

VOL. 30 No. 8

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# Cressing Community Magazine



October 2021





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**OCTOBER EDITORIAL**

Well, it's October and things are very nearly back to normal again but we still need to wear masks in some places. Many of our activities are starting up again and of course the evenings are getting darker. Oh, and just to cheer you up, when I was in the Garden Centre last week, guess what, all their Christmas things are on display and that was the middle of September!!

Talking of masks, a friend of mine reminded me the other day how important it was to keep on wearing them to protect ourselves and other people. I know that we are free to choose now but it is advisable to keep using them in shops, public transport and other crowded places. I noticed when I was in Boots Pharmacy they have a notice on the door asking people to wear face coverings.

We are starting to do a diary at the bottom of the page again. Please note that there is to be an Organ Recital at All Saints Church on 25<sup>th</sup> October given by Tony Dunn. Tony is a very accomplished organist who plays at many venues and is a pleasure to listen to.

Keep safe everyone

*Betty.*

**DIARY for OCTOBER 2021**

- |   |  |                           |
|---|--|---------------------------|
| Tues. 5 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> , 26 <sup>th</sup> | Art Group at St. Barnabas              | 10.00 – 1.00pm            |
|   | Cost £4.00 Refreshments included       |                           |
| Fri. 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Events Group Lunch                     | 12.00 – 2.00pm Cost £5.00 |
| Sun. 10 <sup>th</sup>                                       | Communion Service at All Saints Church | <b>9.00 am</b>            |
| Tues. 12 <sup>th</sup>                                      | Coffee Morning at St. Barnabas         | 11.00 – 1.00 cost £1.00   |
| Mon. 25 <sup>th</sup>                                       | Organ Recital in All Saints Church     | 6.00 pm                   |
| Thur. 28 <sup>th</sup>                                      | Knit and Natter at St. Barnabas        | 2.00 – 4.00pm             |

**CRESSING COMMUNITY CHURCH**

**Morning worship** is held every **Sunday morning at 10.30**. Part way through the service, children go to their own activities in the hall.

**Cafe Church** is held on the **first Sunday each month** – breakfast is served between **09.30 and 10.15** followed at **10.30** by a **short lively family service**.

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November is Shoebox Sunday** – want to be part of the shoebox appeal? Give Wendy a ring on 583807 to find out more or

[www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/occ](http://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/occ)

Cressing  
All Saints Church

Organ recital

By Tony Dunn

Programme includes pieces by  
J S Bach, D Buxtehude, A Copland  
J Pachelbel, M Reger, J P Sweelinck, C-M Widor



**Monday, 25 October 2021**  
**At 6pm**

**Free entry**

Donations in aid of Cressing Church

**CRESSING COMMUNITY CHURCH**

sharing God's love and truth where we are

Dear friends

As a minister I am often asked question about the Christian faith, and on reflection probably the three most asked questions are: What happens when I die? Is heaven real? and lastly do you think I will go to heaven?

When Jesus was dying on the cross His response to the dying criminal's plea for mercy, "Today you will be with me in Paradise" in Luke 23 verse 43 speaks to us about heaven and about our mission here on earth. The Greek word for *Paradise* here is a translation of an ancient Persian word that was used to refer to a king's garden. A king's garden was often a walled garden that was a place of profound beauty. Sometimes it included exotic birds and animals combined with beautiful gardens, trees, and water features. When someone was honoured in ancient Persia, they were given the privilege of enjoying the king's garden.

I love this picture of Paradise...the King's Garden. Through Jesus Christ, we are invited to enter God's Garden for eternity, to be in His paradise. The thought of heaven as the King's Garden, filled with the most beautiful things to see and experience, where love and justice prevail, with people I love and in the very presence of God sounds like paradise to me. Elsewhere Jesus describes heaven or paradise as "my Father's house." This, too, is a compelling picture of what awaits us after death.

I once heard a preacher tell the story of a doctor who made house calls, back in the day when doctors did that, and he always took his dog with him. One day he visited a dying man, and as he went into the man's house, he left his dog on the front step. The dying man said to the doctor, "Doc, what's it going to be like heaven...what will it be like?" At that moment the doctor's dog began to scratch at the door, whimpering and whining to get in. The doc stopped and said, "Do you hear that?" "Yes," the man replied. The doctor continued, "That's my dog. He has never been inside your house. He doesn't know what's on the other side of this door. All he knows is that his master is in here, and if his master is in here, it must be okay."

The Bible is surprisingly sparse in its descriptions of heaven. The Book of Revelation gives us a few glimpses, but it often speaks in symbolic language we're not meant to take literally. What we do know is that Jesus describes heaven as the King's Gardens... paradise...and we know that He, our Master, will be there, so it must be okay.

Every blessing in His name

*Dennis*



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**Rambling on**

What a lot has changed since this time last year. Whilst during last summer’s total lockdown the weather was glorious, this summer seems to have been very changeable. In 2020 we explored our own locality far more, but this year we have been able to venture further afield. Even when the legal situation changed we did not leave Essex for several weeks. In spite of being “double jabbed” the threat of Covid 19 still seemed very real and even now, with numbers of cases still high, it seems it is far from over.

