



CRESSING PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the virtual Annual Parish Council meeting
held on 5th May 2021 at 6.30pm via Zoom.**

Present: Cllr John Lawton – Chairman
Cllr Colin Haines
Cllr Harvey Porrett
Cllr Susan Simpson
Cllr Steve Watts
Cllr Toria Rowe

In attendance:

Mrs Christine Marshall (Parish Clerk/RFO and Proper Officer)
County Councillor Robert Mitchell
One member of the public

21/060 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME AND REPORT

The Chairman welcomed all attendees and made the following report:

Following the one minute's silence the Chairman reported:

- i. Throughout a "strange" year for the Parish Council when it was unable to meet in person, the business of the Council continued without interruption.
- ii. Ongoing development applications have been a challenge and the Chairman expressed his thanks to Cllr Simpson for putting together comments and documents for submission to the planning authority objecting to the proposal 21/00749/FUL, Development of 80 no. age-restricted (toover-55s) bungalows on Land West off Mill Lane Cressing.
- iii. Meetings with neighbouring parishes (Silver End and Rivenhall) were put on hold during the pandemic. They will recommence shortly. In the meantime, we have continued support against large planning applications.

21/061 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Clerk advised that apologies had been received from District Cllrs Abbott and Wright. No other apologies had been received.

21/062 TO ELECT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL FOR 2021-22

Nominations were requested. Cllr Lawton was **proposed by Cllr Simpson, seconded by Cllr Porrett, all in favour.** Cllr Lawton was duly elected as Chairman of the Parish Council for the current year 2021-22.

21/063 CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF OFFICE

Cllr Lawton signed the Chairman's Declaration of Office and having witnessed this signature being applied "on camera" the Parish Clerk will sign as the Proper Officer of the Council. Cllr Lawton to deliver form to the office.

21/064 DECLARATIONS OF CONTINUED ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Councillors signed Declarations of Acceptance of Office and Declaration to Observe the Code of Conduct. Having witnessed this signature being applied "on camera" the Parish Clerk will sign as the Proper Officer of the Council. Cllrs to deliver forms to the office.

21/065 REGISTER OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillors will review their Register of Members' Interests and will confirm their entries correct or provide an updated form to the Proper Officer.

21/066 CONSENT FORMS

All Members present signed “on camera” the consent form to receive Council Summons, Agenda and other documents by e-mail and to utilize the @cressing-pc.gov.uk email account solely for business relating to the Parish Council.

21/067 BANK MANDATE

It was AGREED to continue with the Bank Mandate as currently in existence of any two signatories for all outgoing payments or instructions.

21/068 FINANCE AND ANNUAL RETURN 2020-21

The RFO confirmed that completion of the year end accounts and Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020-2021 had been delayed due to Covid and will be presented prior to and signed at the next available meeting following completion of the internal audit:

21/069 NEXT ANNUAL MEETING

The next Annual meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 11th May 2022 at 7.00pm at St Barnabas, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing, CM77 8HG.

The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on Wednesday 11th May 2022 at 6.30pm at St Barnabas, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing, CM77 8HG. The Clerk will seek reports from local groups for presentation at that meeting.

Items for inclusion on the Agenda to be sent to the Parish Clerk to be received no later than 12 noon on Tuesday 3rd May 2022.

The meeting closed at 6.50pm.