



CREETING ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall, Creeting St Mary on
Thursday, 30th November 2023 at 7.30pm.

Present:

Councillors: S Haynes (Chair)
 J Palmer
 R Coton
 P Scully
 L Plummer

In Attendance: J Blackburn - Clerk
 M Hicks – County Councillor

CSM118/23/24 – TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr Craggs, Cllr Piper, Cllr Cage and District Cllrs R Piper and T Lawrence.

CSM119/23/24 – TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None had been received.

CSM120/23/24 – TO RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION

None had been received.

CSM121/23/24 - TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 19th OCTOBER AND 9TH NOVEMBER 2023

It was AGREED: That the minutes of the meetings held on 19th October and 9th November 2023 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

CSM122/23/24 – PUBLIC FORUM

There were two members of the public present to discuss the Newsletter.

CSM123/23/24 – NEWSLETTER

Editors, Joan Hardingham and Kathryn Martin, were present at the meeting.

A discussion took place about how to keep the Newsletter running, following a decrease in advert income and new housing coming into the village, which would result in an increase in printing costs.

Joan Hardingham explained that some parts of the Newsletter would need to be reduced or taken out altogether. This would then bring the page number down which in turn would reduce printing costs.

County Cllr Hicks stated that he would be happy to contribute to funds following the receipt of an application for funding.

Members felt that a donation from the Parish Council would also help whilst changes were made and new advertisers sought.

It was AGREED: That the Parish Council donate £500 to the Newsletter. **Clerk to action.**
That the Clerk liaise with County Cllr Hicks for funding for the Newsletter.

CSM124/23/24 – 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 in relation to the following subjects:

- More than 200 properties flooded by Storm Babet
- Funding announcement for Ely and Haughley rail junctions
- Council seeks members of the public’s views on next year’s Budget
- Suffolk Residents invited to help shape the future of library services

Cllr Hicks explained that now 850 homes had been flooded by the Storm Babet and it was important for those affected to report online at Suffolk County Council’s website.

Members raised the following problems with Cllr Hicks:

- Pothole near new development on Jacks Green Road
- Drainage/flooding issue at the junction of Jacks Green Road and St Mary’s Gardens
- Possible parking at ‘layby’ on All Saints Road towards bridge over A14
- Reduction in speed limit for Creting Bottoms

It was AGREED: That the Clerk liaise further with Cllr Hicks on the above issues.

CSM125/23/24 – TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT

Cllr Piper and Cllr Lawrence were not present at the meeting. Cllr Piper’s report was circulated prior to the meeting and would be published on the village website.

CSM126/23/24 – TO RECEIVE THE CLERK’S REPORT AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk reported that the Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC) had informed Clerk’s of the annual increase, which was a one off figure of £1,925 pro rata. This had been applied to the Parish Clerk’s salary. **All agreed.**

b) TO RECEIVE THE CLERK’S FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk reported on the Council’s current financial position and movements since the last meeting. It was reported that the balance in the accounts on 24th November 2023 was £64,287.57.

c) TO AUTHORISE PAYMENTS AND NOTE RECEIPTS

The Clerk reported the following payments be authorised:-

Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Pay (Oct)	£360.20
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Office Allowance/Exp (Oct)	£34.33
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Pay (Nov - plus back pay)	£526.60
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Office Allowance/Exp (Nov)	£34.33
Jennie Blackburn	Poppy Wreath reimbursement	£19.99
CFB IT Solutions	Mailbox Hosting (Nov)	£6.00
CFB IT Solutions	Mailbox Hosting (Dec)	£6.00
Vertas Group Ltd	Grass Cutting (Oct - Dec 2023)	£375.23
Booth (Tarmacadam) Ltd	Car Park Resurfacing	£26,784.00

It was AGREED: That payments totaling £28,146.68 be approved.

The following receipt had been received:

MSDC	CiL Payment	£17,324.94
CSM Social Club	Firework Night Gate Money	£1,722.00

d) **BANK RECONCILIATION**

It was AGREED: That the Bank Reconciliation be approved.

e) **DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2024/25**

It was AGREED: That the Draft Budget for 2024/25 be approved.

CSM127/23/24 - PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Ref: DC/23/05373 - Application for Approval of Reserved Matters following grant of Outline Permission DC/20/03721 Town and Country Planning (General Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) - Submission of details for the Appearance, Scale, Layout and Landscaping for Plot 1 only - Land at Grange Farm, All Saints Road, Creeting St Mary

Members had concerns over the limited parking space for this development and the scale of the building would be overdevelopment of the site.

