



CRESSING PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting
held on 11th December 2024 at 7.00pm at
St Barnabas, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing.

Present: Cllr Colin Haines
Cllr Christine Ives
Cllr Eileen Mottershead
Cllr Tony Sim

In attendance:

Mrs Christine Marshall (Parish Clerk/RFO and Proper Officer)
Two members of the public

24-5/124 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Lawton.
As a result of the Chairmans absence, Cllr Sim was nominated to take the Chair for this meeting. **Proposed: Cllr Ives, seconded: Cllr Mottershead, all in favour It was resolved** for Cllr Sim to Chair the meeting.
Due to County and District Council commitments, Cllrs Thorogood, Abbott and Wright were unable to attend.

24-5/125 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Cllr Sim welcomed those in attendance and declared the meeting open.

24-5/126 MEMBERS 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.

24-5/127 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No items had been raised.

24-5/128 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th November 2024 were confirmed as a correct record. **Resolution:** to confirm the Minutes as a correct record. **Proposed Cllr Ives, seconded Cllr Mottershead. All in favour.**

Cllr Sim signed the Minutes as Chairman of this meeting.

24-5/129 REPORTS OF COUNTY AND DISCTRICT COUNCILLORS

The Clerk confirmed a report had been received from Cllrs Abbott and Wright and circulated to all Councillors. The Main topics of note were:

- Discussion has been held with BDC, ECC and Eastlight concerning delays to work being carried out. Part of the reason was identified as the cancellation of the Rangers service and lack of clarity on resp0nsibilities.
- A response to several enforcement cases has been received and is being worked through. Some related to Cressing and Cllr Wright will advise further.
- Cllr Abbott will be meeting with Persimmon regarding various issues related to the new development in the New Year, in particular the B1018 pedestrian access, working hours and lighting. The Parish Council will be invited to attend.

Action: Clerk to confirm

- ECC and Indaver will be asked for a schedule of all planning applications and changes submitted relating to the Rivenhall IWMF for comment by councillors and

residents.

- BDC budget process began on 20th November. Position remains challenging, but the parish street cleaning grant together with councillor community grants will continue.

24-5/130 **FINANCE**

The Clerk/RFO presented the financial reports previously provided to Cllrs. There was one query relating to the Bank Reconciliation. The Clerk advised that the list of items to be presented appeared incorrect and Cllr Sim offered to assist in identifying any anomalies. There were no other queries. **Resolution:** To confirm receipt and approval of financial statements to 30th November 2024. **Proposed Cllr Ives, seconded Cllr Haines, all in favour.**

24-5/131 **WINTER SALT BAG SCHEME**

Potential sites for bins were considered:

- Car park of Playing Field
- Mill Lane near to eastern junction with B1018
- Mill Lane near to junction with Bulford Mill Lane
- Jeffrey's Road near to parade of shops
- Bulford Mill Lane close to bend at bottom

The Clerk was requested to undertake the necessary investigations with Essex Highways for permissions to site these bins. The Clerk was also requested to approach recent developers (Bellway, Countryside and Persimmon) for them to provide bins on each development.

ACTION: CLERK

24-5/132 **COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY**

The Clerk referred to a draft Communications Strategy sent to Councillors. They had not been able to consider this, and the Clerk requested that Councillors do so before the next meeting and that they appoint a Councillor to lead this project.

ACTION: CLERK

24-5/133 **OPEN SPACES PLAN**

The Clerk reminded Councillors of the relevance of the Braintree Open Spaces Plan (now re-named Potential Open Space Improvements) in relation to S.106 contributions and budget setting of projects Councillors may wish to undertake.

The following suggestions were put forward for inclusion:

- Further seating around the Parish
- Tree planting
- Wildflower areas
- Additional bulb planting

The Clerk reminded the meeting that some of these items were scheduled for 2024, but due to circumstances outside its control, these were delayed until 2025. New applications will need to be submitted to landowners for any that are on land not owned by the Parish Council.

ACTION: CLERK

24-5/134 **BUDGET PREPARATION 2025-26 and PRECEPT**

and

24-25/135

The Clerk/RFO referred to the revised draft Budget just sent to Councillors that had been amended to show the Tax Band figures just received from BDC. Cllrs had not had the opportunity to study this but will do so prior to the January meeting when the budget and precept will be finalised and approved for adoption.

ACTION: ALL

24-5/136 **PLANNING**

To discuss Applications received by Braintree District Council

24/02558/DAC - Application for approval of details as reserved by condition 5 (Plots 18 to 21 and 47 to 78) of approved application 22/02600/VAR - Appletree, Polecat Road – Councillors discussed and advised there were no comments to make.

24/02500/HH Construction of a single storey concrete panel demountable garage, 16 Braintree Road – Councillors considered this application and had no comments to make.

24/02143/FUL Temporary construction access (for a period of 3 years from completion of the access) from Boars Tye Road including culvert to maintain flows from existing ditch and removal of vegetation to facilitate visibility splays. – Although this application relates to Silver End Parish, concern was raised, that the developer reminded, that no hedgerow or tress should be removed or damaged that are not specifically identified on the application.

ACTION: Clerk to respond to BDC

24-25/137 INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be to discuss the Budget and Precept 2025-26 only.

24-5/138 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting of the Parish Council is Wednesday 8th January 2025, 7.00pm at St Barnabas, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing.

24-5/139 MEETING CLOSED

There being no further business to be discussed at this time, the Chairman of the meeting declared the meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Dates of meetings for 2025

8 th January	12 th February	12 th March
9 th April	14 th May	11 th June
9 th July	13 th August	10 th September
8 th October	12 th November	10 th December