

CREATON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor Stan Perrins

Clerk: Mrs L Compton
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Minutes of the Creaton Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 7th February 2012 in the Village Hall, Teeton Lane, Creaton at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr Stan Perrins (Chair) Cllrs Richard Hollingum (Vice-Chair), Reg Thomas, Maureen Titman, Caroline Pugh, David Watt and Sylvia Winter

In attendance: 2 members of the public and Lynne Compton, Clerk

139.11 PUBLIC FORUM 15 mins Action

2 members of the public were present

140.11 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none.

**141.11 RESOLUTION TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING AND AGENDA
dated 3rd January 2012.**

Cllr Watt proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr Hollingum and resolved to be an accurate record of the meeting by Parish Council. Cllr Perrins, Chairman subsequently signed the minutes.

142.11 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (for information only) (if any)

Website – (from November 2011 minutes 92.11 d) – The Clerk reported that she had spent 6 hours updating the website (eg putting minutes and agendas on as PDF's, doing a full calendar of events etc.) and would endeavour to develop the planning page, do a "noticeboard", check the website on a weekly basis and monitor those organisations who update their own pages on the site to ensure the website is kept up to date.

Clerk

Affordable Housing

143.11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST in respect of relevant items of business on the agenda

There were none.

144.11 FINANCE

a) Payment of invoices for January/February – to approve

Cllr Watt proposed approval, seconded by Cllr Perrins and resolved to be approved by Parish Council:-

Date	Details		Chq No	Amount	
07/02/2012	Lynne Compton	Salary to 31/1/12 plus exp	341	£ 412.17	Salary
07/02/2012	HMRC Only	PAYE	342	£ 72.60	Salary
07/02/2012	NCC LGPS	Clerk Pension	343	£ 97.54	Salary
07/02/2012	URC	Hire for Councillor Surg	344	£ 20.00	Meetings
07/02/2012	EON	Streetlighting Elec	345	£ 342.24	Streetlighting
		TOTAL		£ 944.55	

b) Receipts

Parish Council noted the following :-

B Hollowell & Sons (HJ Brown burial)- £388

NCC (County Councillors Empowerment Fund) - £900 (towards new equipment for Creaton Playing Field)

145.11 UPDATE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS (if any) Clerk

There were none.

146.11 PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED To consider (if any)

There were none.

147.11 PLANNING DECISION NOTICES To report (if any)

There were none.

148.11 HIGHWAYS ISSUES

a) 40 MPH new limit on A5199 – complaints - To discuss

It had been reported that there had been several complaints about cars speeding through the village on the A5199 Welford Road and that the new speed limit did not appear to be working. Parish Council resolved that Police should be asked to do another speed survey and that they should be sent a letter along the lines “What is the rationale for cutting the Speedwatch initiative ? Surely it is more expensive to send out trained policeman with equipment and a van instead of re-instating the Speedwatch initiative with willing volunteers to survey traffic?”

Action: Clerk to send letter

Clerk

b) Footpath on the Village Green - To receive an update and discuss

After some discussion, Parish Council resolved that the Clerk should urgently report this to NCC and request that an officer views the problem with the Chairman.

Clerk

c) Grips along Welford Road and Grooms Lane - To receive an update and discuss if necessary.

Cllr Titman reported that although the grips had been done along Teeton Lane and Hollowell road, they had still not been done on the Welford Road.

Clerk

Action: Clerk to investigate

d) Ditch adjacent to Creaton Playing Field

It was reported that NCC confirmed that the owners would be the landowners of the adjacent field. After some discussion, Parish Council resolved that the Clerk should write a letter along the following lines “We have receive a number of complaints about the ditch on the Brixworth Road adjacent to the Playing Field and have been informed by Northamptonshire County Council that it is the landowner’s responsibility. Please could you organise the ditch to be cleared as soon as possible.” Action: Clerk to inform Cottesbroke Estates.

Clerk

e) Dangerous Bend on Brixworth Road (Nr Alms Houses)

To discuss NCC’s suggestions for traffic calming.

