

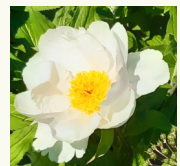
VOL. 30 No. 5

Thirty five pence or free to residents

# Cressing Community Magazine



June 2021



Quintessentially British Events, Classic Festivals and Events

### THE ESSEX COUNTRY FAIR

[www.essexcountryfair.co.uk](http://www.essexcountryfair.co.uk)

12th and 13th June  
10.00 – 5.00

## THE ESSEX COUNTRY FAIR IS DELIGHTED TO BE HOSTING THIS WONDERFUL EVENT AT THE AMAZING VENUE CRESSING TEMPLE BARN WITH SO MANY AMAZING ATTRACTIONS

We are extremely excited and cannot wait for the Essex Country Fair at Cressing Temple Barns.

We are delighted with our Motorbike display and attraction area at the show on both days with our fantastic motorbike and BMX bike team. Fancy a go with on a BMX with a UK Champion, well the Weald Park Country Show is the show for you.

Our main area will have some fantastic demonstrations this year to include Barrel Racing thanks to the UK Barrel Racing Team, the inspiring Dog and Duck Shows with the amazing Chris Jupp and his beautiful Collie dog and fabulous runner ducks, Falconry with the World of Wings birds of prey displays thanks to the wonderful Ange and Rick and their excellent routines, African Dancers and Living History displays.

Our Festival of Cars area has had amazing array of entries on both days with many different and exciting cars for all those car fans out there.

Our Foodmarkets area will have some wonderful producers, Cookery demonstrations with some amazing Chefs including Italian Chef Claudio Bincoletto and many others.

The Festival of Dogs area at the show is hugely popular with Charity Fun Dog Shows (raising £3,800 for Charities in 2019), Owner and Celebrity Lookalike Competition, Dog Agility, Dogs Have Got Talent, Flyball and so much more.

Circus Aerial Displays 3 times a day to the Greatest Showman as well as Magic Shows with was that one rabbit or seven? We are so excited to also announce our outdoor Theatre performances of The Buccaneers.

Fancy a bit of Abba in our music area, well come along to the show and enjoy the Abba Tribute Band playing daily along with five other bands. We will also be joined again by the wonderful Wrestleforce Team with some wrestling fun, fun, fun.

The Cressing Festivals of Kids - come along and meet Classisaurus our T-Rex Dinosaur who will be joined by his storm trooper friends who will be at the show this year. Lots for the children to do including Punch and Judy, Gemma's Petting Farm, rides and loads more fun.

Rural Crafters – come along visit and support our avenue of Rural Crafters this year who will be demonstrating their crafts as well as selling them. Visit our Living History Village and try your luck with our Living History Archery and do not forget last but not least the opportunity to do some amazing shopping with our array of stands at the show.

The Essex Country Fair runs 10am – 5pm on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> June at Cressing Temple Barns, Cressing, Essex, CM77 8PD. For ticket info. Visit [www.classicfestivalstickets.co.uk](http://www.classicfestivalstickets.co.uk). The show will follow Covid guidelines and we would like to encourage people to book online in advance.

**EDITORIAL .....**

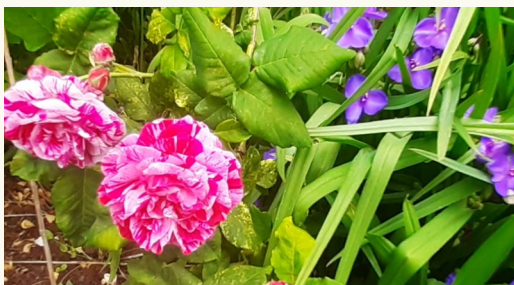
Hello everyone. We hope you enjoyed last month's issue in print after several months on line. We can now begin to see light at the end of the tunnel but it will still be some time before some of our village groups and activities can start to meet again.

I wonder whether we shall ever be normal again or what the 'new' normal will be. Shall we still be instructed to do everything 'on line' when we want to pay a bill or do some shopping. It's so frustrating to make a phone call and always be told to look on some web site for information. It would be much quicker to just give that info over the phone. Of course there are still quite a few people who don't have or want a computer and they are not all old people either. It is also much better to actually be able to see what you are buying and know it is the right colour etc. Everything is so impersonal now.

The new vicar for the Benefice based at Coggeshall came to take her first service at Cressing in All Saints Church on Sunday, Whit Sunday (Pentecost) so we shall see her in Cressing from time to time as she settles in.

Well, enjoy your new freedoms but still be cautious. I look at Google news on my tablet and it tells me that a heatwave is coming, but it didn't say when!

Keep safe. *Betty.*



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**CRESSING PARISH COUNCIL** Minutes of the virtual meeting of

**Cressing Parish Council held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 6.50pm via Zoom.**

**Present:** Cllr John Lawton – Chairman  
 Cllr Colin Haines  
 Cllr Harvey Porrett  
 Cllr Susan Simpson  
 Cllr Steve Watts  
 Cllr Toria Rowe (from item 21/048)

**In attendance:** Mrs Christine Marshall (Parish Clerk/RFO)  
 District Councillor Bob Wright  
 District Councillor James Abbott  
 One member of the public

For the purpose of this virtual meeting held using Zoom video conferencing, the following policies and clauses are suspended by resolution at the beginning of the meeting.

Standing Order 3.e to 3.g public participation:

- e. Members of the public may make representations, answer questions and give evidence at a meeting which they are entitled to attend in respect of the business on the agenda.*
- f. The period of time designated for public participation at a meeting in accordance with standing order 3(e) above shall not exceed 15 minutes unless directed by the Chairman of the meeting.*
- g. Subject to standing order 3(f) above, a member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes unless previously notified and agreed by the Chairman of the meeting.*

Standing Order 3.v “A meeting shall not exceed a period of 2 hours.” and replace it with: A meeting shall not exceed a period of 40 minutes.

Public Participation in Council Meetings – policy suspended for virtual meetings.

The meeting will be held in accordance with CPC Virtual Meeting Policy, previously accepted by Parish Councillors and to be ratified at this meeting.

**21/070 RESOLUTION TO RESTRICT THE DURATION OF THE MEETING**

**Resolution:** It was resolved to restrict the length of the meeting to 60 minutes. It was also resolved to suspend Standing Orders 3.e to 3.g. **Proposed: Cllr Simpson, Seconded: Cllr Haines, all in favour.**

**21/071 CHAIRMAN’S WELCOME AND REPORT**

The Chairman welcomed all attendees and added one point omitted from his report at the Annual Parish Meeting. The Chairman complemented the Handyman, Russell Drury, on the work he has been undertaking and for assisting when the dust cart visits Cressing. He finished by thanking Cllr Watts and the Clerk on their management of his work (and for appointing him).

**21/072 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Clerk advised that apologies had been received from District Cllrs Abbott and Wright. No other apologies had been received.

**21/073 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members of the council are subject to the Local Authorities Code of Conduct Order 2007 (SI 2007/1159) (The Revised Code) with the additional, non-mandatory, section 12(2).

There were no pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in relation to items on the agenda to be recorded.

### 21/074 REPORTS BY COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

County Cllr Mitchell provided the following updates:

- i. Virtual meetings are no longer to be held after 6<sup>th</sup> May, but is hopeful that the decision will be reversed. Virtual meetings have saved the County Council a sizeable sum of money as no Councillor travel expenses have been incurred. Virtual meetings are much more sustainable.
- ii. There will be changes to member Portfolio Holders after the election.
- iii. Large development applications are being submitted for Kelvedon and whilst they do not affect Cressing directly, they will have a cumulative impact on the roads.
- iv. Budgets for Climate Change Action Plans are being discussed.
- v. Essex Highways website and reporting tool have been updated to make them more user friendly with more functionality.

Cllr Porrett asked Cllr Mitchell if any progress had been made on reviewing the speed signs and limits on Polecat Road. This has not happened so the Clerk was requested to prepare an application for consideration by Braintree Local Highways Panel to review

**Action: Clerk**

### 21/075 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

The Clerk confirmed that no requests to speak nor questions to be raised had been submitted.

### 21/076 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of the virtual Parish Council Meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> April 2021 were confirmed as a true record. **Proposed: Cllr Porrett, seconded Cllr Haines, all in favour.**

**ACTION: Clerk to arrange for Minutes to be signed by the Chairman outside of this meeting whilst adhering to social distancing guidelines.**

### 21/077 FINANCE

- i. **Progress against budget:** The Clerk/RFO referred to the reports issued with the Agenda. There were no queries, and the reports were accepted. **Proposed: Cllr Lawton, seconded: Cllr Simpson, all in favour**
- ii. **A motion to approve bank reconciliation at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021: It was resolved** that the bank reconciliation statement at 31<sup>st</sup> March be approved. **Proposed: Cllr Lawton, seconded: Cllr Simpson, all in favour**
- iii. **A motion to approve April 2021 Payments/Cheques:** The list of payments made and cheques to be signed against February expenditure was presented. There were no queries, and **it was resolved** to approve the payments. **Proposed: Cllr Lawton, seconded Cllr Simpson, all in favour.**

### 21/078 LEGAL ADVICE RE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Clerk presented the fee statement received from the Barrister in the sum of £1,750 (plus VAT) and it was agreed to settle this account and request the Barrister to present his report as soon as possible and not to incur any additional fees.

### 21/079 PLANNING

- A. .To note Appeals determined by the Planning Inspectorate: None advised

- B. To discuss Appeals submitted to the Planning Inspectorate:  
21/00003/ADVERT | Retrospective advertisement consent to display a single illuminated free-standing trailer mounted advertisement. | Westdrive Galleys Corner Braintree Road Cressing Essex CM77 8GA – the Parish Council continues to object to this application on the grounds of road safety, lighting and traffic.
- C. To note Applications determined by Braintree District Council: None advised
- D. To discuss Applications received by Braintree District Council:
  - i. 21/01263/DAC | Application for approval of details as reserved by condition 3 of approved application 28/00920/FUL | Appletree Farm Polecat Road Cressing Essex – *no comments were made.*
  - ii. 21/01188/FUL | Demolition of garden centre sales buildings, conservatories & store/office, and the construction of a single-storey garden centre sales building of 600sqm. | Braintree Garden Centre Galleys Corner Cressing Road Braintree Essex CM77 8DH – ***Councillors raised no objections to this application.***

*Cllr Mitchell left the meeting.*

- E. To discuss Applications received by Braintree District Council and consider if comments should be made (Householder Application, General Permitted Development Order)
  - i. A new application was noted and agreed for inclusion on the agenda. 21/01079/HH | Erection of new porch and front facade; removal of two chimney stacks; new patio doors; replacement/repair of existing windows and doors; erection of new front wall and gates; and erection of a detached outbuilding to provide garage/workshop/store with first floor ancillary playroom. | The Old Vicarage The Street Cressing Essex CM77 8DQ – ***Whilst Councillors had no objections to this application, they were concerned to see that not all waste was being loaded into skips. A large amount of wood, some painted, had been piled at the boundary with Buttons Lane. The clerk to raise this with BDC to ensure a large bonfire is not planned due to road safety vision impairment. Action: Clerk***
- F. To note applications bordering parish for information and to consider if comments should be made – none advised.

**21/080 LINKS SOLAR FARM**

It was noted that a consultation pack had been delivered to dwellings within 2km of the site for residents to submit their feedback.

**21/081 PARKING AND ROAD SAFETY**

As this is a subject that requires considerable discussion, it was agreed to postpone this until the June meeting and as this will be held in the hall at St Barnabas (subject to ongoing Covid recommended restrictions) it is hoped members of the public will attend.

**21/082 INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

- i. **Virtual meetings** – The Clerk referred to the report circulated with the agenda and confirmed that the temporary legislation that permitted meetings to be held virtually, ceases a midnight on 6<sup>th</sup> May. However, there is huge concern within local government of this decision and further representations are being made to permit local councils to make their own decisions. In the meantime, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government will be undertaking a call for evidence from local councils to help them make an informed decision on whether legislation should be reviewed. Parish Council meetings will return to face to face from June.



- ii. **Hawbush Green** - Cllr Porrett raised the damage to Hawbush Green. The clerk will make enquiries to determine who owns the land and then submit an application or report to Essex Highways for repair. **Action: Clerk**

Items for inclusion on the June Agenda:

*Legal Opinion*

*Parking and road safety*

**21/083 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at **7.30pm at St Barnabas Hall, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing, CM77 8HG**. Social distancing will be implemented and face masks must be worn.

Any items for inclusion on the Agenda to be sent to the Parish Clerk to be received no later than 12 noon on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Dates of 2021 meetings

July	14	7.30pm
August	9	7.30pm
September	8	7.30pm
October	13	7.30pm
November	10	7.30pm
December	8	7.30pm

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## News from All Saints & St Barnabas

We welcome our new Priest, Heike Spencer, to our Parish. We held our first Communion Service at All Saints after a very long break. It was nice to see a good number of people in the congregation once again and to hear them singing with the organ playing (albeit wearing masks)!

We are planning to hold regular services again very soon and, of course, will keep you informed.

We are also slowly re-opening St Barnabas Hall for events and hire.

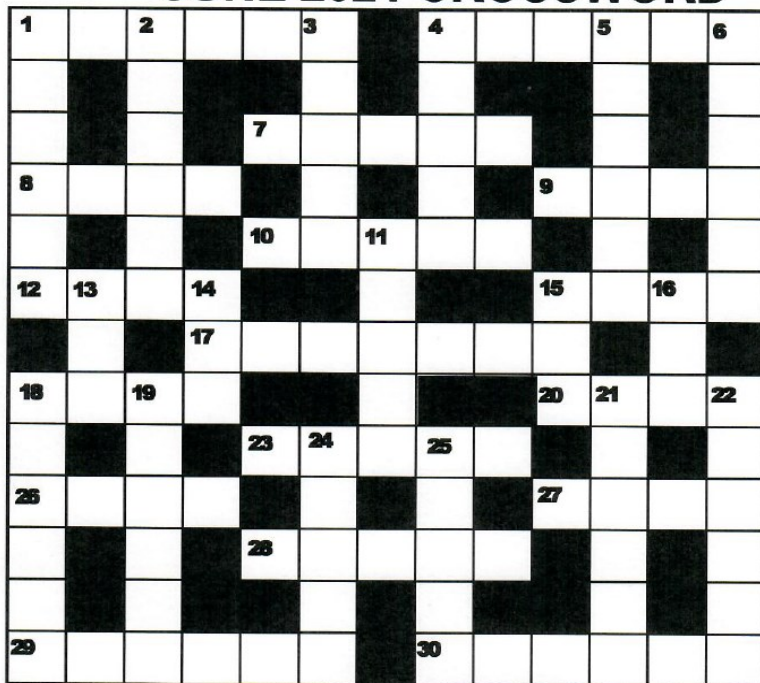
(Contact Sue on 01376 583412 or email [sue.pulfrey@outlook.com](mailto:sue.pulfrey@outlook.com))

We are holding our Annual General Meeting (APCM) at St Barnabas on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June at 9am, all are welcome.

Stay safe, and hope to see you at Church in the near future,  
Peter Sutton Church Warden



# JUNE 2021 CROSSWORD



**ACROSS**

- 1. To be thrifty (6)
- 4. Twayblade (6)
- 7. A mistake (5)
- 8. French soft cheese (4)
- 9. Unpleasant physical sensation (4)
- 10. Small, insectivorous mammal (5)
- 12. A persons age from 13-19 (4)
- 15. Sorrow (4)
- 17. State of being away from a place (7)
- 20. Prophetic significance (4)
- 22. Using force to hurt or attack (7)
- 25. A considerable amount (5)
- 27. Green citrus fruit (4)
- 28. Uncontrolled anger
- 29. A message transmitted by telegraph (5)
- 30. Thick oily substance (6)
- 31. Solid shape like a round ball (6)

**DOWN**

- 1. Water ice (6)
- 2. Put in new system of electric wires (6)
- 3. Fresh water fish (5)
- 4. Pale blue gas with distinctive pungent smell (5)
- 5. Showing compassion (6)
- 6. Male hornets (6)
- 11. The female of the water ruff (5)
- 13. Tall deciduous tree (3)
- 14. One's grandmother (3)
- 15. Transparent plastic sheet (3)
- 16. French River (3)
- 18. Black mixture of sulphur ,copper, silver and lead (7)
- 19. Instance of deceiving someone (3)
- 20. Rectangular object with unequal adjacent sides (6)
- 21. White fur of a stoat (6)
- 23. Pass or go by (6)
- 24. Portable, conical tent (6)
- 26. To produce a sigh (5)

ANSWERS TO MAY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

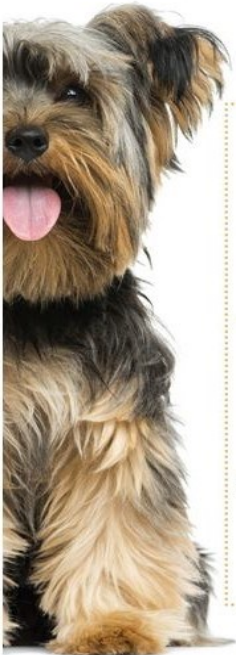
- 1 STOPCOCKS (9)
- 6 TAG (3)
- 8 ARTERY (6)
- 9 LABEL (5)
- 10 RAISIN (6)
- 11 NAIVETE (7)
- 13 PROBLEM (7)
- 16 ADMIRE (6)
- 18 ASSET (5)
- 19 ERRING (6)
- 21 EKE (3)
- 22 DETERGENT (9)

DOWN

- 1 SIR (3)
- 2 OVERS (5)
- 3 CAYENNE (7)
- 4 CHILLI (6)
- 5 STABLE (6)
- 7 GOLDENEGG (9)
- 8 AEROPLANE (9)
- 12 AMATEUR (7)
- 14 OUSTED (6)
- 15 LATEST (6)
- 17 MORSE (5)
- 20 NUT (3)



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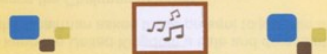
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**Why not pop in and see.**

## GARDENING NOTES FOR JUNE

After another cold month hopefully, the temperature should rise to the seasonal normal. I really cannot remember a year when I have spent the entire month putting out and taking in bedding plants, admittedly into a cold green house, avoiding the continuous night frosts, so much for me saying the worst of the frosts were over!

Now is the time to prune back early flowering shrubs to promote growth and flowering for next spring. If you're planting up hanging baskets remember to unhook the chain so it does not become tangled in the young, quickly growing plants, also leave a slight dip in the centre of the basket to retain water and lessen 'run off'. Pots and containers can be enhanced with a small immature shrub or herbaceous plant, i.e. an Euonymus or Hosta before adding annuals.

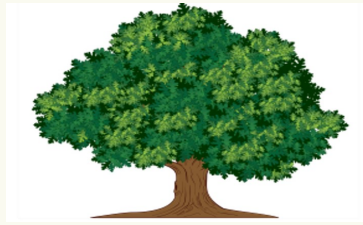
If you have a wild corner in your garden, a bug hotel for ground beetles, bugs and centipedes a few old logs, bark and leaves make an ideal habitat. As I am writing this article the rain is pouring down making up for a dry April, this will top up water butts which in my garden were getting low. It is amazing how dry containers with tulips and polyanthus become in the dry, cold wind.

Continue to earth up potatoes as this will protect the young top growth and keep the developing tubers from becoming green if exposed to the light. Runner beans and French beans can be sown directly in the ground, as can radish, carrots and beetroot. Try and sow your carrots in a raised bed or place some fleece around the plot this will help keep carrot fly away as they are unable to fly to any height. A slightly more unusual veg to grow is celeriac. This root vegetable is hardy and grows rather like a swede or turnip gathering girth as it matures, ideal in casseroles or treat it like a parsnip.

Roses will be maturing this month, budding up for June flowering. Three favourites of mine are the ramblers, Rambling Rector, Kiftsgate and Gold Finch. All three flower profusely and need a lot of room to mature, look up height, spread and the required support before planting.

Keep an eye out for slugs chewing Dahlias, Hosta's and Delphiniums. Try placing orange skins near the plants as slugs will hide under same and go out on a damp night with a torch and remove the offending molluscs, I will leave you to dispose of them as you will!

Enjoy your garden.....The Arborist.



## Cressing Action Group

**Please help us resist more Greenfield Development in Cressing! Last month we reported on the Planning Application for development of the southern part of the field opposite the junction of Jeffrey's Road/Mill Lane and borders Bulford Mill Lane. It is proposed to build an estate of 80 Bungalows described as a "Retirement Community".**

Scott Properties (the same who were responsible for getting planning permission for the Avondale development now nearing completion) are seeking to create a new bungalow estate on this ecologically important land, and to turn the existing unploughed grassland area into something akin to managed parkland with a lake designed to slow the run-off of rainwater from the proposed new bungalows and roads.

What does the developer intend to provide for the needs of perhaps 150+ additional older residents? Just an area near the proposed drainage lake described as providing "places to meet/socialise, including areas for older people (provision of benches)". **This is an estate supposedly for people aged 55+ where just 4 of the proposed 80 dwellings are to be built to M4(3) standard which must provide reasonable provisions for a wheelchair user to live in, and have the ability to use any outdoor space, parking and communal facilities.** The other 76 "adaptable" dwellings are to be built to M4(2) standard which requires only that they must be accessible to most people, including older people.

The developer's view as to the activity level of the large majority of the occupants of the dwellings seems to imply that when they leave their bungalows they will be content to just sit on benches and have a chat. A somewhat patronising view where the normal retirement age is 67 and most people of that age are able to look forward to at least 10 more years of physically active life!

The proposed development site is completely outside the Cressing boundary and development would be in direct conflict with the Cressing Neighbourhood Plan. Unfortunately Braintree District Council has had a recent bad experience when trying to defend its decision to oppose the Appeal by Begin Braintree Ltd for a 250 dwelling development between the Cressing bends on the B1018, and Long Lane. The Inspector dealing with the Appeal over-ruled the Neighbourhood Plan provision for containment of new development within the existing Cressing built boundaries as he judged the development to be an *urban extension to Braintree*, regardless of the fact that it was in the buffer zone for non-coalescence and in Cressing Parish. That experience had a considerable financial cost for Braintree Council, and may well influence Councillors when considering other Applications. We have to try to make sure that this Application by Scott Properties does not get approved by default.

The residents of Cressing had a very limited opportunity to express concerns about the proposed Scott Developments bungalow estate prior to them submitting their full Planning Application to Braintree Council.



Due to Covid 19 restrictions the developer used a “virtual consultation” which was a very poor substitute for proper public consultation. In our opinion the developer should have used the initial mail drop that preceded the virtual consultation to show clearly where the proposed site is located, how they intended to gain access to it off Mill Lane, and the scale of what they describe as “*a small community*”.

It has surprised us how few residents were aware of the developers’ proposal until after the full Application was submitted to Braintree Council and we then indicated by posters around the development site exactly what was proposed. We invited those residents who opposed development to let Braintree District Council Planning Department know. The Council received more than 90 individual objections. A comprehensive submission against the proposal was lodged by the Parish Council.

**Both Essex Wildlife Trust and CPRE (Council for the Protection of Rural Essex)** have also submitted objections and we welcome their support and thank those residents who are clearly concerned about the loss of a long standing amenity area and wildlife habitat, and especially about the additional traffic that would be generated by 150 or so new residents who would need to use Mill Lane, and Bulford Mill Lane, to get access to the wider road network.

As well as the 90+ residents who have written to BDC opposing Scott Properties Application, 117 signed the petition in the village shop/Post Office. That too has been submitted to Braintree Council.

We do hope that Braintree Council will support the wishes of the people of Cressing as expressed in the 2020 Neighbourhood Plan and prevent the developer from further extending Cressing’s development boundaries. Should the Council turn down the Application, we will do all we can to try to persuade any Inspector hearing an Appeal by the developer that it is wrong just to set aside the Cressing Neighbourhood Plan, as happened in the Begin Braintree Ltd. case.

Although Braintree Council’s website shows the closing date for objections as 6 May, we have assurance by the Planning Officer Neil Jones that all objections received before the case goes to the Planning Committee for decision will be taken into account. That hearing date has not yet been announced so if you want your views heard and have not already lodged an objection, you can still do so.

Use email to [planning@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:planning@braintree.gov.uk) or letter to Causeway House and show Ref. 21/00749/FUL

We have said before that Cressing has “done its bit” in contributing to the Council’s shortfall against Government imposed new housing targets, indeed it has contributed far more than its share and we can only repeat the slogan we have used before “ENOUGH IS ENOUGH”.

The Parish has been unfairly targeted by Scott Properties and other speculative developers who find it far easier to build on greenfield sites than on redundant use brownfield sites, though national planning policy gives priority to the latter. This latest Scott Development proposal must not be allowed to proceed.

**See our website for all the current and proposed development sites: [www.cressingactiongroup.info](http://www.cressingactiongroup.info)**

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**CRESSING PARISH COUNCIL** Minutes of the virtual Annual Parish

Council meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 6.30pm via Zoom.

**Present:** Cllr John Lawton – Chairman  
Cllr Colin Haines  
Cllr Harvey Porrett  
Cllr Susan Simpson  
Cllr Steve Watts  
Cllr Toria Rowe

**In attendance:** Mrs Christine Marshall (Parish Clerk/RFO and Proper Officer)  
County Councillor Robert Mitchell  
One member of the public

**21/060 CHAIRMAN’S WELCOME AND REPORT**

The Chairman welcomed all attendees and made the following report:

Following the one minute’s silence the Chairman reported:

Throughout a “strange” year for the Parish Council when it was unable to meet in person, the business of the Council continued without interruption.

Ongoing development applications have been a challenge and the Chairman expressed his thanks to Cllr Simpson for putting together comments and documents for submission to the planning authority objecting to the proposal 21/00749/FUL, Development of 80 no. age-restricted (over-55s) bungalows on Land West off Mill Lane Cressing.

Meetings with neighbouring parishes (Silver End and Rivenhall) were put on hold during the pandemic. They will recommence shortly. In the meantime, we have continued support against large planning applications.

**21/061 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Clerk advised that apologies had been received from District Cllrs Abbott and Wright. No other apologies had been received.

**21/062 TO ELECT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL FOR 2021-22**

Nominations were requested. Cllr Lawton was **proposed by Cllr Simpson, seconded by Cllr Porrett, all in favour.** Cllr Lawton was duly elected as Chairman of the Parish Council for the current year 2021-22.

**21/063 CHAIRMAN’S DECLARATION OF OFFICE**

Cllr Lawton signed the Chairman’s Declaration of Office and having witnessed this signature being applied “on camera” the Parish Clerk will sign as the Proper Officer of the Council. Cllr Lawton to deliver form to the office.

**21/064 DECLARATIONS OF CONTINUED ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Councillors signed Declarations of Acceptance of Office and Declaration to Observe the Code of Conduct. Having witnessed this signature being applied “on camera” the Parish Clerk will sign as the Proper Officer of the Council. Cllrs to deliver forms to the office.

**21/065 REGISTER OF MEMBERS’ INTERESTS**

Councillors will review their Register of Members’ Interests and will confirm their entries correct or provide an updated form to the Proper Officer.

**21/066 CONSENT FORMS**

All Members present signed “on camera” the consent form to receive Council Summons, Agenda and other documents by e-mail and to utilize the @cressing-pc.gov.uk email account solely for business relating to the Parish Council

**21/067BANK MANDATE**

It was **AGREED** to continue with the Bank Mandate as currently in existence of any two signatories for all outgoing payments or instructions.

**21/068FINANCE AND ANNUAL RETURN 2020-21**

The RFO confirmed that completion of the year end accounts and Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020-2021 had been delayed due to Covid and will be presented prior to and signed at the next available meeting following completion of the internal audit:

**21/069NEXT ANNUAL MEETING**

The next Annual meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 11th May 2022 at 7.00pm at St Barnabas, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing, CM77 8HG.

The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 6.30pm at St Barnabas, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing, CM77 8HG.

The Clerk will seek reports from local groups for presentation at that meeting.

Items for inclusion on the Agenda to be sent to the Parish Clerk to be received no later than 12 noon on Tuesday 3rd May 2022.

The meeting closed at 6.50pm.



**CRESSING EVANGELICAL CHURCH  
NOTICE BOARD**

Our weekly services continue on **Sunday's at 10.30**

**Subject to Government Guidance later in June, we will re-start:**

**Prayer meetings on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 09.30 – 10.00**

**Bible Study on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July at 19.00**

**Café Church on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July – Breakfast will be served from 09.30 until 10.15, followed by a short, lively family service**

## **CRESSING EVANGELICAL CHURCH**

### **Sharing God's love and truth where we are**

Dear friends

As we look forward to a Covid free life, we hear the politicians claiming, "We can now see light at the end of the tunnel". When darkness draws near at home, we just switch on the lights and in an instance the darkness is gone, we can see and carry on as if it was daylight. Sadly, this lock down has left so many people feeling 'in a dark place'. Mental illness is rampaging in so many lives, fear has become the norm, isolation has become a way of life, but there is always hope.

For Christians even in the darkest times, the loss of a loved one, in times of sickness and pain, and yes even in this Covid pandemic, when everything seems out of control we have 'a rock, an anchor, a refuge in all our times of need' in the source of the Christian faith Jesus Christ. To be perfectly honest, my Christian faith has not protected me from life's tribulations, I get sick, I struggle with everyday problems, I get let down and disappointed in others, the list is long. There seems to be no light at the end of the tunnel, but my faith does not grow dim.

You see, the Bible tell us that Jesus is the 'Light of the World, a light that Shines in the Darkness'. In Psalm 23 we read 'Even though I walk through the shadow of death I will fear no evil.' This is not some physiological debate but a reality.

Recently Ian McDowall spoke at a Men's Breakfast at our church. He spoke about his journey from being a Body Builder to a Bouncer to a Believer. At 18, Ian was a night club bouncer; by 24 violence and anger had taken over his life. Crime and obsession with bodybuilding using anabolic steroids were destroying his health. After a serious fight, Ian pleaded with God to change him, and he was filled with love instead of hate. (You can find out more of his story, Google Search Ian McDowall Tough Talk) This is the Light I am talking about, it does not need electricity, batteries, switches, it is God's Holy Spirit working and transforming our lives. This transforming power changed Ian from a life of Darkness into a life of Light and that Transformation is a gift from God. Do you want that gift? There are no gimmicks or hard sell, just give me a call, I would love to tell you how you too can have that gift.

Every blessing in His name

*Dennis*

If you have COVID-19 symptoms, get a test and do not leave home for at least 10 days. REMEMBER Please continue to follow the simple steps of:-

- \* Washing your hands
- \* Wearing face coverings (if not Exempt)
- \* Keeping 2m social distance

**Hands, Face and Space is still important**

The poster features the NHS logo in the top right and the UK Government logo in the top left. The central text reads "We must keep on protecting each other." Below this are three circular icons: a pink circle with hands labeled "HANDS", a blue circle with a face mask labeled "FACE", and a green circle with two people and a double-headed arrow labeled "SPACE". At the bottom, a yellow banner contains the text "STAY ALERT · CONTROL THE VIRUS · SAVE LIVES".

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## HURRAH FOR THE MIGHTY MOLE

Never did I think that I would be so pleased to see the brown humps of earth that decorate our lawn and field. During the current lockdown a tractor driver decided to take a short cut across our field whilst towing a bowser full of liquid. The result was catastrophic, we watched in amazement, as instead of going forward the bowser sank deeper and deeper into the ground. As luck would have it a friendly local farmer came to the rescue with his JCB. He lifted the front of the tractor and dragged both tractor and bowser across and out of the field. We were left with a huge hole and deep furrows across the field—whatever could we do.



Below our feet, the mighty moles were on the move, pushing their way through the soil with spade like paws, hunting for their favourite meal of earthworms. A mole can dig up to 20 metres a day, effectively breaststoking its way through the soil. Every now and again pushing the loose soil to the surface, resulting in what we see as a mole hill.

Every morning I have been out to collect the soil from these 'hills' to fill up the hole and the furrows. Still a lot more to move, but the moles are still working well! By digging up the earth, moles make the soil healthier by aerating it. This allows more plants to grow which in turn feed more insects. Not only this, the tunnels improve soil drainage which helps stop flooding and huge puddles forming on the ground.

Not only do I count the local farmer as my 'hero', I must include the mole—who truly is an unsung hero of the animal world.

*Lin Wenlock*

# CRESSING COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

## CRESSING DIRECTORY

### CRESSING COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

Editorial: Betty Dean 583147  
Ronnie Sutton 552614  
Finance: Sue Pulfrey 583412  
Distribution &  
Advertising: Dave Tilbury 583807

### CRESSING PARISH COUNCIL

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Councillor: Colin Haines 583221  
Susan Simpson 07838412513  
Harvey Porrett 07836612852  
Alison Lapper 07766717504  
Steve Watts 07932077585  
Victoria Rowe  
Parish Clerk 329288  
Parish Office open on Wednesdays 09.00 to 15.00  
Thursdays 09.00 to 15.00

### DOG FOULING

Braintree District Council:  
'Phone: 01376 551414 Ext. 2217  
Text: 07797 803203  
Twitter: @BraintreeDC  
Facebook: Report a problem on  
Braintree District Council FB Page

### EMERGENCY SERVICES

Braintree Police Station: 551312  
Electricity: 0800 7838838  
Gas: 0800 111999  
Water: 0800 771881

### CRESSING EVENTS GROUP

Chairman: Arthur Mackenzie 331810  
Jackie: 327064  
Irene: 550971  
Pam: 584170

### EASTLIGHT COMMUNITY HOMES (GREENFIELDS)

All Departments: 535400

### BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL

All Departments: 552525  
**DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**  
James Abbott: 584576  
Bob Wright:  
**COUNTY COUNCILLOR**  
Paul Thorogood: [paulthorogood@greenparty.org.uk](mailto:paulthorogood@greenparty.org.uk)

### ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

Highways: 03456037631  
Social Services: 0345 6037630  
Street Lighting- Parish Clerk: 329288

### CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU

Braintree: 0844 4994719  
Witham: 502190

### CRESSING PARISH CHURCH

[sue.pulfrey@outlook.com](mailto:sue.pulfrey@outlook.com) or 'phone 583412

### HIRING OF ST. BARNABAS HALL- Claude Ince Avenue

[sue.pulfrey@outlook.com](mailto:sue.pulfrey@outlook.com) or 'phone 583412

### CRESSING EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Rev. Dennis Ivey: 07792895711

### CRESSING PRIMARY SCHOOL

Head Teacher: Stuart Caplen 583397

### GIRL GUIDING IN CRESSING

[Girlguiding Essexne.org.uk](http://Girlguiding Essexne.org.uk)

### CRESSING COMMUNITY HALL FUND

Secretary: Jackie Routledge 327064

### CRESSING SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

Contact after 19.00 any day except Tuesday: 345521

### CRESSING TODDLER GROUP

Deanna: 07734910551

### CRESSING FACEBOOK SITES

Cressing Awareness  
Cressing Community Changes  
A copy of this magazine may also be accessed at  
[cressingmag.co.uk](http://cressingmag.co.uk)

The last date for copy for the following month's edition of the magazine is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month and should be sent to ; Cressing Community Magazine, c/o The Parish Office, St. Barnabas Church, Claude Ince Avenue, Tye Green, Cressing.

On A4 paper please, or by e-mail to; [dandwtilbury@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dandwtilbury@hotmail.co.uk) (Note:-copy may be edited)

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