



CRESSING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Cressing Parish Council
held on 13th April 2022 at 7.00pm
at St Barnabas, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing

Present: Cllr John Lawton – Chairman
Cllr Colin Haines
Cllr Alison Lapper
Cllr Steve Watts

In attendance:

Mrs Christine Marshall (Parish Clerk/RFO)
County Councillor Paul Thorogood
District Councillor James Abbott
No members of the public were in attendance

22/048 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME AND REPORT

The Chairman welcomed attendees and reported as follows:

- Afternoon Tea – hope all Councillors plus partners will attend. Need to reserve ticket via Christine
- The Willows – the period for final comments to the Inspector has now closed and it is hoped there will be a decision in May (although there is a backlog of cases)

22/049 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Clerk advised that apologies had been received from Cllrs: Porrett and Rowe. These apologies were accepted. **Proposed: Cllr Haines, seconded: Cllr Lapper.**

22/050 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of the council are subject to the Local Authorities Code of Conduct Order 2007 (SI 2007/1159) (The Revised Code) with the additional, non-mandatory, section 12(2).

There were no pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in relation to items on the agenda to be recorded.

22/051 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

No members of the public were in attendance and the Clerk confirmed no matters had been raised prior to the meeting.

22/052 REPORTS OF COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Paul Thorogood reported:

- i. Members' grants for 2022-23 have been reduced by 50%.
- ii. "Levelling Up" grants are being introduced and will be targeted at areas that have social issues.
- iii. National Highways continuing to survey all routes previously put forward for the new A120.
- iv. Rivenhall Liaison Committee have advised that Indaver (a Belgian/Irish company) have invited the Belgian Royal Family to visit the site. No further details available yet.

Cllr James Abbott reported:

- i. Ukraine – BDC have unanimously agreed to support DEC initiatives.
- ii. Local Plan – No update yet, expected late June.
- iii. Planning Committee has now refused three large developments.
- iv. A second access into the IWFMF is expected to be approved.
- v. Abnormal loads into the IWFMF site through surrounding villages will cause

concern, although Indaver believe they will be able to use the Baileybridge into the site as used by the quarry. Cllrs expressed serious reservations about this as well as the proposed routes through Cressing, Silver End and Rivenhall.

- vi. Cllr Abbott has been appointed to the panel that will decide on the next Chief Executive for BDC.
- vii. Re-wilding Braintree scheme available for application, but these need to be on BDC owned land.
- viii. An application has been submitted to the Local Highways Panel to replace directional signage at Boars Tye Road 'T' junction and repair historic metal sign. Request also made to restore the unused highways storage area to planting, improve sightlines at Farm lane junction and resurface and kerb the junction and delineate where private use can be and where it should not be. The Clerk suggested that as an application for development at Lanham Green Farm a suggestion could be made to the landowner for contribution towards undertaking this work.

Action: Clerk

22/053 LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL

Cllr Thorogood and the Clerk brought the meeting up to date on applications submitted to the LHP, and in particular regarding Bulford Mill Lane. **It was agreed** that this will be raised as part of the Annual Parish Meeting on 11th May at 7.00pm when the meeting topic will be traffic in Cressing Parish. The Clerk confirmed that residents affected in Bulford Mill Lane will be attending the discussion.

22/054 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th March 2022 were confirmed as a true record with no amendments required. **Proposed: Cllr Haines, seconded Cllr Lawton.** The Chairman signed the Minutes.

