



## CREETING ST PETER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at the Church Hall, The Lane, Creeting St Peter on **Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7.30pm.**

### **Present:**

Councillors: M Valladares (Chairman)  
R Hitt  
M Peacock  
T Taylor

In Attendance G Green – County Councillor  
S Phillips – District Councillor  
J Blackburn – Clerk

### **CSP94/19/20 – PUBLIC FORUM**

There were 25 members of the public present.

### **CSP95/19/20 – TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Mason.

### **CSP96/19/20 – TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None had been received.

### **CSP97/19/20 – TO RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION**

None had been received.

### **CSP98/19/20 – TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019**

**It was AGREED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### **CSP99/19/20 - TO RECEIVE THE POLICE REPORT**

The Police were not present at the meeting and a report had not been received.

### **CSP100/19/20 – TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – CLLR GREEN**

Cllr Green reported that:

- The residents of Cedars Park wished to thank the Parish Council for the email sent drawing their attention to the Poundfield Planning Application.
- The situation with the Debenham school buses was still being considered as some places that were being paid for were not always used.
- In April 2020 Parking Enforcement was being moved from the Police to the County Council who in turn would then move it down to the District Council.

Cllr Green asked about the flooding at the bridge at Watering Farm and what the position was with it. The Clerk explained that it had been confirmed to her that it was blocked drains and was being dealt with.

A member of the public present stated that as well as blocked drains water was also draining from the Poundfield site.

## **CSP101/19/20 – TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORTS – CLLR PHILLIPS**

Cllr Phillips reported that:

- Parking Enforcement was to be dispensed by Ipswich Borough Council with any funds from parking fees being given to Mid Suffolk District Council which would be put back into services.
- £4,000 was being given by Needham Market Town Council towards the Needham Lake project.

## **CSP102/19/20 – PRESENTATION FROM OWNER OF ‘THE MEADOWS’**

Owner of The Meadows, Mr McMahon and his Planning Consultant, Mr Willis were present at the meeting. Mr Willis explained that the developmental potential of the site would be investigated and any third-party comments noted. They wished to try and move the project forward by putting together a revised proposal taking into account the points of refusal in the initial application. He added that the first stage would be to set up a series of meetings with the residents of the village in order to continue discussions and move forward with the site.

Cllr Valladares reported that the Parish Council could not offer an opinion on any speculative planning applications.

Members of the Parish Council and Parishioners raised the following issues:

- The access to the site was a major point of refusal therefore how would it be rectified?
- In relation to the Local Plan, the application did not fall into the Plan’s specification.
- How did they expect to overturn the refusal point of there being a lack of amenities in the village?
- The development itself was not wanted in the village at all.
- Any development on that site would overlook neighbouring properties causing light and noise pollution/issues.
- The application would include the cutting down of trees, which was not acceptable.

Mr Willis explained that he and the owner planned to hold consultations with Highways to talk through such matters as the access and the required splay. They would also liaise with all relevant Councils in relation to the Local Plan and policies to talk about the growth of towns and settlements. Design, access and facilities were the three main points of refusal and all would be re-considered and addressed.

He concluded that a date would be set with residents as soon as a new plan of the site had been produced, although the timescale of such, at the current time, was unknown.

Cllr Valladares informed Mr Willis that he would suggest 21 days’ notice of such a meeting date and that the Parochial Church Council would be the body in which to contact in relation to booking the Church Hall to hold the meeting. The Parish Council would not be responsible for any costs of such a meeting.

## **CSP103/19/20 - PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**Ref: DC/19/05867** - Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act for planning permission 0936/02 without compliance with Condition 3 (Hours of operation) - Grove Farmhouse, Mill Lane, Creeting St Peter, Ipswich Suffolk IP6 8QG

Mr Nicholls, Site Manager of Poundfield was present at the meeting and explained that the company wanted to be ‘good neighbours’. They respected people’s opinions and wished to continue to engage with local residents.

He added that in relation to the application the company had records that proved working hours had been operated from 6am until 6pm Monday to Friday for the past 15 years, to which Cllr Valladares exclaimed that that was an admission for breaching their planning conditions!

Members of the Parish Council and local residents raised the following issues:

- Vehicles had been seen going into the site before 6am and leaving the site after 7pm.
- The 'Lorries turn left' sign at the entrance/exit of the site had disappeared.
- Lorries had been parking early in the mornings on the Cedars Park estate in readiness to go to the site, causing a disturbance for residents in that area.
- Agreement that the Environmental report stated that an acoustic and lighting test should be carried out prior to any granting of any application.
- Lorries continued to be seen driving to the site through Creeting St Mary, along All Saints Road, where the primary school was located and where there were no footways, as well as Flordon Road.
- Whether the Poundfield site/footprint planned to be extended?
- If proof of working from 6am was in their possession, why was it not shown at the time of the Certificate?
- There had been continued complaints over many years in relation to the site.
- Issues over why the Planning Department had not taken Enforcement Action.
- Lighting remained an issue with the lights sometimes being left on all night.

Mr Nicholls explained that he had only worked at the site for the past seven months and the company itself had owned the business for the past three years, so he could not comment on any historical issues with the previous owners.

He stated he would look into why the lights were being left on as he was usually the last person to leave the site around 7pm. He confirmed that it would not happen again.