It was reported that Ian Boyes (NCC) had suggested (via email):-

“a ‘bend’ warning sign with an ‘Oncoming vehicles in middle of road’ plate mounted beneath it (please find attached a diagram of this sign assembly), together with a SLOW carriageway marking. The owners of the houses adjacent to the signage would have to be consulted.”

After some discussion Parish Council resolved that signage was needed that was clear from both directions and that the Clerk should ask if Ian Boyes could do a site visit with Councillor Perrins to discuss locations.

Clerk/Cllr Perrins

f) Other Highways issues

- 1. Belicia Beacons on Zebra Crossing** – It was reported that these were difficult to see in daylight and might need cleaning. **Action: Clerk to report**
- 2. Footpath between Horseshoe Close and the Jetty** – It was reported that this had still not been repaired. **Action: Clerk to ask NCC to view the path as soon as possible with the Chairman.**

Clerk

Clerk

149.11 CREATON CEMETERY/CHURCHYARD

a) Burial/Memorial Requests (if any)

The following was resolved to be approved by Parish Council:-

B Hollowell and Son – Hazel Joy BROWN (non-resident) Thurs 19th January 2012 Plot No 72

Clerk

ITEM 150.11 RESERVED BUSINESS DUE TO ITS SENSITIVE NATURE – Parish Council resolved to defer discussion to move the item to the end of the meeting (after 159.11) and request that the members of the public leave the meeting prior to discussion. Attached “Pink” Paper B for Parish Council only

151.11 STREETLIGHTING

To discuss letter from EON offering replacement lighting at preferential prices. Cllr Thomas reported that the 33 lights would cost £30 each to change from all night to part-night lighting – a total of £990. This was estimated to save 30% per annum from the cost of the unmetered electricity (estimated to be £1140 per annum) – a saving of approximately £340 per annum. After some discussion, Cllr Thomas proposed that the quotation was accepted in principle (for all lights except the Lychgate and Noticeboard which would remain lit all night) subject to budgetary constraints and checking there were no hidden costs/drawbacks, this was seconded by Cllr Pugh, voted on and unanimously resolved to be approved by Parish Council.

Action: Clerk to complete end of year forecast to confirm the costs would fall within budget and double check with EON that there were no hidden costs.

Clerk

152.11 DDC DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PROCEDURES CONSULTATION

Parish Council resolution to approve (retrospectively) the response (which had been drafted by the Clerk and approved in an email consultation).

Cllr Perrins proposed the following response, seconded by Cllr Hollingum and unanimously resolved to be approved by Parish Council:-

“Consultation on proposed changes to the Statement of Community Involvement - changes to the neighbour notification process – Deadline 31st January 2012

Creton Parish Council strongly opposes the cessation of individual neighbour letters (and the implementation of site notices only) on the grounds that unscrupulous persons may remove the site notices rendering this an extremely inadequate way of informing those affected by any proposed development.

Also, please could you inform us how “Party Wall” issues will be dealt with under this new process.

Changes to the development control consultation procedures

Although we recognise that this is not a consultation and has already been implemented, Creton Parish Council strongly opposes the removal of paper plans from Parish Councils as this will be discriminatory due to lack of accessibility for people with visual impairments (against the Disability and Equality Discrimination Act 2010).

Also, if you are going to put into operation this minimalistic approach to consultation with Parish Councils to save money, you need to ensure that the website is user friendly and accessible for all, (especially for those with only a rudimentary knowledge of the internet). The newly designed website does not appear to address issues that have been reported to us by people using the planning portal of your website.”

Clerk

153.11 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED/SENT (not already on the agenda)

To review and agree action where necessary. The following were discussed, noted and action agreed where necessary (in bold italics)

- a) NALC NALC's responses to recent consultations for our information
- b) MGWSP Village Green Footpath - doesn't appear to be anything that meets the counties intervention levels **see 148.11 b**
- c) POLICE PCSO newsletter
- d) NCC Letter confirming Empowering Councillors and Communities Scheme grant of £900 - now paid in
- e) POLICE Possible cuts to PCSO funding and requesting that we write to our District/County Councillors and MP to site our concerns
- f) Chandlers Oil Oil Buying Groups - how to set up / concerns over "consortiums"
- g) EON Offer on replacement lighting valid for 3 months only
- i) POLICE letter from PCSO Jo Hillery requesting support
- j) NALC 2012 Training Opportunities
- k) David Unwin Kelmarsh Decision
- l) NUSEFWG Windfarms meeting on Thurs 2nd Feb - 7.30 pm Watford Village Hall
- m) NALC CPRE NALC and CPRE NP and Localism Bill Events - Discuss who should attend. **Resolved – Cllr Perrins to attend on 1st March**
- n) David Unwin Windfarm petition
- o) NCC Planned Highways works
- p) NCC Patching Works on road between Creaton and Brixworth - plan attached
- q) POLICE ASB 6/12 BR - abandoned vehicle with flat tyre. 9/12 Welford Road - Overhead Cables removed

154.11 PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

To report that DDC have confirmed that Parish Council are able to fill the vacancy by co-option

To receive and discuss applications (if any)

Cllr Hollingum read out an email application received from Mr Geoff White. After some discussion, Cllr Pugh proposed that Mr White was co-opted as a member of Creaton Parish Council, seconded by Cllr Perrins, voted on and unanimously resolved to be approved by Parish Council. **Action: Clerk to do acceptance letter and organise relevant paper work**

155.11 COUNCILLOR SURGERY HELD ON WEDS 1ST FEBRUARY

To receive an update and discuss any issues

Cllr Watt and Cllr Titman had run the surgery and reported that 5 people had attended.

The following issues had arisen:-

- a) **Allotments** – A resident had reported that a lot of Creaton people were applying for allotments in Spratton. **Action: Cllr Pugh to investigate and find out names of those applying in order to give Creaton a mandate to find land for allotments. A minimum of 7 were needed on a waiting list.** Cllr Pugh
- b) **Footpath on the Green in poor state of repair – (see 148.11 b)**
- c) **Overgrown Holly and Ivy adjacent to the URC – Action: Clerk to do letter to the residents asking that they cut it back** Clerk
- d) **Dog Fouling** – This was a problem on the footpath to Creaton Primary School and Home Farm Close. In addition, several dogs were allowed to wander round the village un-supervised. After some discussion, Parish Council resolved that the problems should be reported to Daventry District Council again. **Action: Clerk to report** Clerk
- e) **20 MPH voluntary speed limit for Village Green**
After some discussion, Parish Councillors resolved that this was not a viable suggestion as it would be un-enforceable.

156.11

POST OFFICE LOCAL

Parish Council resolution to approve letter to POL and receive an update.

Cllr Winter (Creaton Post Office) had nothing further to report. The following letter to County Councillor Chris Millar was proposed by Cllr Perrins and unanimously approved by Parish Council:-

“It has been brought to our attention that Creaton Post Office may be turned into a “Post Office Local” branch. This will mean the loss of some important services which will be a great loss to the community, especially for those without transport. We also understand that the inaccurate sample data was used to get the required results for Post Office Local to move forward with its scheme.

Please could you raise this issue at the highest level and support our local Post Office?”

Clerk

Action: Clerk to send and copy to District Councillor Frenchman and County Councillor Millar

157.11

CHRISTMAS TREE FOR THE VILLAGE GREEN

To discuss

After some discussion, Parish Council resolved that a temporary Christmas tree in-situ for the Christmas period would be a welcome addition and that if residents wanted to put together to fund the project the Parish Council would be in support of this.

Action: Clerk to put suitable article in the next edition of Village Link

Clerk

158.11

URGENT MATTERS FOR REPORT ONLY (Notified to the Chairman before the meeting)

a) Resignation of Great Creaton Primary School Head

It was reported that the Head had recently resigned after having been in the post a short time.