Autumn is now upon us, “Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness” as the poet Keats so beautifully described it. Some of the wild fruits are certainly abundant again this year. Sloes, rowan berries, hawthorn, elderberry and rose hips to name but a few and of course blackberries. Since childhood I have been picking them with my grandmother and mother and subsequently with my own children and grandchildren. We used to take a wooden walking stick to lift down the higher branches, which always had the best fruit. Apart from making pies and crumbles, bramble jelly was always a family favourite.

“The Fall” We tend to think of this as an Americanism but in fact the “fall of the leaf” was what the season was known as in this country before the sixteenth century. Meteorological autumn starts on 1<sup>st</sup> September but the equinox which this year was on 22<sup>nd</sup> September, but it varies from year to year between 22<sup>nd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. This is when the nights start to get longer.

With the exception of the so called St George’s mushroom, the autumn is the season for



fungi. There are numerous varieties from tiny ones to large and impressive ones. They grow in almost every environment, woods, fields, gardens and on trees and other vegetation. The best known is probably the fly agaric, red top with white spots, often seen in children’s fairy stories. This, along with other members of the



agaric family, is poisonous, so just admire it in situ. Unless you have a good guide book it might be unwise to experiment. Very few are actually poisonous, but many do not taste very good. The field mushroom, horse mushroom and parasols are very tasty.

Parasol mushroom

The part of the mushroom which you see is just the fruiting body which has spores underneath and these, like seeds on other plants, fall and create new plants. Underground they have a mass fine hair like “roots” called mycelium which can spread over a wide area.

Rambling Cyd



## Cressing Action Group

Contact Us:  
[www.cressingactiongroup.info](http://www.cressingactiongroup.info)  
 email: [creasingactiongroup@aol.com](mailto:creasingactiongroup@aol.com)

### REPORT OF RESIDENTS MEETING WITH M SCOTT PROPERTIES ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2021

M Scott Properties Ltd applied in March 2021 to Braintree District Council to build 80 bungalows for the over 55s on land west of Mill Lane, Tye Green, their reference 21/00749/FUL. Since then the Braintree Council Planning Portal has shown it as “Pending Consideration”.

**Objections received before the case goes to the Planning Committee will still be recorded and can influence decision by the Planning Committee. If you do not want the case to proceed, email [planning@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:planning@braintree.gov.uk) and address your comments to the Case Officer, Neil Jones.**

Negotiations between BDC Planning and M. Scott Properties are not publicly available. However Scott, probably prompted by BDC Planning, contacted Cressing Parish Council recently requesting further consultation. The result was that Scott Properties, via the PC website, invited residents to a “PUBLIC CONSULTATION” at 7:00pm on 16<sup>th</sup> September at St Barnabas.

Over 70 people attended. Martin Scott, Managing Director of Scott Properties was the presenter at the meeting. He distributed booklets describing “Further Consideration of the Potential Community Benefits” that the developer wished Cressing Residents to consider. A copy is available on the CAG website [www.cressingawarenessgroup.info](http://www.cressingawarenessgroup.info) The Developer aims to show that his firm is prepared to offer new benefits to the community. In summary these are:

1. A restrictive covenant will be applied to prevent owners installing additional floors or loft conversions. (*Simply formalises original plan*)
2. The developer is willing to construct a community building on site with kitchen, disabled W/C facilities, office room, village hall and a dedicated area to be used by members of the allotments for socialising and preparation. Scott also suggests the building would have the potential to



be used as an outreach facility for Silver End Surgery. *(The location is remote from Tye Green, Hawbush Green and Cressing village. CAG see this as a facility almost wholly for the residents of the proposed new bungalow estate, not for Cressing Parish as a whole)*

3. Braintree Council has advised the developer that the age 55 restriction should be removed for the Social Housing (20% of the total). Scott want to keep the age restriction and stating they have 3 offers from Registered Providers for all the age restricted 40 % affordable (including social) housing. *(BDC have the final say, not the developer!)*
4. Allotments – Scott say they will provide a dedicated parking area for the community building with additional visitor parking adjacent to the community area and a financial contribution to aid initial set up and management of the allotments. *(Site proposed is unsuited to allotment use and plots are very small)*
5. The Parish Council had enquired if the developer would consider donating to the community the remainder of the field (that is the meadow north of the diagonal cross-field footpath. *(The developer said their option covers only that section of the field shown in the Application - decision about the remainder lies with the landowner.)*

**Comments in italics above about the booklet are from Cressing Action Group. The Action Group finds that for the Cressing Community the additional “Community Benefits” the developer suggests are illusory.**

**We turn now to comments and discussion at the meeting.**

We have to say that the developer’s MD, Mr Scott, was not well received. Many questions were raised and strong opinions were expressed by members of the community attending the meeting.

