

MINUTES OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2015

PRESENT: Cllr. Swann (in the Chair), Cllrs. Bunyan, Hemsted, Holmes,  
Rook and Veitch

Members who had a personal or prejudicial interest, whether direct or indirect within the meaning of section 51 of the Local Government Act 2000, or a personal or prejudicial interest defined by the Cranbrook Parish Council's Code of Conduct, in any of the matters appearing on the agenda were invited to declare that interest at this stage. Alternatively, personal interests can be declared at the time when the specific item is being discussed, if a member wishes to speak on an item in which they have a personal interest.

61/14: Cllr. Swann informed Members that he had carried out the internal check for February and everything was satisfactory.

62/14: The list of payments made after the February meeting, is filed with these minutes.

63/14: Cheques for March were signed for payment as per the list filed with these minutes. These included:

Policy and Resources	15,082.57
Burial and Properties	2,562.90
Environmental Management	4,561.38

Total                    £22,206.85

64/14: Cllr. Swann proposed that authority be given to pay invoices prior to the next meeting, in order that they are cleared before the end of the financial year. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Bunyan and agreed.

65/14: Quotes: Additional Car Parking Potential:

Cllr. Veitch informed Members that following the recent discussions regarding access arrangements for Wilkes Field that she had met with Nigel Taylor from Taylor Roberts when they had looked at possible alternatives should the issue with the Co Op not be solved. They had looked at the possibility of coming in through the Tanyard Car Park, taking in the site of the dentist and then sweeping up through the Orange Land, using part of the bank at the entrance to the Crane Valley and then up through the Crane Lane footpath to access the site. Whilst looking at this there was an opportunity to perhaps provide underground car parking via the Crane Valley entrance at the corner of the Regal Car Park. We could carry out a topographical survey to establish whether this was possible; a quote had been obtained in the sum of £1,595 + VAT. She invited views from Members. She pointed out that she had spoken to the dentist practice but it was likely to be very expensive to find alternative accommodation together with replacement equipment. She suggested that the topographical survey be put on the back burner for the present time. Cllr. Bunyan agreed that this was not the time to undertake additional expense for something that might never happen.

66/14: Cranbrook Walks Leaflet Packs:

Cllr. Holmes informed Members on the history of the walks leaflet packs and how they were originally financed. They had proved to be very popular with residents and tourists alike but were now in short supply. Unfortunately talks with the Economic & Tourism had not resulted in the leaflets being reprinted. He had carried out some investigations and found that Green-On Limited held the artwork and he had obtained a quote for reprinting the leaflets which was in the sum of £3,429 + VAT. However if we wish to make up the packs ourselves we can take £170 off the price. After a full discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Rook to accept the quote of £3,259, this was seconded by Cllr. Bunyan and agreed. Members agreed to make up the packs.

Cllr. Holmes reminded Members that the other leaflets Visit Cranbrook, Heritage and Shopping and also In and Around were also in very short supply. The Clerk stated that these were very popular and well received by visitors. Cllr. Holmes stated that he had established that Flow Print held the artwork and he volunteered to obtain a quote for reprinting. Some alterations would be needed before a re-print i.e. some of the properties on the heritage trail had been renamed or had a change of use.

67/14: Elections 2015:

The Clerk gave an update on candidates that she was aware of who had requested nomination packs. It was hoped that there would be an election in May. It was clarified that people could stand for either Cranbrook or Sissinghurst Wards. Cllr. Veitch informed Members that she and Cllr. Swann would be outside the Vestry Hall this Saturday encouraging people to get involved and become parish councillors. The Clerk agreed to provide the nomination packs.

68/14: Items for Information:

a) Cllr. Holmes stated that he was disappointed with the negative article in the Courier newspaper regarding the loss of shops in the Town. He felt that it was not well written and not a true reflection of the facts.

b) Cllr. Bunyan suggested that a formal opening of Cobnut Close should be held with the press being invited. The Clerk informed her that Golding Homes were already arranging this and that the Parish Council would be invited. Cllr. Bunyan confirmed to Cllr. Swann that no appeal had yet been lodged on the Gladman site in Common Road. She had concerns on the Borough 5 year housing supply – there had been some creative writing where replacement dwellings had been counted as an extra dwelling when in fact they should be zero and there is actually no gain.

c) Cllr. Hemsted informed Members that the plans for the Village Hall had been submitted for Building Regulations and that three builders had been invited to tender for the refurbishment works with the deadline for return of tenders being the 24<sup>th</sup> April. He reported that the Antique Shop in Sissinghurst was now closed.

d) The Clerk tabled various consultation which had been received. Cllr. Veitch offered to respond to the Libraries Consultation and Cllr. Holmes offered to read through the Licencing Consultation.

e) The Clerk reminded Members that we needed to invite a guest speaker to the Annual Parish Meeting. Several suggestions were made and Cllr. Rook offered to speak to Dr. John Weeds – the Head Teacher of Cranbrook School to ascertain whether he would like to inform parishioners of the current consultation.