159.11

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tues 6th March 2012

Meeting Dates for 2011/2012

Tues 3rd April 2012

Tues 1st May 2012 (AGM)

Tues 8th May 2012 (APM)

Tues 12th June 2012

Meeting Closed 10.25 pm

Chairmans Signature:.....

Date:.....

150.11 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

a) Notes of Neighbourhood Planning meetings held on 23rd November 2011 (previously circulated) and 30th January 2012 – minutes attached Paper A

To review and discuss any recommendations

CLlr Hollingum gave an overview of the meeting and Parish Council resolved the following:-

1. Minutes of Previous Neighbourhood Steering Group meetings to be published to Parish Council and put on the NB - with the exception of highly confidential material (see point 2). **Action: Clerk to circulate**
2. Highly confidential material eg possible sites to be put on "Pink Paper" (as at DDC) and circulated to Parish Council with instructions not to discuss. This would not be made public until the point that the sites had been sifted and ascertained to be "deliverable". **Action: Clerk to organise.**
3. Until the support of the village was received, no decisions could be made on Neighbourhood Plans/attachment to the Settlements and Countryside DPD. **Action: Clerk to circulate minutes of the meeting with DDC to Parish Council and NCALC once approved by DDC.**
4. A consultation with the village should be held to inform them of aspects of the Localism Bill.

b) Notes of the Meeting with Spratton Parish Council and Daventry District Council held on Monday 9th January 2012

To review and discuss any recommendations

As a result of this new information, Cllrs from Spratton and Creaton had attended a meeting with Simon Bowers (Business Manager, DDC) and Richard Wood (Planning Policy and Housing Strategy Manager) to discuss the possibility of doing an amendment to the Settlements and Countryside Development Plan Document. This appeared to be a real possibility (minutes from the meeting were still awaiting approval from DDC before publication) and would possibly be a cheaper option than producing a Neighbourhood Plan (due to not requiring a costly Public Inquiry) but would carry equal weight. The costs of an addition to the Settlements and Countryside DPD were not yet known as DDC would need to appoint appropriately qualified consultants who would then have to be employed by Parish Council. After some discussion, Parish Council resolved that an amendment to the Settlements and Countryside Development Plan appeared to be a good idea and that further information was necessary from DDC before proceeding.

Action: Clerk to follow up with DDC

Clerk

c) Village Consultation

To discuss how to proceed

Parish Council resolved that there should be an open meeting/exhibition (as recommended by Creaton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group) on Saturday 21st April 2012. The Clerk confirmed that the Village Hall had been booked for this date. Linda Toombs (Creaton NPSG member) had designed a poster/leaflet to advertise this event which was circulated to Parish Councillors, who agreed this was a good start and thanked Linda for her work. After some discussion, Parish Council resolved that Cllr Hollingum and the Clerk should re-design the poster and circulate to the Parish Council. Action: Cllr Hollingum and Clerk to have brief design meeting week beginning 10th February. Clerk to ask ACRE if they were able to provide display boards.

Clerk/Cllr
Hollingum

d) Town and Country Planning Association (TCPA)

To discuss planning leaflet circulated.

The leaflet (produced in Jan 2012) set out the TCPA's vision for rural Britain. Parish Council had not had enough time to fully digest the contents but the general view was that the leaflet reinforced the worry that without a Neighbourhood Plan, villages would be open for development that they might not necessarily want.

e) Affordable Housing

To receive an update and discuss

The Clerk reported that Richard Wood (DDC Planning Policy and Strategy Housing Manager) confirmed that he would ask NCC their reasons for not selling the paddock off the A5199. In addition an email had been received from Joanne Martin (East Midlands Rural Housing) stating that it was probably not worth doing another HNS due to lack of available land. **Action: Clerk to follow up and check with the Clerk to Clipston Parish Council who owns their affordable housing.**

Clerk

Noted: Affordable Housing might be more attractive to developers if they could also build a number of market value houses on the same site.