22/055 COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

It was agreed to notify Braintree District Council of the vacancies currently available for Cressing Parish Councillors and to commence the process of recruitment. **Proposed: Cllr Lapper, seconded: Cllr Lawton.** **Action: Clerk**

22/056 FINANCE

- i. **Progress against budget:** The Clerk/RFO referred to the reports issued with the Agenda. These reports are to the financial year end of 31st March and are subject to Internal Audit. The Clerk will deliver the necessary documents to the IA to enable audit to be undertaken prior to preparation of the Annual Governance and Audit Report. **It was resolved** to accept the reports. **Proposed: Cllr Haines, seconded: Cllr Lapper, all in favour**
- ii. **A motion to approve bank reconciliation at 31st March 2022: It was resolved** that the bank reconciliation statement at 31st March be approved. **Proposed: Cllr Haines, seconded: Cllr Lapper, all in favour**
- iii. **A motion to approve March 2021 Payments/Cheques:** The list of payments and cheques to be signed against March expenditure was presented. There were no queries, and **it was resolved** to approve the payments. **Proposed: Cllr Haines, seconded Cllr Lapper, all in favour.** Cllrs Lawton and Haines signed the cheques.

22/057 GRANT APPLICATION

Councillors discussed the grant application received on behalf of the Cressing Community Magazine for £1,200. **It was agreed** that with the increasing numbers of residents in Cressing Parish, this grant should be awarded. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Abbott left the meeting.

22/058 PLANNING

- A. **Appeals determined by the Planning Inspectorate:** None advised.
- B. **Appeals submitted to the Planning Inspectorate:**
Planning Enforcement Appeal APP/Z1510/C/22/3290978 - Land at Il Salice (formerly known as) The Willows Inn, The Street, Cressing, Essex, CM77 8DQ (see minute 22/049 above)
- C. **Applications determined by Braintree District Council:** None advised.
- D. **Applications received by Braintree District Council:**
 - i. 22/00628/ECC | Consultation on Essex County Council application no. ESS/14/22/BTE - Continued operation of the Waste Transfer Station without compliance with condition 2 (approved details) and condition 3 (hours) attached to permission ref: ESS/02/19/BTE to allow an increase in overnight parking of HGVs and trailers from two to six and to allow operational hours to begin at 06:00 hours Monday to Sunday and Bank / Public Holidays. | ECC Waste Transfer Station Cordons Farm Long Green Cressing Essex CM77 8DL (braintree.gov.uk) – the Parish Council had no comments.
 - ii. 21/03214/REM | Application for the approval of reserved matters (in respect of layout, scale, appearance and landscaping) pursuant to outline planning permission 18/00549/OUT granted 14.12.2020 (Allowed on appeal) for 250 dwellings, open space and associated ancillary works | Land Opposite Sandiacres Long Green Cressing Essex – whilst the Parish Council had no comments to submit, it was very aware that part of this development will be adjacent to the Waste Transfer Station and may be subject to noise and odour from extended working hours.
 - iii. 22/00720/FUL | Erection of a two-storey 4/5 bedroom dwellinghouse with associated access road and landscaping. | Land Adjoining And To The Rear Of 1 To 8 Leyfield Braintree Road Cressing Essex – The Parish Council will continue with its objection to further development at this location due to vehicle access on to the B1018. **Action: Clerk**
 - iv. 22/00668/LBC | - Replacement of 2No. existing oil-fired boilers with new oil-fired boiler system, including new thermostat controls and wiring, and replacement of 2No. flu vents with 1No. flu vent. - Entire replacement of ensuite into the master bedroom, including relocation of existing stud partition. - Replacement of 2No. existing downstairs toilets, including tiling of the floor. | The Old Barn The Street Cressing Essex CM77 8DQ
 - v. 22/00620/TPOCON | Notice of intent to carry out works to tree in a Conservation Area - Gleditsia - Dismantle to leave monolith/ habitat stem at first union. Dieback evident in crown, multiple fractured/ hazardous limbs, poor unions - tree in close proximity to house, driveway and garden. Tree would not likely tolerate heavy reduction, and removal of all deadwood and hazardous sections would leave unbalanced and poorly structured remaining crown. | The Old Vicarage The Street Cressing Essex CM77 8DQ – the Parish Council had no comments to make, but is concerned about the on-going extensive works at this location having an impact on other trees.
- E. **To discuss Applications received by Braintree District Council and consider if comments should be made** (Householder Application, General Permitted Development Order) – not applications advised.
- F. **Applications bordering parish for information** – none advised.

