

Creeting St Peter Parish Council

MINUTES of the Meeting held at the Church Hall,
Creeting St Peter at 7.30pm on Monday, 19th September 2016

Present:

Cllr M Peacock (Chairman)
Cllr D Mason
Cllr R Hitt

In Attendance:

Mrs J Blackburn (Clerk)
District Councillor Keith Welham
David Hughes – Woodlands Manager (Mid-Suffolk District Council)

Apologies:

Cllr S Lawson
Cllr M Valladares
PCSO David Harvey
County Councillor Gary Green

CSP49/16/17 PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

CSP50/16/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr S Lawson, Cllr M Valladares, PCSO David Harvey and County Councillor Gary Green.

CSP51/16/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

CSP52/16/17 APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION

None had been received.

CSP53/16/17 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18th JULY 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th July 2016 were approved as a true record and were duly signed by the Chair.

CSP54/16/17 POLICE REPORT

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

CSP55/16/17 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr Welham's report is attached.

CSP56/16/17 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

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

"There is nothing specific to report on Creeting St Peter matters although I am meeting with the highways officers this Wednesday and one of the items to discuss is the 20 mph speed limit through the village and just as to where things are exactly."

Mr David Hughes, Woodlands Officer with Mid-Suffolk District Council was present and members thanked Mr Hughes for attending the meeting. Following a brief discussion and questions from the members Mr Hughes made the following points:-

- Whilst it was the Parish Council's responsibility to maintain the site, he tried to hold once or twice a year, a Working Party where volunteers helped to tidy some of the site. A Working Party was due to take place in the near future where the meadow would be cut. Any tools that would be needed to maintain the site would be available.
- The Boardwalk had always been an issue and constantly needed maintaining due to the water on the site as it was a wet woodland so the water was vital for the insects, birds and other life forms that the area was habitat for. With regards to the Boardwalk he felt the best way forward would be to replace it with a recycled plastic boardwalk where one was needed (from the first path junction along the left hand route all the way to the pond, if that was to be the end destination) with a raised embankment up to that point. As to the length of the Boardwalk he felt that would be the Parish Council's decision. It didn't need to be how it was now. It could be just one direct path from start to the pond instead of in a large circular one.
- The Parish Council would be eligible for an 'Awards for All' lottery award, which would help to fund the replacement Boardwalk.
- Other suggestions for the site would be to involve Scout groups or similar plus local schools by way of making bird boxes or to just visit the site.

Members thanked Mr Hughes for his involvement with the site and for all the work he had done in the past and would do in the future.

Members discussed what cover was in place within the Insurance Policy as to members of the public being involved in the maintenance of the site.

It was Noted: That a meeting of the Nature Reserve Management Committee was due plus a tree survey. Members of the Management Committee would liaise to arrange a date for their next meeting.

It was Agreed: That enquires be made, by the Parish Clerk, into the availability of funding from 'Awards for All'. That enquires also to be made into Scout Groups/Schools visiting the site and the making of Bird Boxes. That the Parish Clerk look into the Insurance Policy to ascertain what cover was in place for members of the public working on the site in order to maintain it.

Cllr Peacock reported that she had contacted Gordon Jones, Cabinet Member for Education, to discuss the current school catchment areas. Currently, Creeting St Peter's children were 200 yards out of the catchment area for Creeting St Mary Primary School. Children in the village therefore, had to travel to Freemans Primary School, Stowupland or Stonham Aspel. Following her conversation with Mr Jones it was agreed that she would email him her argument and would include the percentage of out of catchment children at Freeman and Creeting St Mary's primary schools.

It was Agreed: That Cllr Peacock would send a detailed email to Mr Jones which would include any further information the Parish Council could provide.

The Clerk had nothing to report.

CSP60/16/17

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 19th September 2016 was £14,909.27. The Clerk reported the following payments be authorised:-

161.18	Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Salary (August)
32.83	Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Expenses (August)
161.18	Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Salary (September)
45.10	Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Expenses (September)
148.80	SALC	Internal Audit
20.00	Mid-Suffolk DC	Lottery Licence
74.54	Stowmarket TC	Grass Cutting
264.00	Earthworks	Boardwalk Repairs
547.20	Comm. Action Suffolk	Insurance Renewal

Payments totalling £1,293.65 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.

CSP61/16/17

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

It was Agreed: That this Agenda item be deferred to the next meeting when all members of the Parish Council would be present.

CSP62/16/17

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CO-ORDINATOR

It was noted that there was a known member of the village that may be interested in this post. Clarification to be pursued.

CSP63/16/17

PLANNING APPLICATIONS / DECISIONS

No Planning Applications had been received.

CSP64/16/17

TELEPHONE BOX / NOTICEBOARD

To enable members to discuss a way forward with the telephone box and noticeboard it needed to be confirmed as to the position with the possible defibrillator.

It was Agreed: That the Clerk to invite Martin Render, Chairman of The Community Heartbeat Trust, to a future meeting of the Parish Council to answer questions from members and discuss the way forward.

CSP65/16/17

PLAY AREA UPDATE

The following points were made and noted:-

- The annual Inspection had taken place with all areas being recorded as 'low risk'
- The mole hills had ceased to be a problem
- Cllr Mason had tried to pursue with Fen Leisure, the surface beneath the see-saw, but had been unsuccessful in gaining their co-operation

MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL

- a) The Clerk read an email from Cllr Lawson which stated that Cross Keys Cottage had yet to rectify the down pipe onto the road.
- b) Cllr Mason reported the following:-

Alice Matthewson from the Parochial Church Council had sought a grant for a shed at the Church Hall, a facility that the Parish Council could use to house the village emergency bag. He suggested that the Parish Council could contribute in some way, perhaps purchasing a padlock for the shed.

The planned Memorial Tree for the Play Area had been picked as an Apple Tree, which the villagers could use the fruit from, he would be purchasing this in the near future.

There was no footpath along Peterhouses for pedestrians to use to get to the church and after discussing this with all parties contributions would happily be made in order to have a footpath laid.

A caravan, which stood at No. 8 Peterhouses, was actually on highway land. The caravan had not moved for the past 12 years therefore it was felt something needed to be done about this.

CSP67/16/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday, 21st November 2016 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Chairman Date