



CRESSING PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting of Cressing Parish Council
held on 12th April 2023 at 7.00pm
at St Barnabas, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing

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

In attendance:

Mrs Christine Marshall (Parish Clerk/RFO and Proper Officer)
County Cllr Lewis Barber, Deputy Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport; Deputy Cabinet Member for Community, Equality, Partnerships and Performance (items 1-3 only)
County Cllr Paul Thorogood
District Cllr James Abbott
One member of the public

23-4/001 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME AND REPORT

- i. The Chairman welcomed those in attendance, particularly Cllr Barber for item 23-4/003.
- ii. Il Salice (The Willows) Appeal – The Planning Inspector has dismissed the Appeal. The applicant has until 27th July to return the premises to a pub. Clerk to monitor position.

23-4/002 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Rowe and apologies for late arrival were received from Cllr Watts. These were accepted. **Proposed: Cllr Porrett, seconded: Cllr Lawton**

23-4/003 ESSEX HIGHWAYS

Cllr Barber introduced himself to the meeting and the following topics were discussed:

Highways budget increased for 2023-24, but still insufficient to meet all needs.

Potholes, attention drawn to those where recent repairs were undertaken, but had now reappeared in worse condition.

Housing developments resulting in increased traffic in the Parish with no improvement to highways, particularly when joining the A120 from Cressing.

Essential for Essex Highways to look at all planned developments in the Parish when responding to BDC consultations to provide a response based on cumulative effect.

Alternative means of travel to reduce reliance on private vehicles – Cllrs gave examples of why this is not a feasible choice for Cressing residents currently.

Public transport available in Cressing and its limitations to meet the needs of residents.

ECC seeking to become a “transport authority” to provide more control and influence.

Clerk to forward details of outstanding potholes to Cllr Barber.

Action: Clerk

23-4/004 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 to be recorded in relation to items on the agenda.

23-4/005 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Clerk confirmed that no items had been raised for discussion at this meeting. Cllrs Thorogood and Abbott were thanked for their valuable assistance in responding to written questions about the bends on the B1018.

23-4/006 REPORTS OF COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Count Cllr Thorogood reported on the following:

- i. Essex Highways budget allowed at £50m, against estimated cost of repairs to maintain the roads of £77m.
- ii. A120 could see an extension of the 40mph limit between Bradwell and Pattiswick turning, and at Coggeshall a reduction to 50mph.
- iii. B1018 – a new VAS to be installed warning traffic heading towards Witham of the bends at Cressing Temple.
- iv. An inspection of the ditch at Clay Pits (bends) to be undertaken to identify any work needed to unblock and prevent continued flooding.
- v. Following speed survey of Bulford Mill Lane, no additional signs for weight limit required (currently 5t weight restriction).
- vi. Two written questions have been submitted:
 1. BDC Cabinet says collecting green waste costs approximately £600,000 per year. The administration has allocated £200,000 to setting up 'funding to prepare for' the paid service. What will this £200,000 be spent on? The Cabinet deferred a decision on the green bins until after the election; if it decides not to go ahead with the paid-for collection, where will that money go?
 2. Given that the town of Braintree doesn't have a town council, the constituents of Braintree do not pay a town council precept as part of their council tax. Therefore, some of the services they receive must be resourced from the general BDC precept part of the council tax bill which is paid for by ALL council taxpayers in the Braintree district including those who live outside of Braintree. Is this fair on non-Braintree residents and how much does it work out per non-Braintree household?

Cllr Abbott reported:

- i. Appeal outcome 21/03053/OUT - 35 dwellings on land to the east of Braintree Road causes concern for future applications as Inspector ruled considering 5-year housing supply which currently is 4.8% (BDC estimate need at 5%).
- ii. Mill Lane layby has suffered considerable damage following works to provide new services. To be future Agenda item. **Action: Clerk**
- iii. Gigaclear – Cllr Abbott has received complaints about the poor re-instatement works to paths and verges following works for the provision of broadband. The Parish Council have received numerous complaints, all of which are being reported to Gigaclear. **Action: Clerk**
- iv. Green bin charging will go ahead, but no cost has been agreed yet.
- v. BDC Operations team are doing well to clear fly-tipping as soon as possible after reporting. Parish Cllrs agreed that the team are extremely efficient.

23-4/007 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th March 2023 were confirmed as a true record. **Proposed: Cllr Haines, seconded Cllr Lapper.** The Chairman signed the Minutes.

23-4/008 LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The Clerk confirmed the Notice of Uncontested PC Election had been received and was displayed on noticeboards and website. Notice of Nominations for BDC election will be available shortly.

