



## **CREETING ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall, Creeting St Mary on  
**Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 at 7.30pm.**

### **Present:**

Councillors: H Craggs (Chair)  
P Scully  
R Coton  
L Plummer  
J Palmer  
C Gordon

In Attendance: J Blackburn - Clerk  
County Cllr Hicks  
District Cllr Norris

### **CSM145/21/22 – PUBLIC FORUM**

There were four members of the public present.

Rupert Durrant, developer for the site at Red House Farm, was present at the meeting and asked to briefly discuss the new development planned. He asked members to consider *The Mere* as a name for the development due to it being near a large pond.

Following a brief discussion members agreed to the suggestion and asked that the houses be 1, 2, and 3 The Mere.

He also confirmed that maintenance of the site once completed would be the responsibility of the property owners with a Management Committee being formed.

### **CSM146/21/22 – TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Haynes and Cllr Smart.

### **CSM147/21/22 – TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Declarations of Non-Pecuniary Interest was received from Cllr Craggs and Cllr Plummer within the Planning items.

### **CSM148/21/22 – TO RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION**

None had been received.

### **CSM150/21/22 – CO-OPTION**

The Clerk reported that she had received three applications for the two vacancies for Parish Councillors, two of which were present at the meeting.

Following a vote by way of a show of hands Caroline Gordon and Dan Cage were voted onto the Parish Council.

**It was AGREED:** That Caroline Gordon and Dan Cage be co-opted onto the Parish Council and they completed the relevant forms.

## **CSM151/21/22 - TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2022**

**It was AGREED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

## **CSM152/21/22 – TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT – CLLRS NORRIS & CLLR PHILLIPS**

Cllr Norris’ report had been circulated prior to the meeting and would be published on the parish’s website.

He reported that the Needham Lake Visitor’s Centre was progressing well and aimed to be open by September 2022. It would be called the *Duck and Teapot*.

## **CSM153/21/22 - PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**Ref: DC/22/00354** - Submission of details (Reserved Matters in part) following Outline Planning Permission DC/20/03721 dated: 08/12/20 - Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale for Erection of 2no. dwellings and garages (following demolition of existing storage building) Plot 2 Only. Discharge of Conditions 8 (Biodiversity Enhancement Strategy) and Condition 9 (Wildlife Sensitive Lighting Design Scheme) Plot 2 Only - Land at Grange Farm, All Saints Road, Creeping St Mary

The owner/applicant was present at the meeting and reported on the proposals in the application. He explained that the site, including the adjacent area where he lived (in all 2.5 acres), was large enough to hold many parked cars. He’d also had a light survey carried out to ensure correct lighting be used to limit any impact on neighbouring properties.

The proposed development would be lived in by his parents and the limited garden area would be ideal for them.

Members continued to have concerns over the limited maneuverability for cars on the plot itself. Cllr Palmer explained that the site was an independent site and needed to be considered for what it was. The outside space and parking were the main areas of concern.

**It was AGREED:** That the Parish Council object to the application. **Clerk to action.**

**Ref: DC/22/01049** - Householder Application - Erection of a single storey rear extension (following removal of conservatory) - Bellapais, Jacks Green Road, Creeping St Mary

**It was AGREED:** That the Parish Council had no objections to the application. **Clerk to action.**

**Ref: DC/21/05353** - Planning Application. Erection of detached dwelling and garage. New vehicular access to highway. Installation of sewage package treatment plant. Associated landscaping - Land Adjacent Red House Farm All Saints Road Creeping St Mary

**It was AGREED:** That the Parish Council had no objections to the application. **Clerk to action.**

## **CSM154/21/22 - PLANNING DECISIONS**

**It was NOTED:** The following planning applications had been received:-

**Ref: DC/21/06446** - Householder Application - Erection of single storey rear extension (amended scheme and resubmission of DC/21/02041) - The Almonds, Flordon Road, Creeping St Mary – **Granted**

**Ref: DC/21/06947** - Application under Section 73 of The Town and Country Planning Act for DC/21/03030 for Variation of Condition 2 (Approved plans and documents) to introduce a single storey rear extension - Land Near Highfield, All Saints Road, Creting St Mary - **Granted**

### **CSM155/21/22 – TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT – CLLR M HICKS**

Cllr Hicks’ full report was circulated prior to the meeting and would be published on the parish website.

He reported that the ‘Creting St Mary’ directional sign that used to be located at Creting Bottoms on the A140 would not be possible to reinstate at this current time, although he would try again in the future.

Cllr Hicks made the following points:

- Budget – 75% of the budget would be spent on Adult and Children’s Services.
- £10 million would be spent on signage and verge cutting and also Footpaths.
- £10 million would also be spent on roadside drainage
- £12.8 million would be used for decarbonisation – such as boilers and LED street lights.
- Festival of Suffolk – he reminded members to register their events for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee and reported on the ‘Clean for the Queen’ initiative.
- County Deal – Suffolk County Council (SCC) would be given more opportunities to determine things themselves rather than having to be given the go ahead from the Government. Areas like travel, Work and Climate Change could all be decided at County level.

### **CSM156/21/22 - TO RECEIVE THE CLERK’S REPORT AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

#### **a) CLERKS REPORT**

The Clerk reported that she had received the Grass Cutting contract from Vertas Group Ltd with a cost of £ 1,116.74 (excl. VAT).

She also reported that Earl Stonham Parish Council had asked if the Parish Council would consider sharing the cost of Wheelie Bin ‘30 mph Slow Down’ stickers.

During a brief discussion Members felt that they needed to research the success of such stickers and also if residents would actually use or want them on their bins.

**It was AGREED:** That the contract for Grass Cutting for 2022/23 be signed. **Clerk to action.**

That the Clerk inform Earl Stonham that they would like to do further research into Wheelie Bin stickers and that they should go ahead alone.

#### **b) TO RECEIVE THE CLERK’S FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Clerk reported on the Council’s current financial position and movements since the last meeting. It was reported that the balance in the accounts on 21<sup>ST</sup> February 2022 was £22,845.23.

#### **c) TO AUTHORISE PAYMENTS AND NOTE RECEIPTS**

The Clerk reported the following payments be authorised:-

Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Pay (Feb)	£149.89
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Office Allowance/Exp (Feb)	£34.33
The Sign Shed	Dog Mess Sign - Play Equipment Area	£11.14
CFB IT Solutions	Mailbox Domain Annual Renewal	£16.80
CFB IT Solutions	Mailbox Hosting (Feb)	£6.00
Vertas Group Ltd	Grass Cutting (Jan-Mar 2022)	£314.28

**It was AGREED:** That payments totaling £532.44 be approved.

d) **BANK RECONCILIATION**

**It was AGREED:** That the Bank Reconciliation be approved.

e) **APPOINT THE INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR 2021/22**

**It was AGREED:** That Trevor Brown CPFA (Local Council Financial Services & Internal Audit) be appointed as auditor for the purposes of the 2021/22 audit.

f) **EXTERNAL AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS 2021/22**

**It was AGREED:** That an External Audit would need to be carried out due to the Parish Council's income of over £25,000 for 2021/22.

g) **CiL REPORT**

**It was AGREED:** That the CiL Report be approved and signed by the Chairman.

**CSM157/21/22 – POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

a) **REVIEW OF INTERNAL AUDIT CONTROL AND RISK MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

**It was AGREED:** That the Internal Audit Control and Risk Management Arrangements were reviewed and approved.

b) **REVIEW AND ADOPT THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND STANDING ORDERS**

**It was AGREED:** That the Financial Regulations and Standing Orders be approved and adopted.

**CSM158/21/22 – LILLEY'S WOOD UPDATE**

There was nothing to report.

**CSM159/21/22 – DOG FOULING ON BLACKSMITHS FIELD / PLAY EQUIPMENT**

There had been complaints of dog fouling around the play equipment on Blacksmiths Field. A new sign had been purchased but members felt that the signs were not an adequate deterrent.

It was suggested that CCTV be installed to catch the offenders but members were not aware if that was a possible way forward and clarification was required. In the meantime, the situation would need to be monitored.

**It was AGREED:** That Cllr Coton / the Clerk ascertain from SALC whether CCTV would be permitted.

**CSM160/21/22 – TREE FOR QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE AND CANOPY**

It was noted that a Whitebeam tree had been planted at the end of the new pathway to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

A plaque from the Royal British Legion was discussed. The cost for an A4 plaque would be £129.99.

In relation to a tree guard Barking Tye had quoted £330 plus VAT which member felt was a little expensive and it was known that other companies could be found online who would be cheaper.

**It was AGREED:** That an A4 plaque without stakes would be purchased. **Clerk to action.**

That the Clerk seek quotes for tree guards.

### **CSM161/21/22 – CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS COMMEMORATIVE COINS FOR THE SCHOOL**

Following a request from the PTA at the Primary School in Creting St Mary for a contribution towards commemorative coins for the children at the school to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, members discussed at some length, the request.

It was recognised that the Parish Council had already been of some assistance in directing the school to County Councillor Hicks who had offered £250 of locality funding towards the purchase.

Members of the Parish Council were also a little uncertain of the value or usefulness of commemorative coins. They felt that in the vast majority of cases, such mementos generally ended up gathering dust at the back of drawers. Therefore, whilst recognising the good intentions of the school, on balance the Parish Council decided that it should not provide a contribution to these coins.

**It was AGREED:** That a contribution would not be made.

### **CSM162/21/22 - REPORTS**

**Blacksmiths Field** – Cllr Palmer reported that it had been six months since DAB Construction had been contacted about the cracks in the new pathway from All Saints Road to the Play Equipment. They had stated last year that they would attend to the cracks and repair them in the new year.

Cllr Palmer also reported that the play area surface needed a top up of chippings and suggested two bags be purchased once the weather had improved.

**It was AGREED:** That the Clerk liaise with DAB Construction and ask them to repair the pathway as previously agreed.  
That two bags of chippings be purchased and laid around the play area.

**SALC** – Cllr Coton reported that an area forum was due to take place where the new Babergh Mid Suffolk website was due to be discussed. Cllr Coton stated that he would raise the CCTV (animal cameras) at the meeting.

**Footpaths** – Cllr Scully reported that he had fixed the QR Code signs given to him by the County Council. He had also reported a couple of broken posts and also enquired again for the footpath at Bluebell Wood to be closed. Whilst it remained 'live' walkers would continue to walk along it only to reach a dead end.

**Village Hall** – Cllr Haynes was not present at the meeting but she had circulated a brief report prior to the meeting and would report further at the next meeting.

**Sustainability** – Cllr Craggs reported that he had contacted the company who were dredging the large pond at the new development mentioned at the beginning of the meeting, to ask for a quote to dredge the small pond adjacent Grange Farm. The quote received was £13,000! Members agreed that this would not be a way forward.

### **CSM164/21/22 - MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL**

- Dunches Lane update – nothing to report
- Breheny Footpath – chase Cllr Norris
- Queen's Platinum Jubilee event – Lighting of a Beacon on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June during the evening. Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> June – picnic during the afternoon, games to be brought – suggested dog show. Parish Council open to requests for contribution of funding.

**CSM165/21/22 - DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**It was AGREED:** That the date of the next meeting would be Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022

The meeting finished at 9.41pm.

Chairman: ..... Dated: .....