22/059

QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

The Clerk updated the meeting on discussions with CSSC and confirmed the date for Afternoon Tea had been changed to Thursday 2nd June as requested by the Parish Council. Quotations from various catering companies had been received, but only one provided for table service and it had been agreed to proceed with this one. Costs were within the budget put aside by the Parish Council.

The Clerk itemised the budget to include a commemorative gift for each attendee and a

Jubilee oak tree to be planted. The preferred gift was noted and the Clerk will research sources for the oak tree. Positioning of the oak tree was discussed and it was agreed to investigate whether Essex Highways would permit this at the junction of Polecat Road and the B1018. **Action: Clerk**

22/060 **PLAYING FIELD**

The Clerk confirmed that planning permission had been granted for work to the changing rooms only. The proposal for a family garden would be refused and was removed from the application to ensure a positive outcome for the changing rooms. The Clerk will discuss the family garden with CSSC separately.

A meeting had been held with the surveyor to determine next steps and the Clerk requested Councillors to confirm their approval to the quotations below so that the required reports can be obtained for building control and specification documents are prepared.

- i. Mechanical and electrical (fee £3,000)
- ii. Structural, foundation and drainage engineer (fee £4,500)
- iii. Building Control and site appraisal (fee £1,450)

When these are completed the surveyor will prepare the specification too issue the Tender documents. **It was agreed** to approve this expenditure. **Proposed: Cllr**

Lawton, Seconded: Cllr Haines.

Action: Clerk

22/061 **BDC STREET CLEANING AGREEMENT**

It was agreed to enter into this agreement for a further year. The Clerk was requested to sign the Agreement documents and to issue the necessary invoice. **Proposed: Cllr**
Lapper, seconded: Cllr Haines **Action: Clerk**

22/062 **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

Councillors approved the revised/updated policies for adoption, as follows:

- i. Anti-harassment and bullying
- ii. Communications and Media
- iii. Code of Conduct
- iv. Financial Regulations
- v. Data Protection
- vi. Equality and Diversity
- vii. Grant Funding

The policies will be published on the website. **Proposed: Cllr Haines, seconded: Cllr**
Lawton. **Action: Clerk**

22/063 **THREE PARISHES MEETING**

The report of the meeting held on Wednesday 30th March was noted. There were no comments.

22/064 **CRESSING ANNUAL MEETINGS**

It was agreed that the Annual Parish Assembly, which is not a Parish Council meeting, will provide a discussion on traffic issues in Cressing Parish and Local Highways Panel applications. Cllr Thorogood agreed to ask an LHP Officer to attend. **Action: Clerk**

22/065 **INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

- i. SSE has submitted account for March. This was queried as rate was incorrectly increased from 1st March instead of April. A new invoice will be submitted.
- ii. Office will be closed on Thursday 14th April.
- iii. A reminder was given for the self-build developer's meeting on 20th April.

ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE MAY AGENDA:

- 1. *The Queen's Platinum Jubilee (Clerk)*

2. Policies & procedures (Clerk)

22/065

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 11th May 2022 at **7.00pm at St Barnabas Hall, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing, CM77 8HG**. Any Covid regulations in place will be closely followed: social distancing and face masks unless addressing the Council.

Any 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 8.40pm

Dates of 2022 meetings			
MAY	11	7.00pm	Annual Parish Meeting
		7.30pm	Parish Council Annual Meeting
		8.00pm	Parish Council Meeting
JUNE	8	7.00pm	
JULY	13	7.00pm	
AUGUST	10	7.00pm	
SEPTEMBER	14	7.00pm	
OCTOBER	12	7.00pm	
NOVEMBER	9	7.00pm	
DECEMBER	14	7.00pm	