He reported that there were plans to employ more people in the future so the site would grow but with regards to the footprint they would try to maximise the space that they had.

In relation to the lack of Enforcement Cllr Phillips informed those present that he would be contacting them to question their lack of involvement.

A resident close to the site asked Mr Nicholls why it was that today, three cars were seen entering the site at 4.45am and lorries at 5.15am? Also, when the lorries left the site they turned right and headed towards Creeting St Mary?

Mr Nicholls agreed to investigate.

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

**Ref: DC/19/05957** - Full Planning Application - Installation of a Biomass Energy and Education Centre, Fuel store (and ancillary equipment including exhaust stacks) - Muntons Plc, Needham Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 2AG

Following a brief discussion:

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

#### **CSP104/19/20 - PLANNING DECISIONS**

No Planning Decisions had been received.

## CSP105/19/20 – TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

### a) TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reminded members to set themselves up for online banking if they had not already done so.

### b) 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 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020 £17,927.77.

### c) TO AUTHORISE PAYMENTS AND NOTE RECEIPTS

The Clerk reported the following payments be authorised:-

100773	Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Pay (Jan)	£193.08
100774	Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Office Allowance / Expenses (Jan)	£37.33
100775	HMRC	PAYE (to end Dec)	£4.20
100776	MSDC	Play Area Inspection	£60.22
100777	Parish Magazine Printing	Newsletter Printing	£40.68
100778	Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Pay (Feb)	£193.08
100779	Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Office Allowance / Expenses (Feb)	£28.33

**It was AGREED:** That payments totaling £556.92 be authorised and actioned by the Clerk.

It was noted that the following receipts had been received:

Lottery            Lottery Ticket Sales            £300.00

### d) TO RECEIVE THE FINAL BUDGET 2020/21

**It was AGREED:** That the final Budget for 2020/21 be approved.

### e) TO APPROVE THE PRECEPT FOR 2020/21

**It was AGREED:** That the Precept for 2020/21 be approved and set as £5,285.

### f) 5-YEAR PLAN

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

## CSP106/19/20 – MAINTENANCE OF ACCESS TRACK TO PLAY AREA

Residents of the three properties that shared the access track to the Play Area were present at the meeting. They explained that over the past 24 years they had maintained the track. Following some recent poor weather conditions, the track had deteriorated which had resulted in some large potholes forming. They were concerned that it was only a matter of time before damage would be done to a vehicle using the track, or pedestrians walking along it. They continued to explain that a quote had been received for the works, which was in the region of £5,500.

The residents' opinion was that whilst they had maintained the track, wasn't it actually the responsibility of the Parish Council and asked whether any light could be shed on that and whether the Parish Council were in a position to help.

Cllr Valladares explained that investigations had resulted in confirmation being unclear in relation to the track. Historic correspondence implied that the Parish Council did not want the track included in the lease of the land (Play Area) and that correspondence also confirmed that residents in the three properties had informally agreed to maintain the track.

Cllr Valladares felt it would not be right to use such a large amount of public money to carry out the works to the track.

It was suggested that a possible way forward would be to approach Cllr Green for some of his locality funding for the project.

The Clerk asked the residents to email any quotes to her in the first instance.

**It was AGREED:** That the Clerk liaise with Cllr Green over applying for locality grant funding.

#### **CSP107/19/20 – TREE WARDEN'S REPORT**

The Tree Warden reported that she had some trees waiting to be planted along the path adjacent the A14 in the location of the broken fence, which it was hoped would help alleviate recent issues.

She explained that the Wildlife Group had raised some funds to purchase four Swift boxes which would be installed around the village

She also requested for volunteers to help with litter picking and asked for this to go into the next Newsletter.

**Clerk to action.**

#### **CSP108/19/20 – COMMUNICATION WITH PARISHIONERS**

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

#### **CSP109/19/20 – WATER LEAK – POUND ROAD**

The Clerk reported that she had not heard back from Anglian Water in relation to the issue, but would chase again.

#### **CSP110/19/20 - LAYBY/FOOTPATH ISSUE**

As previously mentioned earlier in the meeting, trees were planned to be planted along this path which was hoped would help the issue.

#### **CSP111/19/20 – FOOTPATHS**

The Clerk reported that all issues with footpaths had been reported but she had yet to receive any feedback as to when the issues would be rectified, but would chase with the Rights of Way Team.

#### **CSP112/19/20 - PLAY AREA**

The Clerk reported that she had received a quote for the refurbishment of the Climbing Frame from *Mortimer Contracts Limited* of £425 plus VAT. She explained that she had had difficulty obtaining other quotes. The company specialised in work for Parish Councils and also worked for Babergh District Council.

**It was AGREED:** That the Clerk accept the quote and commission the works.

#### **CSP113/19/20 – FEN ALDER CARR NATURE RESERVE**

There was nothing to report.

**CSP114/19/20 – MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

- Fault street lights – only five working at present.
- Potholes on the way to Stowupland.
- Lorries speeding through the village when ‘unsuitable for HGVs’.

**CSP115/19/20 - DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**It was AGREED:** That the next meeting be held at the Church Hall on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 7.30pm

The meeting finished at 9.45pm.

Chairman: ..... Dated: .....