Among the points raised were:

- a. Increasing traffic problems, both during the construction phase and after. Traffic on Mill Lane and Bulford Mill Lane is already much busier since expansion of home deliveries (internet shopping) and completion of the Bellway Avondale development. Roads are not suitable for the existing traffic. The additional heavy vehicles and plant during the likely 4 year construction period would further damage the already damaged roads, making it more dangerous and increasing local pollution.
- b. Bulford Mill Lane residents are very concerned that development of the proposed new estate would increase water run-off affecting their properties and result in ever more frequent flooding of Bulford Lane/Bulford Mill Lane.

- c. A core element of the adopted Neighbourhood Plan states that new building outside the current development “envelope” should not be permitted other than in exceptional circumstances. The new estate ventures into a completely undeveloped area that has been pasture for more than 20 years. It has become an important habitat for flora and fauna as well as affording easy access by the local population to the countryside. What will happen to the remaining field? Why develop here in fundamental conflict with the Cressing Neighbourhood Plan? No comment from the developer!
- d. Timescale for Development. Mr Scott said that they were a small company and would build out at a rate of about 20 units per year. With preparatory groundworks, the project may take more than 4 years to complete. Residents felt disruption for this period was completely unacceptable.
- e. We already have a large number of (cheaper) bungalows in Cressing. Why more? Mr Scott said he is a businessman and believes there is a ready market for more bungalows in the area and the site is suitable. Residents were very critical of his attitude. The site would create an isolated community of older people whose main access to wider facilities would only be by car. Their isolation would inevitably increase as time passes.

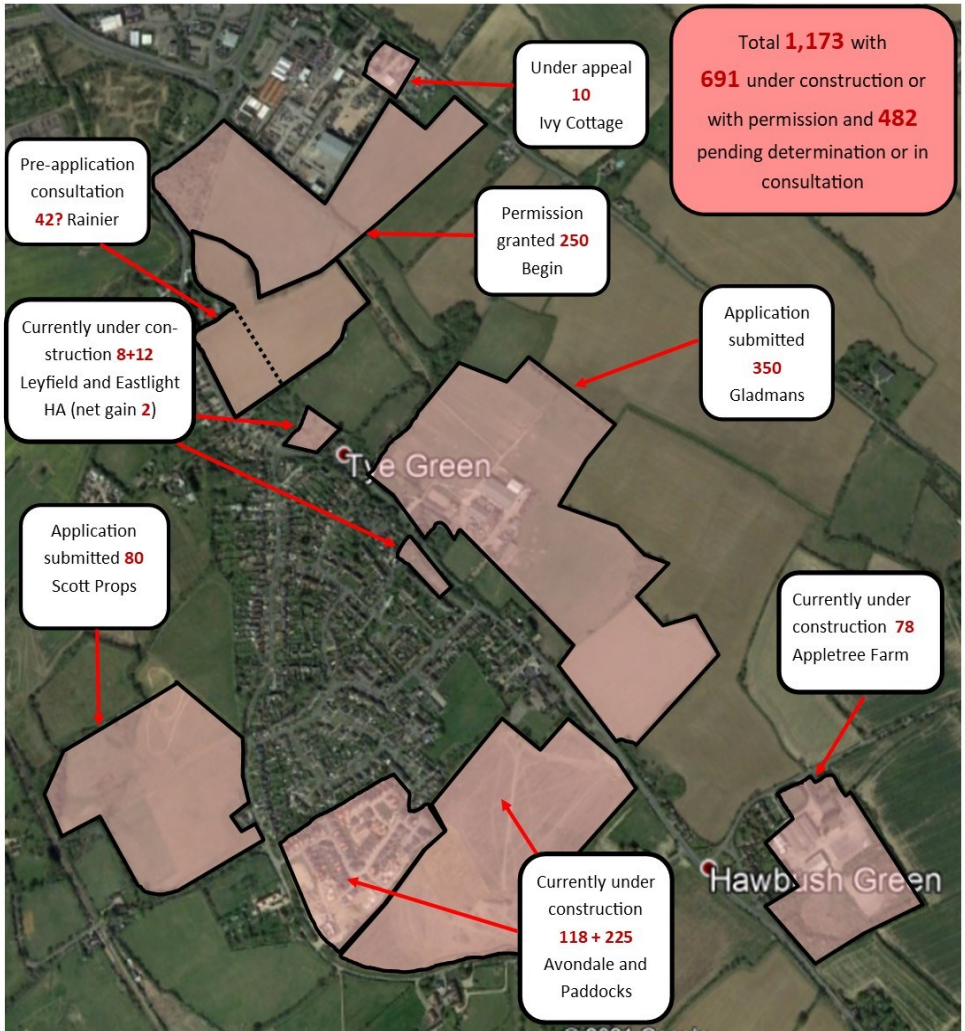
Pressed on what benefits there would be in this development to the residents of Tye Green. Mr Scott finally replied “none”. Also asked if the developer had ever withdrawn an application on the grounds of objections by local residents - he said no, they had not.

