

# Creaton Parish

## Minutes of The Annual Meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at 7.30 pm in The Village Hall

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**Present:** Councillor Stan Perrins, Chairman, Creaton Parish Council plus 50 electors (list of attendees held by Clerk)

**In attendance:** Mrs L Compton, Clerk to Creaton Parish Council

### 1. **Welcome, refreshments and meet your Councillors**

Cllr Perrins welcomed everyone to the Annual Village Meeting and reported that apologies had been received from County Councillor Millar, Cllr S Winter and Mrs Gibbs. There were 50 people present at the meeting.

### 2. **Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2011**

a) To approve – Cllr Perrins gave an overview of the minutes and proposed that they should be formally approved, seconded by Cllr Hollingum and resolved to be adopted as an accurate record of the meeting.

b) Matters arising (if any) – There were no matters arising.

### 3. **Reports from Village Organisations and Under Section 37 of the Charities**

#### **Act 1960, accounts of village charities to be received**

- (i) Creaton Relief in Need – no accounts received – Action: Clerk to follow up
- (ii) Beynons Educational Charity – no accounts received – Action: Clerk to follow up
- (iii) Beynons Eleemosynary Foundation – no accounts received – Action: Clerk to follow up
- (iv) Village Hall Committee – no accounts received – Action: Clerk to follow up – Mrs McEwan reported that the Village Hall was very well used and that new toilets and front doors had recently been fitted.

(v) Playing fields Committee – received accounts and minutes of Creaton PFA AGM. Written Report **Paper A – to follow**

(vi) Ducklings Pre-School Playgroup – accounts received. It was reported that there continued to be challenges with the falling number of children. At present there were 18 children (23 last year). Staff hours have had to be cut plus there was a further strain due to the budget cuts. £2,300 had been raised this year through various events eg Wine tasting, Christmas Fair and Great Creaton Bake Off. At present they were in need of 2 Committee members. The Parish Council were thanked for their donation towards play equipment. **Attached Report Paper B**

(vii) WI – Daphne Clark sent in the following report “We have 23 members and we meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month in the United Reform Church at 7.30 pm. Our speakers in the last year have given talks on a wide variety of subjects including :- The Kitchen in WWII, Americans in Northampton, Weird and Wonderful weddings, Elizabeth of Austria and Radio Northampton. In June we are having an outing to Calke Abbey. On June 19<sup>th</sup> we receive the Jubilee Baton from Guilsborough and pass it on to Spratton on June 20<sup>th</sup>. This baton is to celebrate the Jubilee and the Olympics, it started its travels on February 15<sup>th</sup> and will arrive at Holdenby on June 21<sup>st</sup> having been passed on by all 126 WI’s in Northamptonshire, spending 1 Night at each WI. We also have a group who have regular walks, a craft group and we play in the WI skittles league. We continue to make cakes and Cynthia Spencer hospice have a table for WI at their Craft Fair.”

### 4. **Chairman’s Report – attached Paper C**

### 5. **Reports from Parish Council Steering Groups**

a) **Streetlighting** – Cllr Thomas asked if everybody had received the Streetlighting leaflet outlining the changes (everybody had) and said that there was not much more to add except the changes would be happening sooner rather than later. The first 5 lamps would be fitted in June. Most lamps would be fitted with part-night photo-cells with the exception being those on junctions or lighting up footpaths. The new lights would be more cost effective as they

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were 42 watt (current lights are 80 watt) and give a better white light over a wider area. Cllr Thomas also reported that some lights on wooden poles had been there 30 or 40 years might need the brackets changing. The parish's streetlighting electricity bill will reduce over time with the more efficient lighting.

- b) **Planning** – It was reported that there had not been many planning applications of note through the year. There had however been some changes made by DDC to the planning system – which the Parish Council had vehemently objected to. As a result of objects, DDC had decided to revert to Neighbourhood notices and would now hand deliver these. Parish Councils will no longer receive paper copies of plans unless specifically requested.
- c) **Natural Creaton** – It was reported that the Wildflower area on the Village Green had been allowed to remain for another year. Also, because of the recent BBC programme Bees, Butterflies and Blooms, there had been lots of interest from other organisations across the country who saw Creaton as an example of good practice. Many parishes had asked to join forces with Creaton. Childwoods (which had been a great success) was being followed up with the Golden Bug Awards which were taking place now and would culminate in a trophy. Pitsford Nature Reserve have offered 2 prizes.

