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NOTICE OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING (LGA 1972)

This Agenda Pack was issued with the Agenda for a Croxden Parish Council meeting held at Abbey Room, St Giles Church, Croxden ST14 5JG commencing at 7 pm on Wednesday 11th September 2024

Issued by - Mrs VRE Gibson – Parish Clerk

Date: 02 September 2024

AGENDA

- 24.09.001 APOLOGIES AND APPROVAL OF ABSENCES
- 24.09.002 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND TO CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS.
Councillors to declare any interests, a failure to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest at a meeting is a criminal offence under section 34 of the Localism Act 2011.
- 24.09.003 TO RESOLVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10th July 2024 ARE A CORRECT RECORD
- 24.09.004 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT FOR 2025-2028
Councillors to consider two quotes received for the contract.
- 24.09.005 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE DRAFT BUDGET 2025-2026
Councillors received a draft budget on 27th August 2024 and will review the draft budget and to vote on items to be included/removed. Clerk will confirm figures between meetings in order that the final Budget can be voted on in November meeting.
- 24.09.006 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
The item, Public Participation, allows 15 minutes of each Parish Council Meeting, for members of the public to make representations or give evidence in connection with items included on the agenda. Each representation must be a maximum of 3 minutes. At the discretion of the Chairperson, the meeting may be adjourned to give members of the public present an opportunity to raise other matters of public interest.
- 24.09.007 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ABOUT PROGRESS OF RESOLUTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:
- ALTON TOWERS COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP – UPDATE
Councillors to be advised of the date for the next community group meeting with Alton Towers and to discuss items they want to be considered by the working group.
 - NABB LANE – REQUEST TO ALTON TOWERS RE: SAT NAV AND MAPPING SYSTEMS TO AVOID AREA – UPDATE
Councillors to receive an update from Alton Towers on the Councils request to add Nabb Lane as a lane to avoid on the Sat Nav and Mapping System
 - COMMUNITY WALK – 17TH JULY 2024 – UPDATE
Councillors to review the walk to see if any improvements needed for next walk in 2025
 - LITTER PICKING EVENT – 8TH SEPTEMBER 2024 – UPDATE
Councillors to review the Litter Picking event to see if any improvements needed
 - NALC MOTION – UPDATE
Councillors to receive an update on the progress of the motion being submitted to NALC. Details of the short version of Croxden PC Motion in Appendix 1 of this Agenda Pack
 - LOCAL HERO AWARD – CONSIDER AND APPROVE 2025 CERTIFICATE DESIGN
Councillors will consider the design for the certificate

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- FOOTPATH LEAFLETS – CONSIDER AND APPROVE LEAFLET DESIGN
Councillors will consider the design of the leaflet
 - COUNCIL INFORMATION LEAFLET – CONSIDER AND APPROVE DESIGN
Councillor will consider the design of the leaflet.
- 24.09.008 TO DISCUSS REQUEST FOR STILE CLEARING AT JUNCTION OF CROXDEN FOOTPATH 42/43
Councillors will review the clearing of vegetation on the stile and consider best approach to making footpath accessible.
- 24.09.009 TO CONSIDER SPCA ADVICE NOTICE AND CREATE A STAFFING COMMITTEE AND APPOINT 3 COUNCILLORS TO COMMITTEE - THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (S101).
Councillors to consider the SPCA notice regarding set up a staffing committee. The Committee to be made up of 2/3 members, takes on management responsibility, who are available to provide day-to-day support for the Clerk and conduct management activities such as appraisals, discipline or grievance investigations, sickness reviews and holiday requests.
- 24.09.0010 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND RECEIVE PLANNING DECISIONS- applications on website.
- 24.09.0011 TO RECEIVE ORAL/WRITTEN REPORT FROM BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLOR
- 24.09.0012 FINANCE – TO CONSIDER & AUTHORISE PAYMENTS OF THE LIST ON AGENDA AND RECEIVE FINANCIAL UPDATES.
- 24.09.0013 CORRESPONDENCE
- 24.09.0014 CLERK REPORT
- 24.09.0015 COUNCILLORS REPORTS (INFORMATION ONLY)
Councillors to bring items for consideration for future Agendas.

Appendix 1.

Croxden Parish Council Motion to NALC – short version – sent to NALC and SPCA on 06.08.2024

The motion from Croxden Parish Council, which is a rural parish, is specifically to ask, “Is it possible for NALC to work with the Government to identify new criteria for speed limits on rural roads for cars, motorbikes, goods vehicles etc. Currently the national speed limit of 60mph applies to most vehicles who use rural roads”. The national speed limit is already different for different types of roads and vehicles, for example cars are limited to 70mph on motorways and 60mph on other roads, a full list of speed limits for each vehicle type is on the government website. <https://www.gov.uk/speed-limits>

Our proposal is essentially to extend the speed limit definition to indicate that rural, unclassified roads without central markings, should have a lower speed limit applied to them of 40mph.

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The Parish Council does not have access to how the change could take place, but we are assuming that a change to the Highway Code would be necessary to list rural roads separately.

<https://www.gov.uk/browse/driving/highway-code-road-safety>

The change would have the huge advantage of saving lives, see RAC* figures below and that no new road works or signage is required, as currently the national speed limit has variations within it for different types of vehicles with the same signage, see the Highway Code.

Croxden Parish Council is the first tier of local government and unable to make this proposition to the Central Government, therefore would request that NALC uses its communication skills with Government to achieve the change, using the experience it already has on the “20mph is plenty” campaign.

*Rural roads are the most dangerous in the UK, accounting for nearly two thirds (60%) of all road deaths (RAC). With most country roads, even those with no central marking carrying the national speed limit of 60 mph there is a real temptation for motorists to drive at the limit because they are technically allowed to do so, even if it is inappropriate because of the driving conditions or local hazards.

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