

CREATON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor James Hill

Minutes of a Meeting of Creaton Parish Council - Unadopted

Held on **Tuesday 12th January 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. There were 11 member of the public in attendance.

16.01 **Declarations of interest.**

There were no declarations.

16.02 **Signing and approval of minutes**

There were no comments and the minutes were signed by Councillor Hill.

16.03 **Matters arising**

there were no matters arising.

16.04 **Public Forum**

[1] Discussions took place regarding possible arrangement for the collection of daily newspapers following the closure of the village shop. Discussions had taken place with the owner of the store in Spratton with a view to providing a pick up point in the village. Councillor Winter advised that she had offered to house appropriate collection boxes outside the Post Office but this had not been followed up. Other discussions had considered using the bus shelter as a collection point.

Councillor Hill offered to meet with the owner of the Spratton store to see if any arrangement could be made.

[2] Two parishioners attended to hear a discussion regarding an anticipated planning application at Court House Close. As at the date of the meeting no such application had been registered with the Planning Authority and so the item was not on the agenda. The Chair confirmed that as an when an application is registered the Council would consider a response to the consultation process at a Public meeting be that a full Council meeting or, if outside the run of such meetings, by a specially convened meeting of the Planning Executive Committee. Agendas for all meetings are posted on the Village notice board at the Lych Gate on Violet Lane.

[3] A suggestion was put forward from the floor regarding a community village shop and examples were given of developments both within Northamptonshire and further afield. It was agreed that there was merit in exploring the idea further. It was agreed to design and distribute a leaflet to all residents in the village asking for their views and any indication of volunteer participation.

16.05 **Apologies for absence.**

There were no apologies

16.06 **Finance**

The clerk had provided to the council an updated list of all payments and receipts for the period July to December, following receipt of monthly statements. There was one alteration to include a grant towards the defibrillator form Hollowell Steam Rally and on this basis the finances were agreed.

16.07 **Clerk vacancy update**

The chair announced that they had received six applications and a shortlist had been drawn up and interview were due to be held over the next two weeks.

16.08 **Planning issues**

The council noted that a number of applications had been agreed without issue. There were no planning applications currently out for consultation.

16.09 **Budget proposal 2016\2017**

The clerk spoke to a budget document previously circulated. This reflected comments made by councillors to a preliminary spreadsheet. The council confirmed the budget as proposed. It was agreed to leave the rate precept unchanged.

16.10 **Police and Neighbourhood Watch**

Police had reported no crimes for the most recent period reported

16.11 **Defibrillator update**

Councillor Claire Thomas confirmed that orders had been placed for both the cabinet and the defibrillator and that delivery should be later that week. A Service Level Agreement had been drawn up and signed by URC. Council agreed for Councillor Thomas to sign on behalf of the council. Training arrangements and publicity will be put into place over the next few weeks.

16.12 **External Audit**

A paper had previously been circulated from NCALC outlining possible changes to the external audit procedure for future years. It was resolved to note the paper and to consider the matter further when more detailed and specific proposals had been developed.

16.13 Bus Route

The council was advised of discussions with bus operators that confirmed that alighting and drop off points were at the request of the passengers and when the driver thought it was safe to do so.

16.14 Street Lighting

It was agreed that the three street lights to be updated in the next financial year would be [1] the light on the outside corner of Brixworth Road and Grooms Lane, the remaining light on The Green, and at the top of the High street.

16.15 Village Link

The meeting was advised of copy deadlines and publication dates for future issues of the Village Link. Discussions took place regarding the best means of communicating with villagers. A suggestion by the clerk that efforts should be made to establish a database of email addresses of parishioners so that the council could email everyone of developments was thought to be a good idea. The clerk was charged with progressing the idea.

16.16 Bank mandate

It was reported that there were problems with signatories to the bank account following the closure of the branch in Kingsthorpe, resulting in a need for councillors to resubmit signatures and personal authentication. It was further confirmed that the council confirmed councillors Hill, R Thomas, C Thomas, S Winter and M Aveyard to be authorised signatories and to delete all other currently authorised signatures.

16.17 Any other business

[1] Website

It was agreed to make a single payment for £74.85 to secure a three year ownership of the creaton.org website.

[2] Playing Field Association

A grant to the PFA had been agreed earlier in the financial year. This was for capital equipment to the extent of 60% of the purchase price up to a maximum of £2000. This was in line with the previously published grants guidelines provided with the grant application form. In the event the capital equipment purchased was for £1428 so a 60% grant was £857. This decision had been queried and the council were invited to revisit their previous decision. After some discussion the original decision was confirmed and authorisation given to make payment of £857.

16.18 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 1st March 2106