**6. Police Report** – The Clerk summarised the Police Report – **attached Paper D**

**7. Neighbourhood Watch – New Co-ordinator** – There was no further news on the new co-ordinator – Action: Clerk to follow up

**8. Localism – to discuss and ascertain village opinion** – Cllr Hollingum gave an overview of the Localism Act and how it affected Creaton. There followed a discussion on Neighbourhood Planning. The majority of parishioners present were in agreement with the Parish Council that limited expansion was necessary to secure the future of village services e.g. School, Post-Office and shop. Cllr Hollingum also outlined that there were 3 options:-

- i. Produce a Neighbourhood Plan*
- ii. Produce an annex to the existing Core Strategy( which would carry the same weight as the Neighbourhood Plan)*
- iii. Do nothing.*

Cllr Hollingum asked for a show of hands on each option. Those present unanimously voted in favour of either producing Neighbourhood Plan or Annex to the Development Plan Document. No one voted to do nothing. It was noted that the Village Plan and Village Design Statement still counted but didn't carry as much weight as a Neighbourhood Plan.

**9. Traffic – to discuss** – The following issues were discussed:-

- a) **Buses stopping on a blind corner** – This issue would be raised by the Parish Council with the Bus Company. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- b) **School sign buried in hedge** – This matter was being addressed by NCC Highways
- c) **Concerns over possible accidents on blind corner adjacent to the Village Green (Brixworth Road)** – It was reported that NCC Highways had suggested new signage plus "SLOW" painted on the road. It was suggested that cars parking along this stretch of road acted as a traffic calming measure.
- d) **Speeding Lorries** – Concerns over heavy lorries speeding through the village. It was suggested that Parishioners take note of the time, company and if possible, the registration number and report to the Police. It was noted that several years ago the Parish Council had held

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discussions with a local lorry firm to discuss ways to alleviate the problem. If the complaints continued this might need to be repeated.

- e) **Pedestrian Crossing** – Several parishioners expressed concerns that the Pedestrian Crossing was not clearly visible. Cllr Perrins confirmed that the Parish Council were aware of the problems and were investigating with NCC Highways if anything could be done.

**10. Wildflower Areas** – Ideas for new potential sites for wildflower areas were requested. The Village Green was an un-popular location (with some residents) as the trial site was not very aesthetically pleasing. It was acknowledged that if the Village Green trial had not been done, the recent BBC programme, Bees, Butterflies and Blooms might not have created as much interest in the Village. Another suggestion was a strip alongside the Playing Field, representatives of the Playing Field Association indicated they were happy to support a wildflower area. It was reported that the Cemetery wildflower trial site had not been a success. It was further reported that Wildflower sites could take some 7 years to establish. After some discussion, it was agreed that the Village Green wildflower site should continue for the time being and continually reviewed by the Parish Council (registered owners of the Village Green) and ultimately mown over if not deemed to be successful.

**11. Allotments – to discuss** – Parishioners were asked to complete their contact details if they were interested in an allotment. It was reported that the Church were investigating freeing up some land for allotments. Several parishioners expressed concerns over the lack of parking in the village which might be exacerbated by the creation of allotments. Action: Parish Council to ascertain how many allotments had been requested before taking further action.

**12. Any Other Business (previously notified to Chair )**

- a) **Tree guard cutting into tree on the Village Green** – the Parish Council were aware of the problem and had sought the advice of a tree surgeon.
- b) **Diamond Jubilee** – Parishioners were encouraged to join in the forthcoming Diamond Jubilee Celebrations on the Village Green.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and extended special thanks to Mr and Mrs Winter (Creaton Post Office) for donation of the cakes.

**Meeting Closed 9.05 pm**

Chairman's acceptance signature..... Date.....

Copies to:

Parish Councillors (10)  
District/County Councillors (2)  
Brixworth Library (1)