23-4/009 KING'S CORONATION 6TH MAY 2023

Cllr Lapper provided an update on arrangements for a Family Fun day on the playing field on 6th May. The Parish Council has previously agreed to fund a marquee and "bouncy castle", and these were now booked. There will be no charge for children to use the bouncy castle repeatedly to ensure the event is all-inclusive. Further updates will be provided outside of this meeting.

Action: Cllr Lapper

23-4/010 PLAYING FIELD

- i. Changing rooms – Further quotations are awaited. As soon as figures are known, the Clerk will discuss with BDC and begin applications for funding. **Action: Clerk**
- ii. Seating – Installation is scheduled to begin w/c 17th April with completion in time for Family Fun Day on 6th May. **Action: Clerk**

23-4/011 FINANCE

- i. **Financial statements:** The Clerk/RFO referred to the March reports issued with the Agenda. There were no queries, and **it was resolved** to accept the reports. **Proposed: Cllr Porrett, seconded: Cllr Lapper, all in favour**
- ii. **A motion to approve bank reconciliation at 31st March 2023: It was resolved** that the bank reconciliation statement be approved. **Proposed: Cllr Porrett, seconded: Cllr Lapper, all in favour**
- iii. **A motion to approve payments for March 2023:** The list of payments and cheques to be signed were presented. There were no queries, and **it was resolved** to approve the payments. **Proposed: Cllr Lapper, seconded Cllr Porrett, all in favour.** Cllrs Lawton and Haines signed the cheques.

23-4/012 PLANNING**A. To note Appeals determined by the Planning Inspectorate:**

Appeal Ref: APP/Z1510/C/22/3290978 Land at il Salice (formerly known as) The Willows Inn, The Street, Cressing, Essex CM77 8DQ – **Decision:** The appeal is dismissed and the enforcement notice is upheld.

Appeal Ref: APP/Z1510/W/22/3307493 Land to the east of Braintree Road, Tye Green - 22/00073/REF | Outline planning permission with all matters reserved apart from access, for the residential development of up to 35 dwellings (including 40% affordable housing), with vehicular access, areas of landscaping and public open space.

Decision: appeal is allowed and planning permission is granted

B. To discuss Appeals submitted to the Planning Inspectorate: None advised.**C. To note Applications Determined by Braintree District Council or withdrawn:** None advised**D. To discuss Applications received by Braintree District Council:**

- i. 23/00899/S106A | Application made under Section 106A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) and the Town and Country Planning (Modification and Discharge of Planning Obligations) Regulations 1992 (as amended) -Application to modify Schedule 7 (Highways) Paragraph 2.1 to state 'Not to Occupy any Dwelling unless and until the Owner has technical approval for the Highways Works Agreement with the County Council. Paragraph 2.2 'not to Occupy allow cause or permit to be Occupied more than 90% of the Dwellings unless and until the Highways Works have been properly completed in accordance with the Highway Works Agreement and the relevant certificate confirming such completion has been issued under the provisions of the Highway Works Agreement. | Appletree Farm Polecat Road Cressing Essex – *no comments to be made*
- ii. 23/00814/DAC | Application for approval of details as reserved by conditions 4 (Piling) & 17 (Management/Maintenance Plan) of approved application 22/02600/VAR | Appletree Farm Polecat Road Cressing Essex – *no comments*

to be made

- iii. 23/00661/VAR | Variation of Condition 2 of approved application 20/01638/HH granted 05.02.2021 for: Two-storey front, rear and side extensions. Variation would allow for: - Changes to internal layout - Reduction in roof pitch and overall height of building from 8m to 7.3 - Reduction in glazing and introduction of canopy to front elevation - Addition of window to side elevation | 80 Mill Lane Crossing Essex CM77 8HR – *no comments to be made*

E. To note Applications received by Braintree District Council and consider if comments should be made

- i. 23/00797/HH | Erection of part single-storey, part two-storey rear extension, and conversion of existing integral garage to habitable accommodation. | Squirrels The Street Crossing Essex CM77 8DQ - *no comments to be made*.

23-4/013 INFORMATION EXCHANGE & ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NOVEMBER AGENDA:

Information:

May Agenda:

- i. DIY store proposals and changes to road layouts for this and Final road layout in 21/03214/REM

23-4/014 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 17th May 2023, 6.30pm at St Barnabas Hall, Claud Ince Avenue, Crossing, CM77 8HG, as follows:

6.30pm	Annual PARISH Meeting
7.00pm	Annual PARISH COUNCIL Meeting
7.15pm	PARISH COUNCIL Meeting

Any items for inclusion on the Agenda to be sent to the Parish Clerk to be received no later than 12 noon on Tuesday 9th May 2023.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

2023 meetings						
JUNE	14	7.00pm	SEPTEMBER	13	7.00pm	
JULY	12	7.00pm	OCTOBER	11	7.00pm	
AUGUST	9	7.00pm	NOVEMBER	8	7.00pm	
			DECEMBER	13	7.00pm	