

LITTLE CRESSINGHAM & THREXTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 16th September 2021 at 7.30pm at St Andrew's Church, Little Cressingham

Present: Cllrs Tim Leonard TL (Vice Chairman), Ashton Austin AA, Chris Cannon CC, Marion Gouldstone MG. Also present: Melanie Cousins – Parish Clerk and one member of the public.

Apologies: Tony Abel (Chairman) and NCC/BDC Cllr Fabian Eagle

1. Meeting opened and the Vice Chairman welcomed everyone present
2. **To consider dispensations and declarations of interest:** There were no declarations of interest.
3. **To approve minutes of the Annual General and Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 13th May 2021:** These were agreed and signed as a true record.
4. **To note matters arising not included on the agenda** – No matters were raised.
5. **NCC and BDC** – No update had been received.
6. **Update on Defibrillator:** The Clerk advised that as there had not been unanimous agreement at the last Council meeting on the purchase of a defibrillator for Little Cressingham (which would not be near enough to either Threxton or The Arms in an emergency) the matter had not been pursued beyond initial enquiries being made with providers and a review of any grants that might be available. The cost of a defibrillator and external heated cabinet with keypad lock would be approximately £1,225.00.

Cllr Leonard said that the Village Trust Fund might be a good source of funding and he proposed reviewing whether it would be possible to put in a bid for 3 Defibrillators for Little Cressingham, Threxton and The Arms, or if this did not prove to be viable, for 2 defibrillators – one to be shared between Threxton and The Arms. Locations would be followed up. In principle Cllrs agreed that 3 defibrillators would be pursued, but if it did not prove possible to find locations or sufficient funding, then 2 would be followed up. Cllr Cannon proposed that the Council should aim for the purchase of 3 defibrillators initially. Cllr Austin seconded this proposal. Cllr Gouldstone commented that the cost of one village barbeque would contribute a significant sum towards the purchase of 3 defibrillators. The Clerk would pursue enquiries with bodies for grants and report back to Cllrs.

ACTION: Clerk

7. Clerk's Correspondence:

- Update on local crime: Figures had been provided on the agenda for the Swaffham area. The Clerk would follow up on local crime in the Watton area in future for the Council to review. **ACTION: Clerk**
- The NCC Parish Partnership Scheme 2022/23 was considered but no scheme would be put forward.
- One Million Trees for Norfolk – Cllr Leonard would like to encourage landowners to plant trees and also to find an acre of land on which a community wood could be plants. This would encourage people to be involved and would also be a legacy for the village. Cllr Leonard would continue to follow this up and the item would remain on the agenda for further discussion. **ACTION: Cllr Leonard**
- Highways/Rangers issues –
 - a) Damage to road signs and posts on the road from The Arms towards the B11088 – Cllr Cannon had been advised that Highways would carry out the work within 6 weeks.
 - b) The suggestion that the priority of the 'Stanta junction' as you enter The Arms from Watton be reversed. This had been raised with Highways once more by the Clerk: **ACTION: Clerk**
 - c) Update on request for dog bins. The Clerk would ask Highways once again for a map showing where bins could be located. **ACTION: Clerk**

8. **Low Level Flying:** Cllr Cannon said that Tuesday, 14th September there had been a low-flying Osprey at 12.30pm that had woken local residents and visitors. The Clerk would draft a letter from the Chairman asking for more consideration to be given to local people, enclosing photographs taken by Cllr Cannon. **ACTION: Clerk**

9. **To consider signing the following cheques:** It was agreed to make payment to -

Melanie Cousins – June/July/August/September 20 hours @ £10.21 per hr = £204.20	£84.68
+ £20.00 Reset PC Network + fuel £15.00 + 1/2 share of paper costs £0.99 = £35.99	£35.99

	£240.19
Zurich Municipal Insurance Renewal for 2021/2022 (Long Term Agreement)	£198.25

The most recent bank statements were available at the meeting. The bank balances stand at £1,479.41 in the Business Savings account dated 31st August 2021 and £100.00 in the Community account (the combined bank balance = £1,579.41).

10. Update on Planning Applications: Planning Consultation PC 3PL/2021/0641/F – T R Scott Properties (Erection of Warehouse): Cllr Leonard stated that there were issues over STV and the expansion of the business. There had been 3 notifications of contravention. This was still under consideration by BDC. The Parish Council had canvassed the village and a considerable majority (80% of respondents) had been in favour of the challenging the plans. Cllr Ashton said that there was strong feeling about the plans in Threxton. Cllr Gouldstone said that there were genuine concerns about the late hours of work, as well as the use of floodlighting during both the evenings and at weekends. In view of the concerns of local residents, advice had been sought from One Planning Ltd. The member of public in attendance said that in his opinion the Parish Council had told local residents what to say and what to tick. Cllr Leonard asked the Clerk to record that this was the parishioner's view.

11. Open the meeting for public discussion:

- a) **Broadband speed** – The member of public queried why his Broadband was slow, whereas other residents had improved, quicker Broadband. Cllr Leonard said that the resident had been approached by Open Reach, but because of the cost (£10k) he had not been interested. The resident confirmed this. Cllr Cannon had followed up with Open Reach about The Arms and had managed to obtain free improvements for The Arms. It was noted that the problem for the resident was that it would be costly to run cables under the road in order to get Broadband to his residence and business. Open Reach would not carry out this work without charging. Following further discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Cannon would discuss this further outside the meeting and would email the resident in order to make the necessary arrangements. **Action: Cllr Cannon**
- b) **Weed growing through new tarmac** – Cllr Leonard said that Highways had gritted round The Arms (School Road/Watton Road/Great Cressingham Road) but because the tarmac had been laid on top of weed, it was now growing back through. To be followed up with Highways. **Action: Clerk**

12. Next Meeting and agenda items: It was agreed to hold the next Parish Council meeting on Thursday 13th January 2022 at 7.30pm at All Saints Church, Threxton. Items for the agenda to include the following: Update on Defibrillators, Possible locations for dog bins, Highways/Rangers issues, STANTA Low Level Flying, Speed Indicator Report, Update on Planning Consultation PC 3PL2021/0641/F, Broadband update.

Meeting Closed 8.29pm

Signed _____

Dated _____ 2022