This is one of the many speculative developments around Cressing. Following completion of Countryside’s “The Paddocks” development, the pre-speculative development population will double. If all other speculative developments get Planning Permission the population will triple! We search for new community benefits and infrastructure improvements, but the intending developers offer next to nothing. As speculators, profit is their sole motive for overwhelming our community..

**Scott Properties Application is “Full” not “Outline”. The project is ready to start as soon as Planning Permission is granted. If residents raise new objections NOW (having seen Scott’s latest Community Benefits brochure or attended the meeting on 16 September), we may get the Planning Committee to support the Cressing Local Plan and reject this Application.**

**It is the wrong project in the wrong place at the wrong time.**

Cressing Parish house building sites under construction, approved/granted, applied for or known to be in consultation as at September 2021



Site boundaries are indicative

Map courtesy of Google Earth

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**Why not pop in and see.**

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**GARDENING NOTES FOR OCTOBER**

Containers and pots can start to look forlorn at this time of year and it's a good idea to go round and dead head plants, feeding as you go. A weak solution of tomato food is fine and this should keep summer bedding plants going until the first frosts arrive.

If you are saving sweet pea seed, they will not come true to type next year with F1 plants but what you will have is a delightful mixture of colours. Don't pick the pods until they are brown and dry, you may even notice spiralling when the seeds are scattered directly from the main plant.

One of the most colourful climbers in the autumn months is *Campsis radicans* (the Trumpet Vine). This plant really lives up to its name with scarlet to orange flowers which are born at the end of its long tendrils. It will certainly cover a trellis or wall in just a year or two.

Dig up any main crop potatoes while they are relatively dry and continue picking runner beans. Courgettes are coming to the end of their productive life so harvest any remaining fruit before the slugs have them!

It will soon be time to bring in any cacti and aeoniums as these plants are best kept in a frost free greenhouse, conservatory or spare bedroom over winter. Water sparingly and do not feed in the darker months of the year.

Order bare root roses and fruit/deciduous trees for delivery in November. Should they be delivered early, heel them in on a spare section of ground until you are ready to place them in their final planting place.

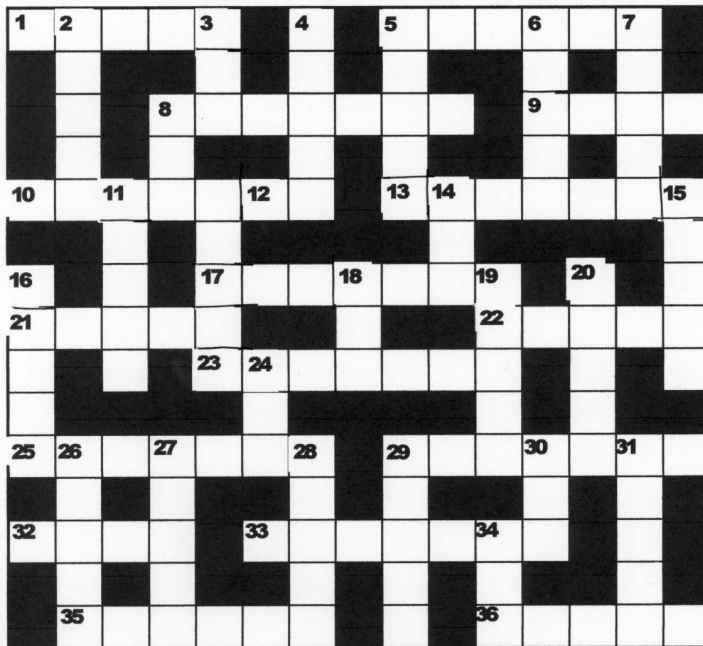
If you are pushed for time, as many of us are these days, cut back perennials in late winter when perhaps there is less to do in the garden.

I find *Knautia macedonica* a real attraction for Gold Finches. They sit on the seed heads picking out the seeds for long periods of time when food is scarce. By leaving the shears in the shed this perennial provides valuable food.

Enjoy your garden.....The Arborist

Note F1 = First cross hybrid

# OCTOBER 2021 CROSSWORD



**ACROSS**

- 1. Dance in triple time by a couple (5)
- 5. Paper or cardboard container (6)
- 8. Administrative districts of London (7)
- 9. A sworn declaration (5)
- 10. Nervous of unable to relax (7)
- 13. Reflex action of opening the mouth (7)
- 17. To have left a place (7)
- 21. To bring together (5)
- 22. Speak very highly of someone (5)
- 23. Breed of gun dog (7)
- 25. Articles attached to a house (7)
- 29. Enthusiastic and eager (7)
- 32. Misty of foggy (4)
- 33. Made a witty remark (7)
- 35. Make an appearance (6)
- 36. Supplement with great effort

