smith to find out which drains are still blocked

d) **Parish Paths Warden**
- No update

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

i. **Lower Crowle junction**
- Cllr Robinson spoke with Barry Barnes about this issue; he said it is difficult due to ownership
- It was noted that it is getting worse and now the accumulated mud needs digging up

ii. **30mph sign placement - update**
- No update
- **Action** – Clerk to send Cllr Robinson information on all Crowle highway issues

iii. **VAS solar upgrade - update**
- No update

iv. **Bus stop seat - update**
- The location has now been surveyed, awaiting to hear from Highways about when the concrete plinth will be installed

v. **Grit bins - update**
- Locations for the grit bins have now been sent to the Clerk
- **Action** – Clerk to request the surveys for the locations

vi. **Bredicot Lane footpath issues - update**
- No update

vii. **Road naming - update**
- Two of three names sent in approved (one rejected as already a road in Inkberrow with the same name)
- Price suggested to replace the rejected name
- **Action** – Cllr Dawson-Jones to liaise with Cllr Denne to find out if Price can be used from the family and then send over to Clerk

viii. **20mph speed limit – update**

- No update

ix. **Netherwood Lane mirror - update**

- Refer to "Public Session – Netherwood Lane mirror"

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

- Hedge cutting complaint for Old Turnpike Road
  - Multiple parishioners had issue with the debris left after some hedge cutting, especially for dogs
  - **Action** – Cllr Robinson to raise complaint with Highways

10.26.7 Correspondence

a) **Correspondence since last meeting**

i. A parishioner wants to maintain planters by the entrance to the village along Netherwood Lane, may get a grant from The Shop at Crowle

- The parishioner was at the meeting and confirmed they have secured a grant for the planters from The Shop at Crowle
- They have also got permission for the planters from Wychavon as they will be on their land

ii. A parishioner complained about a vehicle for Cameron Homes being unloaded on the road, obstructing the road

iii. A parishioner complained about the speed of vehicles, including buses, down Froxmere Road

- Refer to "Public Session – Speeding"

10.26.8 Planning

a) **New applications / decisions for information**

i. W/26/02234/HP - Brierley, Church Road - The demolition of an existing side extension and rear conservatory with construction of part single and part two storey rear extension and single storey front extension(Variation of Condition 2 - Ref W/26/00072/HP) – Pending. Consultation end date: 22/10/2026

- It was agreed the council will not comment on this application

ii. W/26/02214/FUL - The Orchard, Old Turnpike Road - Change of use of an existing lawful garden room to annexe for ancillary use to the main dwelling (Retrospective) - Pending. Consultation end date: 16/10/2026

- It was agreed the council will not comment on this application

iii. W/26/02165/GPDQ – Land At (Os 9193 5538) Bredicot Lane - Notification for Prior Approval for the proposed change of use of an Agricultural Building to 3 Dwellinghouses (Class C3), and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion – Pending, Consultation end date: 07/10/2026

- The council were not aware of this as not consulted
- **Action** – Cllr Dawson-Jones will write an objection as not consulted, but as the date has passed on 07/10 will get it done as soon as possible

b) **Major applications**

- None

c) **SWDPR – update**
- It was confirmed by Cllr Rowley that the Gleeson phase 2 application W/25/02193/OUT will be decided under SWDPR policies. Given the plan provides a 5 year housing land supply and the location is outside the settlement boundary, this should mean the application is rejected, but this is not guaranteed
- The Piper Homes/Cameron Homes application W/22/01706/FUL has already been decided in 2022
    - However as there is change in ownership and change in plans, the changes should be decided under current policies

d) **Neighbourhood Plan – update**
- Cllr Denne provided a written report, the highlights were:
    - "The four-week professional Examination of our draft Plan is underway, to be followed by a Referendum organised by Wychavon (all statutory actions). Unfortunately the start was delayed due to the Examiner suffering a bereavement. We've made a special request to the Examiner and Wychavon to proceed as quickly as possible with these formalities."

e) **Sewerage Action Group – update**
- **Action** – Cllr Rowley to give details about Severn Trent plant upgrades in Crowle to Cllr Bott
- **Action** – Cllr Bott to write to Severn Trent for more details about the upgrades as nothing has been provided to the Parish Council directly to date

10.26.9 Parish Hall Matters

a) Containers
- Cladding board bought but will not be put up until January due to other commitments by volunteers

b) Height barrier incident
- Thank you to Robert Moore for temporarily fixing the barrier and supporting with confirming a more permanent fix
- The incident has been reported to the police and our insurers and it is hoped that any repairs will be covered by the people who broke it or via our own insurance
- **Action** – Robert Moore to get second quote for repairs for insurance

