



CREETING ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall, Creeting St Mary on **Thursday, 9th March 2023 at 7.30pm.**

Present:

Councillors: S Haynes (Chair)
P Scully
R Coton
L Plummer
H Craggs
D Cage
C Gordon

In Attendance: J Blackburn – Clerk
M Hicks
M Norris

CSM152/22/23 - TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr Palmer.

CSM153/22/23 – TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None had been received.

CSM154/22/23 – TO RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION

None had been received.

CSM155/22/23 - TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19th JANUARY 2023

It was AGREED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 19th January 2023 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

CSM156/22/23 – PUBLIC FORUM

One member of the public was present.

CSM157/22/23 - TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – CLLRS NORRIS & CLLR PHILLIPS

Cllr Norris' report had been circulated prior to the meeting and would be published on the village website.

Cllr Norris informed members that he would not be standing again as District Councillor at the Elections on 4th May. He explained that he had served 24 years and for health reasons felt it was time to leave.

Members thanked Cllr Norris for all his help whilst District Councillor for the Parish.

CSM158/22/23 – BLACKSMITHS FIELD – PROVISION OF FURTHER EQUIPMENT / SKATE PARK

Phil Piper, resident, was present at the meeting and had carried out research into the provision and cost of a skate park for Blacksmiths Field.

Cllr Haynes shared her concerns that a skate park would dramatically change the appearance of Blacksmiths Field which was a great asset to the Village and also it might attract teenagers from outside of the village.

Cllr Norris explained that the proposed Skate Park in Needham Market had come to a halt due to a lack of funding and a review of the proposed site had concluded that it was unsuitable.

Phil Piper had contacted Mendlesham Parish Council who had a Skate Park and the feedback from the Parish Clerk was very positive.

Phil continued that the Skate Park would not only be used for skateboarding it could also be used for scooters and bikes and would be a good facility for 10 year olds and above.

He had received quotes for a 25 x 10 metres skate park with the costs coming in at approx. £45,000.

Members briefly discussed the possibility of installing a Skate Park and felt that resident's views would be needed as a next step to see if it would be a viable asset.

It was AGREED: That Phil Piper liaise with Cllr Craggs and put a survey into the next Newsletter to ascertain the views of residents and would report back to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

CSM159/22/23 - TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk briefly went through the Elections process and the completion of the Nomination forms.

b) TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT

It was reported that the Council's current financial position and movements since the last meeting. It was reported that the balance in the accounts on 3rd March 2023 was £37,354.57.

c) TO AUTHORISE PAYMENTS AND NOTE RECEIPTS

The following payments be authorised:-

Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Pay (Feb)	£360.20
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Office Allowance/Exp (Feb)	£34.33
J Palmer	Hedge Cutters Reimbursement	£158.00
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Pay (Mar)	£360.20
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Office Allowance/Exp (Mar)	£34.33
CFB IT Solutions	Mailbox Hosting (Feb)	£6.00
CFB IT Solutions	Mailbox Hosting (Mar)	£6.00
MSDC	Bin Emptying to 31st March (Creeping Hills)	£8.69
MSDC	Annual Play Inspection	£62.47
ARC Tree Surgery	Tree felling/hedge laying - Lilley's Wood	£720.00
MJD AGRI Services	French Drain installation	6025.44
SALC	Payroll Service to end March	54.00

It was AGREED: That payments totaling £8,729.66 be approved.

It was noted that no receipts had been received

d) **APPOINT THE INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR 2022/23**

It was AGREED: That Trevor Brown CPFA (Local Council Financial Services & Internal Audit) be appointed as auditor for the purposes of the 2022/23 audit.

e) **EXTERNAL AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS 2022/23**

It was AGREED: That an External Audit would need to be carried for 2022/23.

f) **VILLAGE HALL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTION**

Cllr Haynes reported that the insurance for the Village Hall had increased considerably and were in the process of obtaining other quotes.

It was AGREED: That £900 be made as a contribution to the Village Hall's insurance as in previous years and that the Village Hall Management Committee approach the Parish Council in the future if they wish for the contribution to be raised. **Clerk to action.**

CSM160/22/23 – POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

a) **REVIEW OF INTERNAL AUDIT CONTROL AND RISK MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

It was AGREED: That the Internal Audit Control and Risk Management Arrangements were reviewed and approved.

b) **REVIEW AND ADOPT THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND STANDING ORDERS**

It was AGREED: That the Financial Regulations and Standing Orders be approved and adopted.

CSM161/22/23 - TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – CLLR M HICKS

Cllr Hicks' report was circulated prior to the meeting and would be published on the village website.

He briefly went through his report on the following subjects:

- More fund confirmed for Children's Services, Adult Care and the Environment
- Hundreds of Illegal Vapes seized in Suffolk
- New Highways Services arriving in Suffolk as Multi-million-pound contract awarded
- Volunteering at Suffolk Archives
- Hosts for Ukraine

CSM162/22/23 - UPDATE ON PATHWAY ON FLORDON ROAD / SITE MEETING

Cllr Hicks reported that the site visit on Flordon Road had taken place and confirmed that the footpath was not good enough. He stated that the contractors had said that they only had to build to the space that they had got. He added that some tweaks would be made.

