

# DRAFT MINUTES

## Cranford Parish Council

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### Minutes of the Meeting of Cranford Parish Council held at Cranford Memorial Hall on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022

**Present:** Cllr S Pickard, Cllr A Gorton, Cllr F Gallagher  
Pat Bird (Clerk)

**22/065** Apologies were received from Cllr S Holford (ill health), Cllr T Martin (holiday). Both apologies were approved.

Apologies from Cllr I Jones (personal circumstances) and Cllr N Bradley (personal circumstances) had been approved previously. It is hoped that both these Councillors will be able to attend meetings again in the new year.

**22/066** It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting

#### **22/067 Matters arising**

22/029 - Kettering Energy Park website is now live, <https://www.ketteringenergypark.co.uk>

22/033 - Cllr A Gorton offered to support the Clerk with researching the costs of the installation of a hearing loop system in the Village Hall to enable Cllr N Bradley to take an active role in Parish Council meetings

22/055 – Grafton Underwood Parish Council has approved the Clerk’s report proposing its contribution to Cranford Parish Council towards the Clerk’s administration costs covering the laptop, printer, mobile phone, computer software licences, consumables, training and memberships.

22/057 – Letter was sent on 24<sup>th</sup> October, via email to George Candler, Executive Director of Economy and Place at NNC and Cllr Mark Rowley regarding the application of planning policies on planning decisions in Cranford. A response has yet to be received.

22/059 - The instigation of a maintenance programme along Grafton Road has been delayed but the Clerk is now able to progress with this

**22/068** Each Councillor confirmed they had no pecuniary or prejudicial interests in relation to any items on the agenda

#### **Public participation**

**22/069** A fault with a street light in Duck End was reported. This has now been fixed.

A concern had been raised following the repainting of the white lines (road markings). On the High Street near the school approaching the bridge and over the bridge a single white line has been

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repainted where there were previously double white lines. Highways advised that historically, there was a double solid centre line through this section, however it is now not required as the 30mph speed limit has for some years extended through this section whereas historically it was outside of the 30mph area hence the old lines.

Ken Yarrow, Cranford Landfill Site, advised that he had approved the cost of the road signage and agreed the locations on the A510 and was waiting for the work to be completed. He also advised that Highways did not consider there was an issue with the vegetation and the clearing would be at the landowner's discretion and that Suez have no right to carry out this work.

A concern had been raised regarding the safety of horses with the increased traffic along the road towards the landfill site. Ken Yarrow had signs erected to advise drivers of horses and that they should slow down both entering and leaving the site.

**22/070** No NNC Ward Councillors were in attendance and no report was received

## Finance Matters

**22/071** It was **RESOLVED** that the 2022-2023 National Salary Award be implemented, increasing the Clerk's salary from £11.28 to £12.28 per hour with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022.

**22/072** The verbal report from the Internal Control Councillor was deferred to the next meeting

**22/073** It was **RESOLVED** that the Finance Report be noted, and the schedule of payments be approved, which included the backdated salary increase for the Clerk

Approved Schedule of Payments			
Payee	Description	Amount (£)	Legislation
PM Bird (Clerk)	November Salary (including backdated salary increase)	491.99	Local Government Act 1972 s.112
PM Bird (Clerk)	December Salary (due 28th December)	316.99	Local Government Act 1972 s.112
PM Bird (Clerk)	Reimbursement for mobile phone top up	15.00	Local Government Act 1972 s.111
NCALC Invoice 2389	VAT Recovery Process	126.20	Local Government Act 1972 s.111
SLCC Invoice QL202213-1	CILCA registration	410.00	Local Government Act 1972 s.111

**22/074** The Draft Budget was considered, and it was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council's Budget for 2023/2024 of £11,990, i.e. the same as 2022/2023, be approved

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**22/075** It was **RESOLVED** that the Precept required for Cranford Parish Council for 2023/2024 be determined as £11,990.

**22/076** The report proposing the use of a Unity Corporate MultiPay Card was considered and it was **RESOLVED** that the proposal be approved and the setting up of the card be progressed

## Planning Applications

**22/077** It was **RESOLVED** that no objections be raised by the Parish Council to the planning application [NK/2022/0640](#) Two storey and single storey rear extension to 18 High Street, Cranford, NN14 4AA

It was **RESOLVED** that no objections be raised by the Parish Council to the planning application [NK/2022/0675](#) Installation of an air conditioning unit at 2a Rectory Hill, Cranford NN14 4AH

## Village Matters

**22/078** Cllr Gallagher reported that the batteries in the Vehicle Activated Signs (speed signs) appeared to need recharging on a weekly basis. It was **RESOLVED** that once the data had been downloaded, informed decisions would be made, and appropriate actions taken to ensure that the speed signs were sustainable.

**22/079** The Chairman reported that following a complaint regarding the excessive noise from the Halloween event held at the new music barn location by the underpass of the A14 south west of the village, he contacted Mark Robinson. Mark issued an apology and explained that it was hoped that the trees and hedges that lie between the field and the village might have blocked off any sound and light pollution. However, it is now realised that this particular location is inappropriate to run an event like this and Mark has decided not to run any future events on this field.

**22/080** The Clerk reported that they will be attending a 'How to write a winning funding bid' course on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November and hoped that this would help the council secure funding to help with some of its projects.

## Other Matters

**22/081** It was **RESOLVED** that Councillors identify any NCALC training courses to meet their learning needs and inform the Clerk who will book the courses on their behalf

**22/082** The next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council is on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**22/083** The meeting closed at 20:00

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