



CRESSING PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of Cressing Parish Council
held on 10th July 2019 at 7.30pm
at St Barnabas, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing

Present: Cllr John Lawton – Chairman
Cllr Colin Haines
Cllr Susan Simpson
Cllr Harvey Porrett (from item 19/080)

In attendance: Mrs Christine Marshall (Parish Clerk & RFO)
District Councillor Bob Wright (from item 19/088)
Six members of the public

Apologies: County Councillor Robert Mitchell
District Councillor James Abbott
District Councillor Bob Wright who would be arriving late from another meeting

19/078 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME AND REPORT

The Chairman welcomed those in attendance and expressed how good it was to see more residents attending the meeting. The following items were reported:

- Speeding in the village remains a concern with The Street seeing a distinct increase. It was agreed the LHP request should be chased for the white lines to be replaced and a new speed survey carried out. **Action: Clerk**
- White gates at entrances to the village – it was noted that Silver End now has these, so again, the LHP request for Cressing/Tye Village should be chased. **Action: Clerk**
- The Willows Inn – the ACV decision has been revisited and it is clear that the ACV was granted on the clear understanding that the property should remain a public house. The decision does not state that a restaurant could be the primary function. The Clerk will check through the details and contact CAMRA (who succeeded in obtaining the ACV in December 2015) and Braintree District Council. **Action: Clerk**
- Bellway site – further representations have been made to BDC seeking their action to address the unacceptable noise and dust levels.
- Essex Libraries – it was good news to see that Essex County Council had reversed their decision to close many libraries in Essex.

19/079 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were recorded on behalf of County Councillor Robert Mitchell and District Councillor James Abbott. It was hoped that District Councillor Bob Wright would be able to attend part of this Parish Council Meeting following a prior meeting giving him time.

19/080 CO-OPTION OF A COUNCILLOR

The Chairman confirmed that there had been two applications for co-option and **Councillors had agreed** that Mr Harvey Porrett, JP and Mrs Alison Lapper would be invited to join the Parish Council. **Proposed: Cllr Lawton, seconded Cllr Simpson, all in favour**

Unfortunately, Mrs Lapper was unable to attend due to work commitments, but Mr Porrett accepted his co-option and the Chairman invited him to join the other Councillors at the table.

Cllr Porrett was asked to sign his Acceptance of Office, agreement to receive Parish Council documents by e-mail and agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct. The Register of Interests will be completed and returned to the Clerk after the meeting. **Action: Cllr Porrett**
The Clerk was requested to contact Mrs Lapper after the meeting to invite her to join the

Parish Council and to complete the necessary paperwork.

Action: Clerk

19/081 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).

Declarations of non-pecuniary interest:

Cllr Porrett declared an interest in land owned by the Morton family due to his family connections.

There were no other pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests to be recorded.

19/082 REPORTS BY COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Unfortunately, District Councillor Abbott's report had been received too late for the meeting but was as follows:

- Cllr Abbott continues to correspond with BDC and Bellway re the Mill Lane site:-
The path lighting has now been changed to LED and Cllr Abbott has asked for details
Cllr Abbott continues to pursue revisions to the two access points for the path which are not safe.
Following the enforcement case submitted to BDC, officers visited recently and say the dust control now within agreed levels. Neither Cllr Abbott nor the Parish Council have had any fresh complaints about this.
- BDC is holding a series of meetings in quick succession on the Local Plan - 11th July, 18th July and 1st August ahead of what will be a new public consultation. [Further dates are listed on BDC's calendar for 5th September, 17th October and 28th November.] Cllr Abbott has written to the Leader and senior officers about the amount of paperwork that Councillors and residents are being expected to read in a few weeks, the lack of clarity about how the process is structured and what appears to be the risk of "alternatives" coming forward which involve the release of major sites in the area - on top of the sites already granted or applied for.
- Rivenhall Parish Council has agreed the joint working idea and the suggestion now is the first meeting to be arranged for early Autumn to coincide with the Local Plan consultation.
- As far as Cllr Abbott is aware, no action has been taken re the hedge adjacent to Leyfield that was destroyed in June. It is clear from the application file that BDC Landscape Department agreed to the removal of the hedge (should the application be approved) - as the department has done on almost all the significant development sites in the ward.
- Cllr Abbott will raise this at the BDC Full Council meeting on 22nd July seeking clarification of why developers do not appear to be challenged/encouraged to retain more on site habitat particularly frontage hedges and trees.