- 4. Monetary unit of Poland (5)
- 5. Very small type of Shrew (5)
- 6. Familiar with person or knowledge (5)
- 7. Person of very great strength (5)
- 8. To gamble on something (3)
- 11. Luke warm (5)
- 12. Part of roof that overhangs walls (5)
- 14. Tool used for chopping wood (3)
- 15. Band fastened round horses belly (5)
- 16. 1950's Teddy Boy's hairstyle (5)
- 18. Stiff bristle (3)
- 19. Fourth letter of Greek alphabet (5)
- 20. Instrument of the guitar family (5)
- 24. State of being equal (3)
- 26. A graphic symbol (5)
- 27. Aromatic herb of the mint family (5)
- 28. To emit (5)
- 29. Fast or speedy (5)
- 30. Container cover (3)
- 31. Action of joining together (5)
- 34. Period of time before an event (3)

**DOWN**

- 2. Claim that one was somewhere else when a crime took place (5)
- 3. A facility that houses wild animals (3)

**ANSWERS TO SUMMER CROSSWORD**

**ACROSS**

- 1 MYSTERIOUS (10)
- 8 EXTORTS (7)
- 9 PITCH (5)
- 10 IBEX (4)
- 11 TRIO (4)
- 12 RIP (3)
- 14 ISSUES (6)
- 15 PERSUE (6)
- 18 UGH (3)
- 20 EYES (4)
- 21 CARP (4)
- 23 LEVEL (5)
- 24 OLIVIER (7)

**DOWN**

- 1 MITTENS (7)
- 2 SORE (4)
- 3 ENSURE (6)
- 4 IMploRED (8)
- 5 UTTER (5)
- 6 DELICIOUSLY (11)
- 7 SHOPKEEPERS (11)
- 13 REPELLED (8)
- 16 SEABIRD (7)
- 17 HEROIC (6)
- 19 HAVEN (5)
- 22 LIST (4)
- 24 TRIM (4)

Always plant trees so that  
the prevailing wind blows the  
autumn leaves next door.



**ALL SAINTS CHURCH, CRESSING**

Services in the Benefice for October 2021

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8.00 am	St. Peter's, Coggeshall – Morning Prayer
	9.30 am	St. Peter's, Coggeshall – Holy Communion
	11.00 am	St. Peter's, Coggeshall – Family Service
	17.15	St. Peter's, Coggeshall – Evensong
	10.30 am	All Saints, Stisted
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	8.00 am	St. Peter's, Coggeshall – Holy Communion
	9.30 am	St. Peter's, Coggeshall – Holy Communion
	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>All Saints, Cressing</b>
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	All Saints, Stisted
	8.00 am	St. Peter's, Coggeshall – Morning Prayer
	9.30 am	St. Peter's, Coggeshall – Holy Communion
	11.00 am	St. Peter's, Coggeshall – Family Service
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	8.00 am	St. Peter's, Coggeshall – Holy Communion
	9.30 am	St. Peter's, Coggeshall – Holy Communion
	9.00am	St. Nicholas, Coggeshall
	10.30 am	All Saints, Stisted
	4.00pm	Holy Trinity, Bradwell – Festival Service
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup>	8.00 am	St. Peter's, Coggeshall – Holy Communion
	9.30 am	St. Peter's, Coggeshall – Holy Communion

**NEWS FROM ALL SAINTS & ST BARNABAS**

**We are holding our remembrance day on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November service at 10.30 followed at 11.00 at the war memorial to celebrate the lives of those below who gave their lives for us all.**

**TO THE GLORY OF GOD  
AND IN MEMORY OF**

**WALTER ADAMS  
JOHN CLAYTON  
BERTIE CROZIER  
FRANK DRORY  
ARTHUR HALLS  
JOHN H. HOWLET  
WALTER JOSLIN**

**C. STANLEY LATHAM  
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FRANK SUTTON**

**STANLEY G. SUTTON  
CHARLES STOWE  
ALFRED C. TOKLEY  
ALBERT J. WATSON  
PERCY WHYBROWE**

**WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM AND RIGHT  
IN THE GREAT WAR**

**1914 – 1918**

**&**

**CLAUD INCE**

**1939 – 1945**

**&**

**All Conflicts**

**GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS  
THAT A MAN LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIEND**



## Vicar's Letter October 2021

(Dis-) Contentment?

Apparently we are heading for a winter of discontent - at least that's what the headlines are suggesting. This is based on the threat of shortages of all kinds: jobs, housing, manpower, supply chains and goods which have got stuck due to new border regulations, shipping containers or spiralling energy costs. Recently we have even witnessed queues outside petrol stations. So yes, you can understand why people are complaining, getting frustrated and are quick to blame others.

But of course we need not and should not stay there - because in my experience discontent rarely solves anything, unless it motivates us to action. I know no better antidote to unhappiness than to reach out to others, and I am sure you are the same. A kind word to a stranger, paying a shopping bill for someone else or offering a lift to a neighbour - such deeds sow seeds of contentment, gratitude and joy. They do not depend on what we have or not have, on what is or isn't on our shelves. The apostle Paul put it like this: I have learned to be content with whatever I have, I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty.

