

'prime pumping' exercise to stimulate interest for the future.

CC1363/14 Council Projects Plaques for trees. A Cllr asked what the current situation was in regard to this item. The Clerk advised that the plaque has now been placed next to the Jubilee oak tree on the Green. The Clerk commented that he was currently working on a form of words based on that provided by Cllr Dann regarding the Dawn Redwood outside the Parish Council's office. The Clerk added the Dawn Redwood now had a Tree Preservation Order on it.

CC1369/14 Committee Reports

CC1369.1/14 Environment and Amenity Committee held on 4 March and 3 June 2014

Resolved:

- That the Minutes of the Environment and Amenity Committee held on 4 March and 3 June 2014 be adopted as a report of the meetings.

CC1369.2/14 Any Matters Arising

EA1048/14 Dog Fouling. A Cllr asked that he noted that the Minutes referred to a number of prosecutions that had taken place but that he was unaware of any in Croxley Green. It was pointed out that the comment in the Minutes had been one of taking the Three Rivers District as a whole.

CC1049/14 Land at A412 Watford Road, East of Sycamore Approach. A Cllr asked whether any progress had been made on this matter. The Clerk advised that it was the intent to progress this when the new Ranger starts so on health & safety grounds there are two Rangers on site whilst the initial investigation is undertaken.

CC1369.3/14 Planning and Development Committee held on Wednesday 4 June and 18 June 2014

Resolved:

- That the Minutes of the Planning and Development Committee held on Wednesday 4 June and Wednesday 18 June 2014 be adopted as a report of the meetings.

CC1369.4/14 Any matters arising

There were no matters arising.

CC1369.5/14 Finance and Administration Committee held on 8 May 2014

Resolved:

- That the Minutes of the Finance and Administration Committee held on Thursday 8 May 2014 be adopted as a report of the meeting.

CC1369.6/14 Any matters arising

There were no matters arising.

CC1370/14 Parish Council Risk Assessment Review

The Chairman introduced this item and asked the Clerk to elaborate. The Clerk referred to the Risk Assessment document that had been circulated with the Agenda and advised that the Risk Assessment had not changed substantially since last year.

Resolved:

- That the Risk Assessment be adopted.

CC1371/14 Parish Council's Internal Audit Review

The Chairman introduced this item and asked the Clerk to elaborate. The Clerk referred to the paper circulated with the Agenda and advised that the Internal Audit Review was very similar to that of last year and had proved very effective

Resolved:

- That the Audit Plan be accepted.

CC1372/14 Parish and Town Council draft charter consultation

The Chairman introduced this item and referred to the draft Countywide Charter for Parish and Town Councils that Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) had produced which was circulated with the Agenda. The Chairman invited Members to comment

Members considered that whilst the Charter in principle was laudable in theory, there were no practical measures contained in it of any substance as to how it could work, particularly in regard to finance.

Members were concerned that section 5 lacked detail especially in regard to how County would take forward and action matters which are raised from Parish level on behalf of the local electorate. It was noted that although there was reference to an appendix in the body of the document there was no appendix included.

Concern was expressed about potential joint funding particularly if this related to a matter which fell upon County as a duty resulting in possible 'double taxation' with funding from the local Precept as well as residents funding County.

Members expressed concern about the proposed methods of communication in having to use the HCC Call Centre and that Councillors and in particular the Proper Officer (Clerks) of Parish Council's should have direct access to responsible officers at County via an internal directory.

Members expressed grave reservations about the Charter particularly when it came to consultation on matters where there will be cost cutting from County. It was stated that the locally elected Parish Council Members would be placed in an invidious position in not being able to properly represent the wishes of their local community particularly if issues proposed at County were in conflict with the views of local residents. It was considered that there must be proper, effective and meaningful liaison and consultation on any measure that would impact on the local community prior to decisions at County being made.

Resolved:

- That the Clerk prepares a letter to HCC based on the discussion at the meeting expressing the Council's concerns;
- That the Clerk circulates the draft to Members for comment prior to dispatch.

