



CRESSING PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting
held on 14th August 2024 at 7.00pm at
St Barnabas, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing.

Present: Cllr John Lawton – Chairman
Cllr Colin Haines
Cllr Christine Ives
Cllr Eileen Mottershead
Cllr Tony Sim

In attendance:

Mrs Christine Marshall (Parish Clerk/RFO and Proper Officer)
District Councillor James Abbott
Four members of the public

24-5/075 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman declared the meeting open and spoke as follows:

A meeting for residents of Bulford Mill Close was organised with Dame Priti Patel, MP, by the Parish Council. Also attending were County Cllr Tom Cunningham (Portfolio Holder for Highways) and District Cllr Bob Wright, two Parish Cllrs and the Clerk. Cllr Cunningham took numerous actions and will respond back to the Parish Clerk. A few other items were raised with Cllr Cunningham by the Parish Clerk and Dame Priti has been invited to attend a Parish Council meeting to discuss any other issues in general. The Chairman will extend a formal invitation.

"The Village India" was due to open early July but due to some planning issues this has been delayed until September providing BDC raise no further issues.

24-5/076 APOLOGIES

All Councillors were present. Cllrs Thorogood and Abbott were unable to attend due to holiday commitments.

24-5/077 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.

24-5/078 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Clerk confirmed that no requests to speak at the meeting had been received.

24-5/079 BDC LOCAL PLAN 2033 REVIEW

The Chairman invited Mr Richard Pilbrow, as Chairman of the Cressing Action Group, to address the meeting. Mr Pilbrow confirmed that CAG had drafted a response on the "Call for Sites", a copy of which will be made available to Cllrs. He drew attention to the submission authored by the "Braintree District – Better Together" group which CAG will be supporting. Concern was expressed that BDC had allowed a very short period for comments to be made and the first sub-committee meeting was on 15th August, which did not provide sufficient time for a considered response.

(Since this meeting, the deadline for comments to BDC has been changed to December 2024.)

The Chairman confirmed that the comments of the Parish Council will be submitted to BDC on 16th August following final review by Cllrs.

Action: Clerk

24-5/080 REPORTS OF COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Abbott pre-faced his report by stating that as a member of the Local Plan Sub-Committee he would be unable to comment about the content or individual responses, but was able to explain the process.

This Local Plan Review is to take it forward to 2041. This has to be done within five years of the current Plan adoption, so this review has to take place before 2026. The Government has increased the annual requirement for housing to be developed and is also undertaking a further review of National Planning Policy. Cllr Abbott also explained that not all the sites identified in the "Call for Sites" will go forward for inclusion in the draft for consultation. Following the consultation, the Plan will go to HM Inspector of Planning for the final decision.

Discussion continues with Essex Highways to resolve the issues at the Cressing bends, however as work to the Persimmon development continues, the new roundabout may negate the work to be done, but Cllr Abbott will continue to push for a proper footpath.

Discussion also continues with County Cllr Cunningham (Portfolio Holder for Highways) concerning overlapping road closures, the latest to be advised is the closure of Polecat Road at the beginning of September whilst Long Green remains closed.

ECC have confirmed a contract with Indaver Incinerator (Rivenhall) for all Essex waste to be processed at Rivenhall. Estimates are 340,000 tonnes annually (approx. 400 double load HGV movements per day). The route to the plant has previously been identified as A120, but it appears that plans are being put in place for this to be directed via the A12 and B1018 as well.

24-5/081 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 26th June 2024 were confirmed as a correct record. **It was resolved** to adopt these. **Proposed: Cllr Lawton, seconded: Cllr Ives, all in favour.**

The Minutes were signed by the Chairman.

24-5/081 POLICIES

The Clerk presented the following policies reviewed during July (previously submitted to all Cllrs):

- i. Communications & Media
- ii. Complaints and Vexatious requests
- iii. Anti-harassment and Bullying
- iv. Developer Engagement Policy

Councillors had no queries and **it was resolved** Councillors approved the policies for adoption. **It was further resolved** that the Clerk should publish the policies on the website. **Proposed: Cllr Lawton, seconded: Cllr Sim**

Action: Clerk

24-5/082 FINANCE

The Clerk/RFO presented the financial reports previously provided to Cllrs. There were no queries. The Clerk explained that the new accounting software is able to produce individually designed reports and if Cllrs wished for more detail this could be provided.

- i. **Cllrs confirmed receipt and approval** of financial statements to 30th June 2024
- ii. **Cllrs confirmed receipt and approval** of the schedule of payments for expenditure incurred during June 2024

Proposed: Cllr Ives, seconded: Cllr Haines

- iii. **Cllrs confirmed receipt and approved** financial statements to 31st July 2024

- iv. **Cllrs confirmed** the schedule of payments for expenditure incurred during July 2024

Proposed: Cllr Lawton, seconded: Cllr Mottishead

The financial reports and payments to be made were signed.

24-5/083 ACCOUNT SIGNATORIES

Following review of banking facilities, the Clerk requested that a third signatory should be appointed to lessen risk should one of the current two signatories not be available. After discussion, **it was resolved** to appoint Cllr Tony Sim. **It was also resolved** that the Clerk should complete the application for on-line payments to be made. **Proposed: Cllr Lawton, seconded: Cllr Mottishead** **Action: Clerk**

24-5/084 PLANNING

The Clerk referred to the revised National Planning Policy Framework and Cllrs confirmed they had received this and confirmed this would be referred to when commenting on planning applications.

Applications received by Braintree District Council:

24/01426/FUL Land Adjacent Hawbush House Hawbush Green Cressing Essex - Retention of existing mobile home for a temporary period of two years. Whilst Cllrs had no objection to this, it was questioned why the application was for two years only and how this would be monitored. **Action: Clerk to raise with BDC**

24/01661/AGR Application for prior notification of agricultural or forestry development- New access and agricultural track|Land Adjacent Rainbow House Polecat Road Cressing Essex – this application was noted, as an agricultural application no comments are submitted.

The following Enforcement Enquiries received by BDC were noted:

- i. The Oak Barn, Mill Lane – change of use enquiry
- ii. 13 Mill Lane – building/engineering enquiry
- iii. Appletree Farm – untidy development
- iv. Garage area and land at 15-16 The Close

24-5/085 INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Agenda items:

- 1. Presentation re Leyfield development (Outline permission granted, seeking Reserved Matters Application to Full planning approval)
- 2. Community Speedwatch – update
- 3. Playing field lease
- 4. Winter salt bag scheme

24-5/086 CLOSE OF MEETING

There being no further business to be discussed, the Chairman declared the general meeting closed at 8.05pm.

24-5/087 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting of the Parish Council is Wednesday 11th September 2024, 7.00pm at St Barnabas, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing.
Items for inclusion on the Agenda to be sent to the Parish Clerk to be received no later than midday on Tuesday 3rd September 2024

24-5/088 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLUTION: It was resolved to exclude members of the public and press for the consideration of any items for the reasons set out in Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, namely, to discuss a commercial lease for the Playing Field.

The Clerk confirmed that the rental valuation had been sent to all Cllrs to enable consideration prior to lease terms being drafted. A structural survey is due to be presented to the Parish Council shortly and will be sent to all Cllrs upon receipt.

The Clerk further confirmed that Cllrs' comments had been collated and presented a precis of those comments. After discussion, **it was resolved** that the Clerk should forward these to the Solicitor for his comment and/or inclusion in a standard lease.

24-5/089 CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Dates of meetings:

2024

9 th October	13 th November	11 th December
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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