So I am wondering whether the difficulties and frustrations that seem to be ahead of us could be the catalyst we need to remember what really matters: that as a community here in Cressing we choose to find ways to look out for one another, so that no-one is isolated or goes hungry or is in need. And of course it goes both ways - it's not just about offering help, we also need to be willing to ask. That way we will weather whatever is ahead, and keep spreading contentment!



Rev'd Heike Prentice

**Vicar of**

**Coggeshall, Markshall, Cressing,  
Stisted, Bradwell and Pattiswick**

**CRESSING PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting of Cressing Parish Council held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 7.00pm at St Barnabas, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing**

**Present:** Cllrs: John Lawton – Chairman, Colin Haines, Harvey Porrett and Toria Rowe

**In attendance:** Mrs Christine Marshall (Parish Clerk/RFO), County Councillor Paul Thorogood and one member of the public

**21/124 CHAIRMAN’S WELCOME AND REPORT**

The Chairman welcomed attendees and reported as follows:

- i. There is a lot of debris is spilling onto PROW 74\_11 (The Essex Way). The Clerk will report this to Essex Highways.
- ii. Councillors and residents are encouraged to attend the public meeting on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September, hosted by Scott Properties. This is a Public Consultation of the Proposed Community Benefits of the proposed 80 age-restricted bungalows off Mill Lane.
- iii. Councillors are asked to support the Open Day on 2<sup>nd</sup> October and the Chairman hopes all Councillors will attend at some time during the afternoon.
- iv. The question of Rainbow Field is being looked at again and due to its shape and difficulty of access, the Chairman suggested that the ground be tidied by removing some of the vegetation and looking to bring the edge that fronts Polecat Road back to provide sufficient space for a bench to be located. Cllr Porrett agreed to assist the Handyman with this task.
- v. The Chairman suggested that as recent meetings have had a few Councillor absences, the remaining vacancies on the Parish Council should now be advertised. Councillors agreed to this action and the Clerk will begin the process.

**21/125 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Clerk advised that apologies had been received from Cllrs: Lapper, Simpson and Watts. Cllrs agreed to accept these apologies. Apologies had also been received from District Cllrs Wright and Abbott.

**21/126 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.

**21/127 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

The Clerk confirmed that no requests to speak had been received.

**21/128 REPORTS BY COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

County Councillor Paul Thorogood reported on the following:

- i. IWMF Rivenhall Incinerator –condition 66 of the 2016 permission was for the incinerator to be built within five years with the community benefit of paper pulping system. However, the market for paper pulping had reduced drastically with the result that Indaver do not intend to build the paper pulping unit. A meeting is due to be held shortly and Cllr Thorogood will report back after this, but it is likely that a new application will be required if a six month action plan is not produced.
- ii. The A12 consultation has been completed. Results are awaited, but there is concern that local roads may suffer increased traffic.
- iii. Photographs of incidents in Bulford Lane by the Mill have been submitted to the LHP and Cllr Thorogood will advise of progress in due course.
- iv. Concern continues regarding the new road and bus stop markings on the B1018 by the Countryside development. Councillors discussed historic issues affecting the stretch outside the school and their concern and surprise that Essex Highways had approved the plans, presumably

without considering the affect on other road users, the school and businesses. The Clerk to forward copies of relevant documents from the original planning application to Cllr Thorogood.

**Action: Clerk**

Cllrs Abbott and Wright were unable to attend the meeting, but a report had been received as follows:

- i. The outcome of the Local Plan Examination is still awaited. Cllr Abbot has written to BDC to ask what was done about the further evidence required by the Inspector on Green Buffers. BDC have apparently sent it to the Inspectors but have heard nothing more.
- ii. The second meeting of the BDC Planning Enforcement Group (of which Cllrs Abbott and Wright are members) have met recommendations will be put forward on ways of improving Planning Enforcement and communications with communities.
- iii. Silver End GP Surgery, which, for planning purposes, Cressing is within the "catchment area", continues to be discussed. Apparently, there is nearly £300,000 of s106 monies now earmarked for the expansion of the surgery, but Cabinet Members seem to have differing views with one saying that the NHS is seeking to expand there, with another stating that it was "naive and simplistic" to expect new space for GPs locally. Cllr Abbott has written to the CCG to seek their views.
- i. Local Cllrs have been asked by BDC to complete a survey on the trial of verge cutting (one per year to help wildflowers). Cllr Abbott supported the initiative, subject to safety at junctions where the main issue this summer has been hedges growing over sightlines at 2 locations in Cressing parish where ECC were slow to take action.
- ii. There continues to be problems with ECC notices for roadworks. Cllr Abbott posts notices of roadworks to parish Facebook pages when received, but on an increasing number of occasions ECC does not do the work on the scheduled date.
- iii. Cllrs Abbott and Wright hope to attend the Scott Properties consultation on "Community Benefits" of the proposed development of 80 age-restricted bungalows off Mill Lane.