CC1375/14 Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) Public consultation on Bus Services

The Chairman introduced this item and referred to the public consultation documents on reducing bus services that Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) had produced and circulated with the Agenda. The Chairman invited Members to comment.

The Council were extremely concerned about the proposals being put forward as

any proposed withdrawal of services as intimated in the documents would have a devastating effect on those in Croxley Green whose only means of transport is the bus, particularly the elderly, those on low income and youngsters.

Members expressed their concern about the consultation process as those most likely to be affected by the withdrawal of bus services through Croxley may not be aware of the consultation and as a result would not have the opportunity of making any comments about the very services they use. This therefore could have a quite marked negative impact on the validity of the questionnaire results.

Members were concerned that it appeared that HCC had already pre-determined the outcome of the consultation as the proposals put forward would not have taken any account of any of the views expressed from the consultation, particularly as the questionnaire focuses on usage.

Members considered that once the consultation was completed and analysed, the data is made publicly available and any resulting proposals be circulated for consideration and further public consultation.

Resolved:

- That the Clerk prepares a letter to HCC based on the discussion at the meeting expressing the Council's concerns;
- That the Clerk circulates the draft to Members for comment prior to dispatch.

CC1374/14

Planning & Development Committee

The Chairman introduced this item and advised that due to other commitments Cllr Bennett may not be able to attend Planning and Development Committee meetings and therefore had considered it necessary to step down as Vice Chairman of that Committee.

Accordingly Cllr Julie-Isard Brown has been appointed Vice Chairman of the Planning and Development Committee and as Vice Chairman would also be appointed to the Finance & Administration Committee.

Resolved:

- To note that Cllr Julie-Isard Brown has been appointed Vice Chairman of the Planning & Development Committee and as Vice Chairman would also be appointed to the Finance & Administration Committee.

CC1375/14 &
CC1377/14

Supporting Papers and legislation and Consideration of a future Agenda item on 'Notice of Other Business'

The Chairman introduced these items. The Clerk pointed out that the proposer of the motions by way of his Supporting Papers was not present at the meeting and recommended the matters be deferred until the Member was present.

A Cllr pointed out that the matters could be proposed and seconded by members present to facilitate a debate and resolution.

The Chairman asked for a show of hands for the matters to be progressed at the meeting of which there were none.

Resolved:

- That the matters are deferred until the Council Meeting in September.

CC1376/14

WW1 Commemoration

The Chairman introduced this item and asked Cllr Brading to elaborate. Cllr Brading referred to his emailed notes that the Clerk had circulated to Cllrs for information and reported that both he and Cllr Brand were representing the Council with a Group to take matters forward. The Group included All Saints' Church,

Church, Three Rivers Museum, Methodist Church, St Oswald's Church, Methodist Church, Little Green School, St Oswald's Church and Rickmansworth Historical Society.

Cllr Brading reported that a range of possibilities had been discussed and agreed that the commemoration was not just about those who died in the war but also about the Croxley people who contributed to the community's effort - schoolchildren, volunteers at the Red Cross hospital, workers at Croxley Mills (especially the new women workers), farmers and gardeners etc. The centenary lasts four years so there was time to plan ideas particularly as July 2016 was a significant date because of the number of Croxley men who died at the Somme.

Cllr Brading said that some ideas that were being considered were:

- an art project by local Junior Schools which could be displayed in churches and the library;
- an exhibition at All Saints' linked to the remembrance weekend this year;
- commemorative plaques on the houses of the men who died;
- collaboration with Rickmansworth School drama department to see if there is interest in staging a commemorative event or play;
- using WW1 uniforms for the guard of honour at the memorial on remembrance Sunday.

Cllr Brading also mentioned that consideration was being given to the sowing of poppies. Cllr Brading concluded that the next meeting of the group would probably be in September.

Resolution:

- Cllr Brading's report was noted;
- Members to submit ideas to either Cllr Brading or Cllr Brand.

CC1377/14 See item 1375/14 above.

CC1378/14 Closure

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.09pm.