

Creeting St Peter Parish Council

MINUTES of the Meeting held at the Church Hall,
Creeting St Peter at 7.30pm on Monday, 18th July 2016

Present:

Cllr M Peacock (Chairman)
Cllr D Mason
Cllr S Lawson
Cllr M Valladares

In Attendance:

Mrs J Blackburn (Clerk)
District Councillor Keith Welham
Nick Ward – Babergh & Mid-Suffolk District Council

Apologies:

Cllr R Hitt
PCSO David Harvey
County Councillor Gary Green

CSP28/16/17 PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

CSP29/16/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr R Hitt, PCSO David Harvey and County Councillor Gary Green.

CSP30/16/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

CSP31/16/17 APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION

None had been received.

CSP32/16/17 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16th MAY 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th May 2016 were approved as a true record and were duly signed by the Chair.

CSP33/16/17 POLICE REPORT

No representative was present and a report had not been received.

CSP34/16/17 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr Peacock read out Cllr Welham's report which included the following points:-

- There were many changes in leadership at the District Council, following the Brexit vote and a consultation on a Devolution Deal offered by the Government, which would affect the following:-
 - i) Land for housing
 - ii) Combined authority services

- The need to stop landowners and potential developers from getting permission to build inappropriate housing
- Published Mid-Suffolk accounts for 2015/2016, which shows a significant underspend

Cllr Welham added that the District Council were advertising for landowners to put in land bids, in relation to the Local Plan. There had been many for the Stowupland area so Creeting St Peter needed to monitor their area.

CSP35/16/17 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr Green was not present at the meeting but had emailed the following to the Clerk:-

*“The Devolution consultation was now online so please have as many people as possible complete it.
There was nothing more to report in relation to the 20mph speed limit through the village, but he would continue to push it.”*

Members felt that the speed limit was taking too long as it had been ongoing for over a year now.

It was AGREED: That the Parish Clerk email Cllr Green in relation to the 20mph speed limit for the village, to ascertain another contact for the Parish Council to get the speed limit into force as quickly as possible.

CSP36/16/17 CLERK’S REPORT – Clerk’s Computer

Members the Parish Council considered the funding and provision of pc equipment for the Parish Clerk.

It was AGREED: That enquiries be made into the availability of grant funding and the Parish Clerk be authorised to purchase a pc which, may or may not, involve shared funding and use with another Parish Council.

CSP37/16/17 FINANCE - AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

The Parish 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 18th July 2016 was £13,409.89. The Clerk reported the following payments be authorised:-

163.90	Jennie Blackburn	Clerk’s Salary (June (including back pay))
161.18	Jennie Blackburn	Clerk’s Salary (July)
81.80	Jennie Blackburn	Clerk’s Expenses (June)
32.83	Jennie Blackburn	Clerk’s Expenses (July)
162.00	Mid Suffolk DC	Litter & Dog Bin Emptying
174.00	Earthworks	Nature Reserve Boardwalk Repairs
245.95	Stowmarket TC	Grass Cutting 2016/17

Payments totalling £1,020.94 were authorised. **Clerk to action.**

FINANCE - ONLINE BANKING

It was AGREED: That the Parish Clerk print off further details for Internet Banking for members to discuss further at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

CSP38/16/17 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

Members of the Parish Council considered the option of a Neighbourhood Plan to ensure an effective decision-making process was in place for any future planning permission applications for additional housing.

Mr Nick Ward from Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council presented a slide-show on the process of putting together a Neighbourhood Plan. The slide-show included the following:-

- The options of what level of Plan
- What each level of Plan covered
- Community Infrastructure Levy Implications
- The meaning of Neighbourhood Planning
- The stages of Neighbourhood Planning
- What part the District Council would play
- Preparation of the Plan
- Independent Examination
- Top Tips to secure success
- The Housing & Planning Act 2016

Mr Ward added that funding was available to put towards a Plan if requested. He added that an important point to remember was that a Plan could guide building, but not stop it.

It was AGREED: That a flyer be produced for all households within the Parish, to ascertain their views on a way forward.

