

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of
Cretingham, Monewden & Hoo
held in the Village Hall, Monewden 21 January 2015

Present: Brian Martin; Richard Chenery; Alister Gourlay; George Ralli; Caroline Saxby;
In attendance: Carol Smy (Clerk)

No members of the public attended. No items were brought to the attention of the Parish Council in the time allocated to the Public Forum

15.1 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

15.2 Apologies for Absence were received from: Alan Peat, Stephen Tuckwell, PCSO Christian Hassler

15.3 Dispensations: none requested

15.4 The Minutes of the Last Meeting – 01 October 2014 – were agreed unanimously and signed

15.5 There were no Declarations of Interest

15.6 Councillors' Reports:

15.6.1 Environment – no report from AP. The Issues and Options consultation on Site Allocations and Area Specific Policies Development Plan was open for submissions.

15.6.2 Finance:

15.6.2.i Approval of Accounts for Payment

Payment of the following cheque was agreed unanimously and the cheque duly signed:

300089 £239.12 Clerk's salary and expenses

This included a consolidation payment following the national pay agreement wef 01 Jan 15

15.6.2.ii Financial Report

15.6.2.ii.a The accounts for the period ended 31 December 2014 were:

Current Account: £2,205.03

There were no unresented cheques. Balance at 31 December 2014: £2,205.03

15.6.2.iii In view of recent news from Cooperative Bank Members asked the Clerk to research Unity Trust Bank and others.

15.6.2.iv The Budget for 2015/16 was presented to Council: the precept remained as for 2014/15. The budget and precept request were agreed unanimously and the budget signed.

15.6.2.v Section 137 expenditure: the appropriate sum for parish council expenditure for the purposes of section 137(4)(a) of the LGA 1972 for 2015/16 was set at £7.36

15.6.2.vi Play Space funds were used by Brandeston for its new tennis court. The majority of responses received agreed with that course. The courts would be available to residents of neighbouring villages.

15.6.2.vii There were no further donations to be granted at the March meeting.

15.6.3 Health, Education, Services & Amenities –

15.6.4 Highways - letter from Cllr Bellfield to Graham Newman concerning road safety and speeding

15.6.5 Planning –

15.6.5.1 No applications for consideration. No planning matters to report.

15.6.6 Police - see written report

15.6.7 SALC/Community Action Suffolk – nothing to report

15.7 Correspondence

15.7.1.i Letter concerning commemoration of Holocaust Memorial Day

15.7.1.ii Receipt from the Records Office for deposit of documents

15.7.1.iii Letter from the New Anglia Growth Hub offering support to small businesses – either start-ups or those wishing to develop.

15.7.1.iv Note from Lord Rose of Monewden thanking the Council for its congratulations and good wishes on his elevation to the House of Lords. He hoped Members would not mind his use of Monewden in his title.

15.7.2 Tabled Items: TLC; Clerks & Councils Direct; SALC annual report;

15.8 Clerk's Report

15.8.1 The Clerk had attended courses recently on media and the recording of meetings, insurance, elections. SALC would be holding a briefing in June for new councillors although any who wish to refresh their knowledge will be welcome to attend.

15.8.1 As per last meeting...Clerk's house move and mileage. The Clerk now had a 56 mile round trip journey for each meeting which took two hours per evening. It was hard to justify this in terms of time and fuel expense both for the Clerk and the Council. The Clerk, with great regret, felt she could no longer continue and so would tender her resignation as soon as a replacement could be found. It was agreed that the Council would try to find a local person happy to undertake the task and if that was unsuccessful adjacent clerks would be asked. If that failed an advertisement through SALC would be the next step. The Clerk would not leave before her successor had been appointed and a hand-over completed.

15.9 Reports from County and District Councillors and the Police

15.9.1 County Councillor – no report

15.9.2 District Councillor - no report

15.9.3 Police – PCSO Hassler reported that there had been no crime in Monewden or Hoo during the last quarter of 2014 but 4 crimes had occurred in Cretingham - 4 x arson – 7, 20, 20, 22/12/2014 1 x haystack, 2 x wheelie bins, 1 x roadside stall. He wished to remind residents to sign up to Police Connect (the successor to Police Direct)

15.10 Monewden Airfield – nothing to report

15.11 Land at Oak Corner – nothing to report. Item to be removed from the agenda

15.12 Affordable Housing – a team would begin the process of clearing the Brandeston Road site of brambles, foliage and trees wef 26 January (weather permitting). Work should take no more than a week.

15.13 Elections – election costs had been published for the elections due to take place on 07 May 2015. Costs would be borne from reserves and, if necessary, precepted over the coming four years. Changes had been made to the dates for Annual Meeting of the Parish Council but Monewden fitted in with this schedule so no changes required.

15.14 Matters of Information brought by Members

15.14.1 Broadband - site visits had been undertaken but there needed to be re-assessment in the Spring when the line of sight was impaired by leaves on the trees.

15.14.2 SCDC had granted a planning application for arboriculture at Corner Farm subject to conditions that had not yet been met. On 17 Dec 14 a deadline of 16 Jan 15 had been given for details of soundproofing work to be submitted. This had not been complied with and a breach of condition notice had been served.

15.15 There were items for inclusion in the 18 March 2015 agenda at this time

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.40 Hrs

Signed: *BA Martin*
Chairman

25 March 2015