**21/129 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2021 were confirmed as a true record. **Proposed: Cllr Haines, seconded Cllr Lawton.** The Chairman signed the Minutes.

**21/130 THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE (2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022)**

The Clerk updated the meeting on some of the ways to commemorate this event and after discussion it was agreed that no suitable and safe location existed within the parish to erect and light a beacon. Similarly, Cllrs did not support the purchase of commemorative mugs for distribution to children or houses in the parish. After further discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should investigate other options, such as printed hessian bags filled with sweet treats for children in the parish. **Action: Clerk**

**21/131 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 Porrett, seconded: Cllr Rowe, all in favour**
- ii. **A motion to approve bank reconciliation at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021: It was resolved** that the bank reconciliation statement at 31<sup>st</sup> August be approved. **Proposed: Cllr Porrett, seconded: Cllr Rowe, all in favour**
- iii. **A motion to approve August 2021 Payments/Cheques:** The list of payments made and cheques to be signed against July expenditure was presented. There were no queries, and **it was resolved** to approve the payments. **Proposed: Cllr Porrett, seconded Cllr Rowe, all in favour.** Cllrs Lawton and Haines signed the cheques.

**21/132 GRANT APPLICATION**

Cllrs agreed unanimously that the request by Stansted Airport Watch for a donation to assist them in further legal actions could not be supported by the Parish Council. The Clerk will advise them accordingly. **Action: Clerk**

**21/133 PARKING AND ROAD SAFETY IN CRESSING**

This item was discussed again, and it was agreed that there were no actions that could be undertaken by the Parish Council to ease this problem, and the topic should be removed from the Agenda. Cllr Porrett raised the issue of parking on greensward, with problem areas being Hawbush Green and along the B1018 opposite properties in the vicinity of the equestrian centre. The question of a Byelaw being issued to prevent this was discussed and the Clerk advised that whilst a local council can introduce byelaws it is restricted in the scope of these. The Clerk will prepare a paper explaining this for Cllrs and showing examples of the types that can be introduced. **Action: Clerk**  
 In the absence of any byelaw being introduced, the Clerk will discuss with Essex Highways to see what can be done. **Action: Clerk.**

**21/134 CRESSING ENVIRONMENT**

- i. The Clerk referred to the report and final draft plan issued to Cllrs. There were no queries, and the Clerk outlined the likely time frame for commencing the work, subject to the necessary permissions. The Clerk will continue to liaise with the Cressing Sports & Social Club in progressing this project.
- ii. The Clerk provided an update on the arrangements for Cressing Open Day, the date for which has been finalised as Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. The Chairman emphasised the Clerk’s request that all Cllrs make themselves available sometime during the event to show their support and to answer any resident’s questions. Cllr Rowe advised that a work colleague provided “yoga for the over-60s” and will speak with her about taking part in the event. **Action: Cllr Rowe**
- iii. Cllrs discussed displaying advertising banners and it was agreed to ask Rev Dennis Ivey if one could be displayed at the Evangelical church. **Action: Clerk**
- iv. **It was agreed** to allocate a budget of £600 to costs for the Open Day. The Clerk will produce a statement of costs for the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**

**21/135 EMERGENCY PLAN**

It was agreed to postpone this to the October meeting. **Action: Clerk**

**21/136 PLANNING**

**A. Appeals determined by 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 – *appeal refused*

**B. Appeals submitted to the Planning Inspectorate:** None advised.

**C. Applications determined by Braintree District Council:**

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 – *granted*

- i. 21/00175/FUL | Erection of a two-storey 5 bed detached dwellinghouse with associated access road and landscaping | Land Adjoining And To The Rear Of 1 To 8 Leyfield Braintree Road Cressing Essex *granted*
- ii. 21/01940/OUT | Hybrid planning application encompassing: (i) Outline Planning Application for 2 x self-build and/or custom build bungalows with details of Access, Layout and Landscaping to be determined (Scale and Appearance to be Reserved Matters); (ii) Full Planning Application for 4 x 3 bed and 2 x 4 bed residential dwellinghouses with associated roads, car parking and landscaping. | Land Adjacent Leyfield Braintree Road Cressing Essex – *granted*
- iii. 21/01978/TEL | BT intends to install fixed line broadband electronic communications apparatus at WP1: new 9m light wooden pole, Lanham Green, Braintree, CM77 8DT, grid: 579593,221369 wp2: new 9m light wooden pole, Lanham Green, Braintree, CM77 8DT, grid: 579558,221406 | street record Lanham Green Cressing Essex – *information only*
- iv. 21/01949/TEL | BT intends to install fixed line broadband electronic communications apparatus

at Site Office, Countryside Pro, Braintree Road, Tye Green, Braintree - To install 1 x 9m wooden pole (7.3m above ground) | Tye Green Braintree Road Cressing Essex – *information only*

- v. 21/01671/HH | Conversion of part of existing garage to habitable accommodation. 14 Crozier Drive Cressing Braintree Essex CM77 8GE – *since the Agenda was issued, this application has been refused by BDC, however it is thought that the alterations had already been started on the conversion. This will be raised with BDC.* **Action: Clerk**