Cllr Hicks reported that Highways had stated that when they approached the landowner to buy some land to enlarge the footpath the landowner had refused.

It was AGREED: That the Clerk liaise with the landowner for confirmation of any proposed purchase of land.

CSM163/22/23 – JUNCTION OF ALL SAINTS ROAD / A140

The Clerk raised the issue of the very poor state of the road at the junction of All Saints Road with the A140 with Cllr Hicks. She explained that it had been reported to Highways who after inspecting the area replied saying “We believe that at this time it does not warrant remedial action. However, we will continue to monitor the location as part of our routine inspections, and if the matter worsens significantly, we will take action”.

Cllr Hicks informed members that there wasn't anything further that could be done at this stage.

CSM164/22/23 - PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Ref: DC/23/00538 - Application for approval of Reserved Matters following Outline Planning Permission DC/21/02618 (allowed under Appeal Decision APP/W3520/W/21/3280030 dated 28/01/2022) - Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale for Erection of 3No dwellings with detached garages and vehicular access - Plot Adjoining The Oaklands, Flordon Road, Creting St Mary

It was AGREED: That the Parish Council had no objections to the application. **Clerk to action.**

Ref: DC/23/00696 - Application for Planning Permission Without Compliance of Condition(S) - Application under S73a for Removal or Variation of a Condition following approval of DC/22/04676 - Erection of 3No dwellings. The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) to vary Condition 2 (Approved plans and documents) to amend design for plot 3 and additional driveway access to plots 1 and 2 - Land to The North of, All Saints Road, Creting St Mary

It was AGREED: That the Parish Council had no objections to the application. **Clerk to action.**

CSM165/22/23 - PLANNING DECISIONS

The following decisions were noted:

Ref: DC/22/04981 - Full Planning Application - Erection of 1no. single-storey dwelling and garage (following demolition of existing outbuildings) 3 All Saints Road, Creting St Mary – **Refused**

Ref: DC/22/01446 - Application under S73 for Variation or Removal of a Condition following grant of DC/19/00301 dated 07/05/2020 Town and Country Planning 1990 - Erection of a 'Mixed use Development' comprising; the erection of 3 detached residential dwellings and garages, the erection of 6 small industrial units (B1), and 1 main industrial unit (B2), all with associated parking, landscaping and boundary treatments - to vary Condition 2 (Approved

Plans & Documents) for B2 premises - Land North East of, Flordon Road, Creting St Mary -
Granted

CSM166/22/23 – PLAY EQUIPMENT INSPECTION REPORT

It was AGREED: That this item be deferred to the next meeting.

CSM167/22/23 – REMOVAL OF HEDGROWS / TREES ON DEVELOPMENTS

Members expressed concern about how hedgerows and trees were being taken away at development sites in the parish. Some of the hedgerows had been historical hedges and replaced with cheaper versions.

Cllr Norris suggested that the Parish Council liaise directly with Enforcement.

It was AGREED: That Cllr Plummer take photographs of the developments in question and send to the Clerk.
That the Clerk liaise with Enforcement.

CSM168/22/23 – VILLAGE HALL CAR PARKS

Cllr Haynes reported that a quote had been received from Matthew Deeley for the front car park of the Village Hall. It was for a drain to be installed along the front of the car park adjacent to the road and tarmacked, which was £12,960.

She explained that she would liaise with Mark Euston over further quotes.

Cllr Haynes reported that the Village Hall Management Committee had discussed the rear car park and felt that re-surfacing would not be required as it was perfectly adequate as it was.

It was AGREED: That Cllr Haynes ask Matthew Deeley for a further quote for tar and chip for the front car park.

CSM169/22/23 – RELOCATION OF BENCH ON ALL SAINTS ROAD GREEN

Cllr Haynes reported that she had received a quote from Matthew Deeley for the relocation of the bench as being £1,332.

Cllr Craggs informed members that a resident had offered to replace the tree on the Green free of charge with an Oak.

A brief discussion took place in relation to a plaque being put on the tree for the Coronation.

It was AGREED: That the quote be accepted and the work to be carried out.
That the Clerk look into plaques.

CSM170/22/23 - FRENCH DRAIN AT THE SIDE OF THE VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Haynes reported that works to the French Drain had been completed.

CSM171/22/23 - REPORTS

Blacksmiths Field – There was nothing to report.

SALC – There was nothing to report.

Footpaths – Cllr Scully reported that FP7 – Lyndale Lodge to Woolney Hall – a handrail had been installed to help people walk up the slope. A bridge had also been installed replacing the two sleepers.

Village Hall – Cllr Haynes reported that the next meeting was due to take place on Wednesday, 15th March where a Business Plan would be discussed.

Sustainability – Cllr Craggs reported that the 2,000 daffodils he had planted had started to emerge!

CSM172/22/23 - MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL

- Village Sign

CSM173/22/23 - DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was AGREED: That the date of the next meeting would be Thursday, 11th May 2023.

The meeting finished at 9.20pm.

Chairman: Dated: