

Crowhurst

PARISH COUNCIL



Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 25 July 2022

	<p>PUBLIC QUESTIONS: There were no public questions received at the meeting.</p>
	<p>AGENDA</p>
17875	<p>MEETING ATTENDANCE:</p> <p>a) Present; Cllrs. Mrs. Day, Goddard, Ms. Mitcheson, Ms. Plato, Thomas b) Acceptance of Apologies for Absence – Cllr. Mrs. Roller</p>
17876	<p>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: Declarations of interest were received from:</p> <p>Village Hall Committee – Cllr. Thomas Youth Club & Environment Group – Cllr. Ms. Plato</p>
17877	<p>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of Crowhurst Parish Council held on 18 June 2022 were agreed with the addition of the words ‘This area was listed under green spaces in the Regulation 14 Neighbourhood Plan’.</p>
17878	<p>MATTERS ARISING NOT COVERED IN THIS AGENDA:</p> <p>There were no actions undertaken which were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.</p>
17879	<p>REPRESENTATIONS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS:</p> <p>Cllr. Field attended and gave an update on areas in her responsibility, and the Clerk read out a short update from Cllr. Curtis.</p>
17880	<p>FINANCIAL MATTERS:</p> <p>a) The financial report to 30 June 2022 was considered and noted. b) The payments report for July 2022 was approved. c) The Bank Reconciliation for June 2022 was approved by members.</p> <p>It was also agreed that the Clerk would make all contractual payments for August in line with her delegated authority. The EDF meter reading had been logged and members hoped that this might effect the amount of monthly repayments.</p>

17881	<p>RECREATION GROUND:</p> <p>a) Members discussed their recent inspections of the recreation ground including playground. The Junior area of the playground needs woodchip again and the Clerk would need to organise this in conjunction with members. The lighting has been completed and the Clerk was requested to ask AMB to come back and re-seed the area, as it has not been raked and there needs to be a return visit. The footpath fence by the car park can now come out and the end post is rotten – Cllr. Goddard agreed to remove. The Chair reported that the sewage treatment plant area needs weeding. Nicola Stell has advised that there is a hole in floor in the gentlemans toilets. The Ladies loo is unpleasant and needs a new toilet seat – it was agreed that Nick Stell would try and fit the spare seat. The external doors are rotting and the benches need treatment. In addition, the beds behind the benches are untidy and it was agreed that Nick Stell would complete this work. The Youth hut area has rubbish dumped in it. There was a discussion regarding benches which had been donated. There was no policy at present but the Clerk advised that, in respect of the last bench, the owner had been asked to maintain for 5 years. It was agreed that the Clerk would be asked to come up with a policy for benches/bins/trees etc., where there are placques involved and that these could perhaps be put up in the pavilion when the asset has expired. Nicola Stell advised that moving a bin to the tennis court area was not necessary, and members therefore agreed that this would not take place. The Chair agreed to keep the washing up liquid topped up. Hand soap has been put in but the Clerk was asked to cost up a paper towel dispenser and soap. A swing top bin was to be provided and Cllr. Mitcheson agreed to buy and get suitable bags</p> <p>b) The Council discussed the issue of the strimming behind the hedge and down to the stream where the area had been rewilded. The Clerk was asked to advise the football club that the banks are looked after by the Environment Agency and they cut them in the Autumn. A member suggested that signage be put on that area, and the Chair agreed to respond to the Football Club. The Clock also needs to be reset, and a member agreed to talk to the previous person who had undertaken this work. Members agreed that there was an issue in getting small works carried out at the Recreation Ground, and that a Handyman advert should be placed but the Clerk was to check whether others do this and whether anyone had a post which could perhaps be shared.</p>						
17882	<p>TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING:</p> <p>10.1 To consider the following Planning Applications and provide comments to Rother District Council:-</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="248 1644 1425 2007"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="248 1644 504 1688">Reference</th> <th data-bbox="504 1644 791 1688">Location</th> <th data-bbox="791 1644 1425 1688">Proposal</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="248 1688 504 1733">RR/2022/1538/P</td> <td data-bbox="504 1688 791 1868">Oakleigh, 6 Woodland Way, Crowhurst TN33 9AP</td> <td data-bbox="791 1688 1425 1868">Erection of bungalow and changes to ground levels within curtilage of existing dwellinghouse (part retrospective)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Reference	Location	Proposal	RR/2022/1538/P	Oakleigh, 6 Woodland Way, Crowhurst TN33 9AP	Erection of bungalow and changes to ground levels within curtilage of existing dwellinghouse (part retrospective)
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RR/2022/1538/P	Oakleigh, 6 Woodland Way, Crowhurst TN33 9AP	Erection of bungalow and changes to ground levels within curtilage of existing dwellinghouse (part retrospective)					

There were a number of members of the public present for the discussion on this planning application.