19/083 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

The following items were raised:

1. Speeding along the B1018 – a member of the public put forward the suggestion that the Parish Council should consider joining SERP (Safer Essex Roads Partnership).
The Clerk will forward details to Councillors. **Action: Clerk**
2. A previous Parish Council had considered obtaining a speed device, but there were insufficient volunteers to make this viable.
3. Parish magazine – it was suggested that an article should be submitted to the next magazine seeking residents who would be prepared to assist.
4. Then Clerk was requested to seek a further speed survey along both the B1018 and The Street. **Action: Clerk**
5. It was suggested that an application be submitted to the Braintree Local Highways Panel seeking a permanent speed camera along the B1018 within the 40mph speed signs. **Action: Clerk**

6. PROW 74_22 Millennium Way to the National Grid bend on the B1018 needs cutting along its full length as only a part has been done. **Action: Clerk**
7. The Parish Council was asked if Councillors could walk around the village to see what litter and dog bins are needed and what vegetation needs cutting. Cllr Porrett volunteered to undertake this with resident, Anthony Perkins. **Action: Cllr Porrett**
8. Parking on the greensward to the front of the houses at Hawbush Green is becoming a regular occurrence and damaging the grass. The Clerk will investigate who owns the land and if appropriate will write to residents asking them not to park there. **Action: Clerk**

19/084 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19th JUNE 2019

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th June 2019 were confirmed as a correct record. **Proposed: Cllr Haines, seconded Cllr Simpson, all in favour.** Minutes duly signed by the Chairman.

19/085 COUNCIL POLICIES

The Clerk referred to the Co-Option Policy that accompanied the Agenda. There were no queries on this and **it was agreed** to adopt as a formal policy. **Proposed: Cllr Lawton, seconded: Cllr Haines, all in favour.** The Clerk to finalise and publish on the Parish Council's website. **Action: Clerk**

19/086 FINANCE

- i. **It was agreed** that Cllr Simpson be added to the authorised signatory list for the Unity Trust bank account. **Proposed: Cllr Lawton, seconded: Cllr Haines, all in favour.** **Action: Clerk**
- ii. A statement of progress against budget for the period 31st May to 30th June was presented. There were no queries from councillors.
- iii. **A motion to approve bank reconciliation as at 30th June 2019**
It was resolved that the bank reconciliation statement at 30th June be approved. **Proposed: Cllr Lawton, seconded Cllr Haines, all in favour.**
- iv. **A motion to approve June 2019 Payments/Cheques**
The list of payments made and cheques to be signed against June expenditure was presented. There were no queries and **it was resolved** to approve the payments. **Proposed: Cllr Haines, seconded Cllr Porrett, all in favour.**

RCCE	72.60	Subscription
K Vince & Sons	396.00	Hedge trimming
HMRC	103.22	PAYE
C A Marshall	412.88	June salary
J Adshead-Grant	96.00	June salary

19/087 PLANNING

Applications determined
None advised

19/088 PLANNING

New applications

19/01124/PLD Construction of a single storey, rear, flat roof addition to existing dwelling | The Nook Ashes Road Cressing Essex CM77 8DW – The Parish Council had no comment to make.

19/089 ACTION GROUP

Following receipt by residents of a pamphlet providing information of a proposed development of 400 dwellings along the B1018 and the number of comments posted on social media, the suggestion of setting up a Cressing Action Group to respond to large speculative planning applications (i.e. sites not included within the draft Neighbourhood Plan) was discussed. It was confirmed that whilst the Parish Council could not establish this, Councillors agreed that the Parish Council should provide support and advice if requested.

19/090 PLANNING

Appeals received by BDC

None advised.

19/091 PLAYING FIELD AND ENVIRONMENT

- i. After discussing the remedial work recommended in their recent RoSPA report, it was agreed that the Clerk should obtain three quotes for this to be carried out by a suitable company. **Action: Clerk**
- ii. Benches – it was agreed to seek further suggestions for suitable locations via a poll in the Parish Magazine. A decision will be made at the September or October meeting (depending on magazine publication date) of the number and positions. Current suggestions are: Churchyard, playing field, Polecat Road, green opposite St Barnabas Hall and bus stop in Mill Lane. **Action: Clerk**

19/082 - DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

District Cllr Bob Wright was able to join the meeting and provided a short report:

- i. Provided a response from Bellway concerning the footpath from Mill Lane along Bulford Mill Lane. Discussions continue.
- ii. Local Plan Sub-Committee dates have been published.
- iii. Pleased that Cressing has agreed to joint meetings with Rivenhall and Silver End Parish councils to discuss issues faced by all. First meeting will be in the Autumn.

19/092 INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Items to be discussed will include:

- i. Locations for new benches
- ii. Protection of greensward (e.g. Rainbow Field)

19/093 NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting was confirmed for Wednesday 14th August 2019 at 7.30pm to be held 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 12 noon on Tuesday 6th August 2019.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.