It was AGREED: That the Parish Council Object to the application for the above reasons. **Clerk to action.**

Ref: DC/13/04531 - APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION WITHOUT COMPLIANCE OF CONDITION(S) - Application under S73 for Removal or Variation of a Condition following grant of Planning Permission DC/23/00024 dated 10.03.2023 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) Application for approval of reserved matters pursuant to outline permission DC/23/00082 - appearance, landscaping and scale for severance of garden & erection of 2 no. dwellings (previous approvals ref DC/19/04868, DC/23/00082) - To vary Condition 1 (Approved Plans and Documents) to allow changes to plot 1- single garage added and bedroom 2 window revised; changes to plot 2 - general window and external door revisions - Orchard Haven, All Saints Road, Creeting St Mary

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

CSM128/23/24 - PLANNING DECISIONS

The following Planning decisions were noted:

Ref: DC/23/03586 - Householder Application - Erection of single storey front and rear extensions (following removal of existing rear extension) including decking and replace window to flank wall with french doors. 4 All Saints Road, Creeting St Mary – **Granted**

Ref: DC/23/03024 - Householder Application - Erection of two storey rear and front extensions, re-roofing and rendering (following demolition of existing conservatory and entrance porch and garage) - Windmill House, Creeting Hills, Creeting St Mary – **Granted**

Ref: DC/23/02754 - Full Planning Application - Change of use from agricultural land to mixed use including Arboricultural / Landscaper's yard providing storage of vehicles, work equipment and sale of timber - Crossways, Kettle Lane, Creeting St Mary - **Granted**

CSM129/23/24 – SPEED LIMIT – CREETING BOTTOMS

This item was raised with Cllr Hicks earlier in the meeting.

CSM130/23/24 – DUNCHES LANE

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

CSM131/23/24 - SPEEDING – JACKS GREEN ROAD

Cllr Scully reported that speeding continued to be a problem along Jacks Green Road. He suggested that a larger, brighter speed sign be installed and possibly move the present one to another location.

Cllr Palmer confirmed that the Community Speedwatch Team would be monitoring the traffic on Jacks Green Road during December.

It was AGREED: That the Clerk liaise with the District Councillor about locality funding for the purchase of an additional Speed Sign.

CSM132/23/24 – POND

Cllr Haynes reported that Roger Beecroft, who initially built the pond, had looked at the area and suggested that the works needed would be to clear scrub from the southern edge up to the field Maple, clear scrub from the pond, coppice the two Willows on the northern edge of the pond, remove excess vegetation and silt. Also, to use the timber removed and excess vegetation and silt to make hibernaculum in the scrub on the northern side of the pond. The works would cost £3,675 plus VAT and CiL monies could be used.

It was AGREED: That the above works be carried out and quote accepted. **Cllr Haynes to action.**

CSM133/23/24 – TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON BENCHES AND TABLE TENNIS – BLACKSMITHS FIELD

Cllr Haynes reported that the recycled benches would cost £340 each and two would be required. She suggested that Matthew Deeley from MJD Agri-services would be able to lay two concrete plinths for the benches.

The gate onto Blacksmiths Field was discussed as it was starting to rot on the posts. Members felt that a new gate should be purchased before the rest of the current one started to rot.

In relation to the Table Tennis Table, Cllr Haynes reported that the surface beneath it should be explored and she would be happy to research this further.

It was AGREED: That two benches be purchased for Blacksmiths Field and Matthew Deeley be asked to carry out the concrete plinth works.

That a new gate be installed at Blacksmiths Field and Matthew Deeley be asked to carry out the works.

CSM134/23/24 – NOTICEBOARD – CREETING BOTTOMS

The Clerk reported that she had applied to the Street Furniture Department at the County Council, to install a noticeboard at Creeting Bottoms next to the post box on the grass verge.

She explained that the Street Department had replied stating that they needed measurements for the noticeboard and also that the contractor who would install the noticeboard needed to be NRSWA Accredited.

It was AGREED: That the Clerk research sizes and costs of potential noticeboards.

CSM135/23/24 – BOOK SWAP CABINET

It was AGREED: That a location for a book swap cabinet could not be found, therefore it would not be taken further.

CSM136/23/24 – LILLEY’S WOOD – BENCHES

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

CSM137/23/24 - AMENITY LAND – JACKS GREEN DEVELOPMENT

There was nothing to report.

CSM138/23/24 – REPORTS

Blacksmiths Field – Cllr Palmer had nothing to report.

SALC – Cllr Coton had nothing to report.

Footpaths – Cllr Scully reported that the dip at the riverside footpath had been reported but the issue still remained. He also stated that a bridge had moved in the recent floods on FP58, which he had reported and works to the bridge had been carried out.

Village Hall – Cllr Haynes reported that a quote had been received for bi-fold doors between the lounge and the pool room which had been £8,000. It was felt that it was too much money and so another option to open up the pool room was being considered.

Members briefly discussed the raised kerb at the front of the village hall where cars pull off the road. The kerb could be dangerous and options were discussed and would be explored to alleviate any issues.

Sustainability – There was nothing to report.

CSM139/23/24 - MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL

Cllr Scully informed members that he would be resigning, with immediate effect, from the Parish Council. Members thanked Paul for all his many years on the Parish Council and for all he has done for the village.

CSM140/23/24 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was AGREED: That the next meeting would be held on Thursday, 18th January 2024.

The meeting finished at 9.10pm.

Chairman: Dated: