

# CREATON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor James Hill

## Minutes of a Meeting of Creaton Parish Council Held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2016 in the Village Hall, Teeton Lane, Creaton at 7.30 pm

**Present:** Cllrs James Hill, Michelle Aveyard, John Palmer, Jane Shanks, Reg. Thomas, Claire Thomas, Geoff White, and Sylvia Winter.

John Palmer also acted as Temporary Clerk. District Councillor Kevin Parker and two members of the public were also in attendance.

16/19 **Declarations of interest.**

Councillor Palmer declared an interest in agenda item 16/24 'Update on Clerk's vacancy'.

16/20 **Signing and approval of Parish council minutes**

These minutes of the Parish Council held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016 were agreed and signed by the chairman.

16/21 **Matters arising**

[1] The Chairman referred to minute 16/04[1] and collection of daily newspapers. He had met the owner of the store in Spratton who had expressed a continuing interest in providing a service but no action had materialised.

[2] A discussion was held on the issue of a possible community village shop. No action had been taken on the previous minute. It was agreed that a leaflet be prepared and that a local parishioner with expertise in this area be asked to assist in the development of appropriate material.

16/22 **War Memorial**

Ian Kerrs addressed the meeting as County President of the Royal British Legion. He advised the council that the RBL had recently added a new category to its annual awards for parishes that did not have their own RBL branch. He was delighted to announce that Creaton PC had won the award for the restoration of the war memorial and presented the Chairman, James Hill a plaque. James thanked Ian and also paid tribute to the work of the History Group who had done most of the hard work.

16/23 **Public Forum**

There were no comments from the public

16/24 **Apologies for absence.**

There were no apologies

16/25 **Finance**

The clerk circulated a note setting out the expenditure and income for the period 12<sup>th</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016. It also identified work carried out in that period but not yet billed. It was estimated that the balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> March would be in the region of £18500.

16/26 **Clerk vacancy update**

The chair announced that interviews were to be held over the next fortnight. He confirmed that all three candidates were still interested. It was noted that there were no delegated powers to make an appointment so there would need to be a recommendation for approval by the full council.

16/27 **Planning issues**

The council noted that there had been two planning executive meetings, these being:

[1] Alteration to accommodation to 1 Violet Lane, which the PC had opposed and which had subsequently been rejected by Daventry DC; and

[2] Proposal for residential development on land off Court House close, which the committee had raised a number of objections to.

In respect of the first planning application it was noted that in their rejection DDC had emphasised the problem with car parking at this property.

In respect of the second application there was a discussion about the village planning envelope and whether the proposed development was within or outside any planning boundary. Linda Tombs offered to retrieve maps she had which would show the DDC planning boundaries. This was agreed.

16/28 **Churchyard tree work**

Councillor White updated the meeting on developments. Quotations had been received within budget provision and Maurice Fitch Tree Works Ltd had been awarded the contract. The work had been carried out in the last week and had been undertaken to a high standard. The lime trees had been pollarded and made the view look completely different.

- 16/29 **Defibrillator**  
Councillor Claire Thomas update the meeting on developments. The cabinet had been attached to the URC church and the machine was up and running; training was booked for 16<sup>th</sup> April and had been heavily over-subscribed; and posters announcing the location of the machine were being placed in various locations in the village.
- 16/30 **Gigaclear**  
It was noted that Gigaclear continue to lay the optic fibre cable throughout the village and that the work was anticipated to be completed by the end of March. Councillors were invited to submit any snagging issues they were aware of to the clerk to take up with the works manager.
- 16/31 **Annual Parish Meeting**  
It was confirmed that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held on either Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> or Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May, subject to village hall availability. All registered charities and village groups to be invited. Possible specialist speaker on defibrillator proposed subject to availability.
- 16/32 **Speed cameras**  
Some councillors had received a communication indicating that the police and highways were to focus increased spending on speed cameras in a limited number of locations in the county including Creton. The council welcomed the initiative whilst concerned that the PC hadn't been consulted on the proposal.
- 16/33 **Pension auto enrolment**  
Councillor Aveyard confirmed that arrangements had been made for auto-enrolment through the current payroll provider.
- 16/34 **School bus route**  
Previous discussions have highlighted concerns at the the location in the village for the drop-off of children returning from Guilsborough School. It was noted that this had changed and that the drop-off-point had moved to the bus lay-by on Welford road, in the view of the PC a much safer and obvious location.  
  
Further discussions took place regarding correspondence from the bus operator. Councillor Aveyard to progress
- 16/35 **Proposed work for funding application – Project graveyard.**  
Councillor Aveyard confirmed that now the churchyard tree work [see 16/28 above] had been completed she would be in a position to firm up the application and refine the specification.
- 16/36 **Play street application – Court House Close**  
An application had been made by residents of Court House Close to the County Council as highways authority to allow closure of the street at regular intervals for the purpose of children's play activities. The relevant County Councillor for our area had forwarded it to the PC for our views.  
  
After a detailed discussion the council agreed that they did not support the application. In their view there was excellent facilities for play on the village playing field, situated less than 100 yards away; the application was in respect of children in Court House Close, but there were insufficient children in the street to justify closure; that it wasn't the only flat street as indicated and that the alternative location [Home Farm Close] was already the location of choice for children for play activities.  
  
Councillor Irving-Swift to be advised.
- 16/37 **Any other business**  
There were no items of any business. Meeting closed at 10.02 pm
- 16.18 **Date of next meeting**  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016 Annual General Meeting.