Cllrs. Ms. Plato and Goddard have spoken to the owners and to neighbours. The erection of the bungalow would be in front of the current building looking towards the recreation ground. All members agreed they had seen the application plan.

A neighbour said that part of her land was included within the application site. There is a previous application for retrospective consent for the engineering works. Cllr. Ms. Plato was concerned about the stability of the ground.

A neighbour said that there was a high steep bank along the side of their fields, and she has raised the ground level around trees with TPOs on them. There was also a pipe channelling water in their direction which had been installed by the applicant and should be part of any application. It was felt that the trees with TPOs would be affected by the works.

Another neighbour said that badger setts have been destroyed and a natural pond has been filled in. Land has been made up and a sheer drop has been left. There has been huge movements of lorries bringing in material. One of the neighbours has counted 26 lorries and another has had two landslides of material into her field.

There is approx. 50 foot of exposed face. All members of the public expressed concern about the way the work had been carried out – it started in April last year not July as said in the statement, and the Clerk confirmed this as she had raised the issue with Rother Council at that time. Members felt that a tree survey should be done and geophysical surveys should also have been completed, prior to the application being made.

Cllr. Ms. Plato advised that a wildlife crime report had been submitted and a report back should be received.

The Council had a discussion on the application .With regard to the engineering works on the land, the land has been left unstable for a significant amount of time and this has had a detrimental effect on neighbours. Members were also concerned about potential contamination of the land as they were made aware of significant earth movements with spoil brought onto the land. The Clerk made a number of complaints to the Council's enforcement team about this work, in April of last year. This is when the work started, and not in June as the applicant claims in his application.

Members also had a number of concerns regarding the stability of the land, as there are no plans included about how the works/terraces will be stabilised and the banks safely retained. They were aware that there has already been slippage onto neighbouring property below and, for another neighbour, their garden boundary is now a steep drop.

The proposed bungalow would be visible from the Recreation Ground and 1066 path during winter months when there is no foliage, and members also expressed concerns about the stability of the proposed property and the drainage. With regard to siting, it directly abuts the neighbouring boundary.

Members felt that there was not enough information regarding some items contained within the application for the bungalow; any necessary piling could interfere with trees that have TPOs on them, and there would be additional surface water run-off which it should be ensured does not affect the neighbouring property below. There is no plan

	<p>showing the garden and parking spaces, and what level the new building would sit at compared to the existing building. What is the surface for the car parking and is it porous? There are no details on how the trees will be protected? How will the applicant deal with the impact on the roadway and the nuisance to the neighbours? The water main has already been affected, and there are no details as to how this would be protected during the proposed works?</p> <p>Therefore the Council AGREED TO OBJECT to both the engineering works and the application for the bungalow for the following reasons:-</p> <p>Overlooking & loss of privacy for neighbouring properties Highway safety and the extensive movement of lorries Parking - there are no details Traffic - the additional movement of traffic down the lane and into the village Effect on the sightlines from the 1066 Country Path and the Recreation Ground The potential effect on trees which have TPOs</p> <p>The extensive engineering works already carried out without planning consent</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to point out that the Council may have had further comments to add to this list, in the event that a full set of information had been provided with the planning application, and the Council reserves its position in this respect.</p> <p>The Clerk was also asked to contact Cllr. Curtis and request that he call the application in for discussion at the planning committee.</p>
<p>17883</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR UPDATES ON EXTERNAL BODIES (IF ANY):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Village Hall Management Committee (Cllr. Thomas). Cllr. Thomas advised that a new Tea urn was arriving tomorrow and that painting had been arranged for the Summer. b) Policing meeting (Cllr. Mrs. Roller). Cllr. Mrs. Roller had sent her report to members. c) 1066 Rail Group (Cllr. Ms. Plato). Cllr. Ms. Plato advised that there was a possible DEFRA bid for a footpath across Cinderbrook – the old map shows the footpath going through the farm and this would be a good route for a surfaced path. Discussions to be had with the landowners.
<p>17884</p>	<p>CLERK'S REPORT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) New Clerk to start on 1st August 2022 b) The Clerk advised that 1066 Rail Line consultation response was needed before the next meeting of the Council and it was AGREED to delegate this to Cllr. Ms. Plato. c) The Clerk advised that the Playground inspection had been booked. d) Sand was to be purchased and woodchip was needed. Cllrs. Mitcheson and Goddard undertook to provide quotes to the Clerk.
<p>17885</p>	<p>INFORMATION FOR COUNCILLORS:</p> <p>No future agenda items were provided</p>

17886	DATE OF NEXT MEETING: To note that the next meeting of the Council will be <u>Monday 19 September 2022</u>
	CLOSE OF MEETING 9.30pm