CSP39/16/17 SCHOOL CATCHMENT AREA

Members discussed a change to the current school catchment area for the children of the village. Currently, children from the village would attend Freeman Primary School in Stowupland but due to the proposed 350 new houses due to be built within Stowupland the number of children within the area would far outweigh that of the school provision. Members felt that the catchment area should change to Creeting St Mary, who in the last few years had been undersubscribed.

It was AGREED: That Cllr Peacock contact Gordon Jones, Portfolio holder for Education, and invite him to a future meeting in order to discuss this in more detail.

CSP40/16/17 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CO-ORDINATOR

Members noted that the post of Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator was currently vacant.

It was AGREED: That the Parish Clerk advertise this post. That the Parish Clerk consult with the Police as to what level, if any, of support they give to the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. That Cllr Valladares raise this issue with Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC).

CSP41/16/17 PLANNING APPLICATIONS / DECISIONS

It was NOTED: That Planning Application 2327/16 – Erection of a Grain Dryer. Erection of new Silo – Muntons Plc, Needham Road, Stowmarket was granted.

CSP42/16/17 EMERGENCY BAG

Cllr Mason explained to members that the Emergency Bag had been given to the village for the use in an emergency such as significant power cuts or flooding. The bag would be housed in the Church Hall and included wind-up radios, wind-up torches, fluorescent vests, barrier tape, foil blankets for the elderly/young, rubber gloves and waterproof notepads. He

added that the bag also contained a document with all the contact details needed inclusive of the Parish Council, which needed to be updated.

It was AGREED: That the document be circulated around members of the Parish Council in order to be updated.

CSP43/16/17 POUNDFIELD

Members discussed the success of their recent tour around the Poundfield site with Managing Director, Mark Jardine who was keen to work with the Parish Council to keep any complaints with the local area to a minimum. They considered a way forward with any incidents or problems that may arise, such as early working noise and Lorries along Mill Lane.

It was AGREED: That members of the public contact the Parish Clerk with the date and time of any incidents that take place, along with photographic evidence where possible. That the Parish Clerk put this information into the next Parish Newsletter.

CSP44/16/17 TELEPHONE BOX / NOTICEBOARD

Members discussed the possibility of the telephone box in the village being used to house a defibrillator. It had come to light that the Community Heartbeat Trust had been 'given' disused telephone boxes around the area who had then contacted the Parish Clerk. Members thought that it would be a good way to use the telephone box.

It was AGREED: That the Parish Clerk find out further information on who would repair the telephone box in the first instance and whose responsibility it would be to maintain it if this idea went ahead.

CSP45/16/17 PLAY AREA UPDATE

Members noted that a few molehills remained following visits from Pest Control and that they needed to be monitored. The Parish Clerk reported that the Annual Inspection would take place later this month to which Cllr Mason added that if possible he would like to be present at the inspection.

It was AGREED: That the Parish Clerk establish which date the Annual Inspection would be carried out in order for Cllr Mason to also attend.

CSP46/16/17 FEN ALDER CARR LOCAL NATURE RESERVE UPDATE

Members discussed the future of the Nature Reserve following their recent visit to the site. It had been clear that the Boardwalk was in constant need of repair. More information was needed in order to know exactly who was in charge of maintenance and the general upkeep of the site.

It was AGREED: That the Parish Clerk contact David Hughes, Woodlands Officer with Mid Suffolk District Council to invite him to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

CSP47/16/17 MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL

- a) Cllr Mason reminded Members that the Harvesting season would soon begin therefore ensuring windows were shut in order to stop the dust getting inside homes. It was agreed that this be put into the next Parish Newsletter.
He also reported that Footpath 1a was in a poor state with brambles and nettles.
- b) Cllr Lawson reported that the hedge of the garden on the corner of The Lane continued to be a problem causing limited sight when turning out of the junction. It

was agreed that the household be visited by a member to ask for the hedge to be trimmed.

CSP48/16/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday, 19th September 2016 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 10.29pm.

Chairman Date