

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF CREETING ST. PETER THE CHURCH HALL, THE LANE, CREETING ST. PETER, SUFFOLK, IP6 8QR

Monday 20th May 2024 - 7.30pm

Present:

Also in attendance was the Parish Clerk and two (7) Electors of the Parish.

1. WELCOME BY THE CHAIR

Cllr. Valladares welcomed all those present and explained the nature and importance of the meeting.

2. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

All were in attendance.

3. <u>TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 17th MAY 2023 AS A TRUE RECORD</u>

The minutes were presented and it was **AGREED** to **ACCEPT** these as a true record of the meeting.

4. TO CONSIDER REPORTS RELATING TO THE PARISH:

4a: Report of the Chairman of the Parish Council

Cllr. Valladares reported on Gateway 14 and the completion of the new Range warehouse, but the bund to shield the development had been disappointing. Progress on the remainder of the site

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had been slow. The new £18m Skills and Innovation Centre would be built next followed by a 44,000 square foot distribution center.

Footpaths linking the site and the village had been delayed.

A further report was given on the status of the Poundfield Precast, Council administration with the Responsible Financial Officer having handed in their notice, traffic calming and the upcoming purchase of a speed indicator device.

Projects for the coming year included focus on the play area and Fen Alder Carr Nature Reserve.

The Chair thanked all for attending and the ongoing support and stated that the report would be published in full on the Parish Council website.

4b: Report of the County Councillor Cllr. K Welham

Cllr. Welham reported on the level of Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects in the area and gave details of ten which would be in his written report.

He also reported on flooding in Suffolk, the condition of school buildings, new Suffolk Fire and Rescue Control Centre and a new Highways contract.

The County Council had recently met to approve the budget for 2024/5 which required the maximum 4.99% increase with 2% ring-fenced for the Social Care Precept. The County Council had also unfortunately failed a recent OFSTED inspection into it's provision for pupils with Special Educational Needs which has led to wholesale change amongst the officers and Councillors responsible for this.

The Suffolk Devolution deal was also being discussed which looked increasingly likey and may lead to an elected mayor for the area.

Elsewhere a libraries consultation was ongoing, and construction had begun on Sizewell C.

Finally, a list of motions put to Council was circulated and would be published in full alongside his report on the Parish Council website.

4c: Report of the District Councillor

D Cllr. Piper reported on the new administration elected in 2023, the recent budget setting process, sustainable transport in towns and villages, environmental sustainability and planning and housing.

It was also reported that both District Councillors has limited Locality Budget funding for local

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groups and organisations. Applications should be made via the District Council.

Finally it was reported that a £800,000 grant had been obtained for decarbonizing housing and a free composting event had recently been held.

The report will also be available in full on the Parish Council website.

4d: Report of the Parochial Church Council

No report was given.

5. PUBLIC FORUM - TO CONSIDER ANY OTHER MATTERS

One member of the public asked about parking policy in Needham Market. It was reported that this was still 1 hour, but that it would take approximately £16,000 to change this. A 2 hour limit was supported by Councillors and businesses however. A motion had been put forward to debate this and amend.

The Chair asked if the House of Lords Devolution paper had been discussed, it was reported that this was tabled for discussion at Suffolk County Council on the 27th July 2024.

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The meeting then closed at 7.52pm.

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