10.26.10 Finance & Risk Management

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

b) **National Grid excavation – update**
- Paused until planning consent received

c) **Facilities Project – who can instruct**
- Planning asked for more information about traffic and there was an objection to the Padel court from Worcestershire Regulatory Services - Nuisance
- Instructing contractors – It was confirmed that the Clerk will provide any final instruction. Where timing requires an approval and a meeting is not imminent,

details will be sent to councillors for approval, with ratification at the next meeting. All councillors must agree for this to be done outside of a meeting.

d) **AGAR – update**
- The external examiner asked for more details to do with variances in the yearly amounts
    - However, this was sent on 28/09 to be back to them by 30/09 and the Clerk was on holiday therefore the information was not sent over in time
- The certificate was issued and AGAR closed, with all relevant documents added to Crowle Parish Council's website
- It was confirmed that this process will be going digital next year
- **Action** – Clerk to ask CALC if we need to worry with result

10.26.11 Police and Crime

a) **Police and crime related issues**
- No update

b) **Speed enforcement and SmartWater – progress reports**
- No update

c) **Police input on home security event**
- **Action** – Clerk to contact police officer about the event details and check if something is going in the Cryer
- **Action** – Cllr Dawson-Jones to contact Robert Moore about paying for this event's hall hire and who will fund it

10.26.12 Field Management Group Updates

a) **General updates**
- Cllr Denne provided a written report, the highlights were:
    - Reseeding of Jubilee Field has been carried out
    - The football club are using the back field as agreed to take the pressure off Jubilee Field
- Hedge trimming and removal of branch near Scout's shed was requested and Top Cut Mowing have quoted £100 for the work
    - It was **RESOLVED** to approve this work to be carried out

b) **Playing field usage and mowing – update**
- A new invoice from Top Cut Mowing confirms that the Back Field had been cut twice in September
    - This was not requested by the Parish Council and Top Cut were asked to cease cutting the back field until requested
    - **Action** – Clerk to find out if the football club had requested the back field mowing and get more information as to why it was cut from Top Cut
    - Wait to pay this invoice as not due until 30/10

c) **Bridleway gate fixed and new posts**
- All completed

10.26.13 Community Events

a) **Crowle 10K update – Cllr Steve Bott**
- No update

b) **Wychavon Games – Cllr Lawrence Wall**
- Crowle came eighth in angling and thanks were given to the angling team, who were the sole Crowle representatives at the games this year

10.26.14 Communication and Information Provision

a) **Gov.uk domain – update**
- No update
- **Action** - Clerk to prioritise for budget reasons

b) **To discuss any other issues relating to the Crowle Cryer, website or social media page**
- Facilities Project update to the website had some posting issues
- The Cryer was completed a bit late this month due to holidays
    - There were a few issues with Facilities Project leaflets not going to households but now resolved and all households have received the leaflet

10.26.15 Councillor Updates and Items for Future Agendas
- It was confirmed that the next Parish Council meeting will be on 12th November 2026

The meeting ended at 20:47

Signed _____ Chair Date_____

Appendix 1

Bank Reconciliation – September 2026:

	Opening Balance Current Acc	70,914.70
add	receipts for period 01/09/26 to 30/09/26	26,185.00
less	payments for period 01/09/26 to 30/09/26	-13,311.30
	balance per cash book	83,788.40
	Bank Statement Current Acc	83,788.40
less	unpresented cheques	0.00
	balance C/F	83,788.40

Payments In – September 2026:

Date	Supplier	Reference/Reason	Receipts
08/09/2026	Worcestershire CC	Lengthsman August 26	264.00
14/09/2026	Learn with Liz	Cryer ad - Move it or lose it	14.00
21/09/2026	Envisage Gardens B	Cryer ad - Envisage Gardens	49.00
28/09/2026	Wychavon DC	Precept and grant payment 2	25,858.00

Payments Out – September 2026:

Date	Supplier Ref	Supplier	Payments
01/09/2026	PCL-MT000093	PAYE Cloud Ltd (payroll)	27.36
03/09/2026	Expenses - Skip	Lawerence Wall	360.00
03/09/2026	Crowle Cryer 24481	Pace Print Design	276.00
10/09/2026	CrowlePC 9866	Redman & Sons Ltd	9,980.40
21/09/2026	59GJ222GH9XAQ	Paypal - Lebara phone contract	4.50
29/09/2026	064PB00194941 0926	HMRC PAYE	305.34
29/09/2026	Lengthsman Sep 26	Jeremy Moore	264.00
29/09/2026	WO0042 Crowle PC	PKF Littlejohn	378.00
30/09/2026	Salary Sep 26	Joe Tinson	891.90
30/09/2026	14980	Top Cut Mowing	613.38
30/09/2026	Salary Sep 26	David Steade	203.42
30/09/2026		Unity Trust Bank - Service Charge	7.00