### D. Applications received by Braintree District Council:

- i. 21/02569/VAR | Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) of permission 21/01188/FUL granted 04.08.2021 for: Demolition of garden centre sales buildings, conservatories & store/office, and the construction of a single-storey garden centre sales building of 600sqm. Variation would allow for the replacement of one of the approved sales concession units with a warehousing unit (Class B8), which would include and allow access to a mezzanine level for longer term storage (seasonal unsold products i.e. Christmas, garden furniture). | Braintree Garden Centre Galleys Corner Cressing Road Braintree Essex CM77 8DH – *the Parish Council had no comments to make.*
- ii. 21/02613/FUL | Construction of 2 No. Industrial Buildings for B8 use. | Cordons Farm Long Green Cressing Essex CM77 8DL – *the Parish Council are in support of this application.* **Action: Clerk**

### E. Applications received by Braintree District Council (Householder Application, General Permitted Development Order)

- i. 21/02614/DAC | Application for approval of details as reserved by conditions 4 & 5 of approved application 21/01079/HH | The Old Vicarage The Street Cressing Essex CM77 8DQ *Noted, there were no comments to be submitted.*

### F. Applications bordering parish for information – none advised.

The Chairman reminded Cllrs of the Public Consultation being hosted by Scott Properties on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September at St Barnabas regarding Community Benefits of their proposed development of 80 age-related bungalows off Mill Lane.

### 21/137 INFORMATION EXCHANGE

There was nothing to be reported.

Items for inclusion on the October Agenda:

1. *Update on Playing field report and improvements*
2. *Update on Open Day*
3. *Update and proposals for Rainbow Field*
4. *Emergency Plan*

Cllr Porrett gave his apologies for the October meeting as he would be on holiday and unable to attend.

### 21/138 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at **7.00pm at St Barnabas Hall, Claud Ince Avenue, Cressing, CM77 8HG**. Social distancing may be implemented and face masks worn if required under Covid regulations.

Any items for inclusion on the Agenda to be sent to the Parish Clerk to be received no later than 12 noon on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

The Clerk requested Cllrs to note the dates for meetings in 2022 as provided on the Agenda.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

**Dates of 2021 meetings:    November 10<sup>th</sup> 7pm            December 8<sup>th</sup> 7pm**

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## MODERN DAY SHOPPING

It seems that shopping has become less and less personal over the past few years. From small grocery shops to supermarkets, shopping on the internet and the expansion of self service tills, and now even the introduction of till less stores— it seems we spend little time nowadays talking to someone face to face.

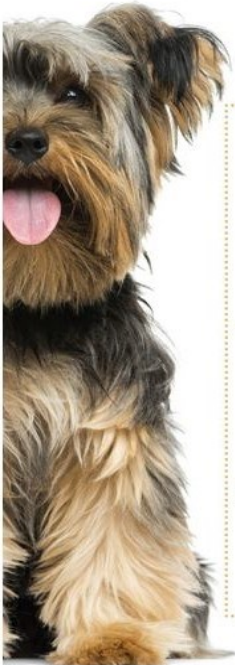


I know people who use and love self service checkouts, But I'm not one of them. I am completely mystified when friends and family tell me how quick and easy they are to use. I have tried them and failed. Apart from the ironic message 'unexpected item in the bagging area' they have failed to recognise notes, failed to accept credit cards, failed to scan correctly and have required the intervention of a human assistant many times. During these times at least three or four people have sailed through the 'manned' checkouts next to me!

Many of our shopping habits have had to change during the pandemic, and certainly my experience has found them to be for the better. I was lucky enough to obtain delivery slots from my favourite supermarket during the first lockdown, the delivery drivers have always been helpful and have had time to chat and pass the time of day. I have discovered an excellent fish supplier who drives down each week from Grimsby to Stansted, and a local farm shop where the butcher also has time for a quick chat and gives good advice on the best way to prepare and cook the various cuts of meat.

It takes me back to the time when my late mother-in-law owned a village shop, and the thing she loved most was chatting to the customers as she weighed their goods and counted out their change. Many of her customers became good friends over the years, and certainly did not hear a robotic 'unexpected item in the bagging area'

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### Cressing Book Group

For our most recent meeting, our first since the beginning of lockdown, our book was *Middle England* by Jonathan Coe. This is the third novel in a trilogy in which the lives of the same main characters are played out against the background of contemporary political events. This final volume begins with the election of the coalition government in 2010, goes on to include references to such things as the London riots, the Olympics and the murder of Jo Cox and ends in the post-Brexit Britain of 2018, exploring the ways in which these events affect the lives and relationships of the politically diverse cast. We found this to be an enjoyable and absorbing book, easy to read and with a good cross section of convincing characters whose views and motivations represent the divided Middle England of the title. We liked Jonathan Coe's satirical humour, for example the repeated struggles of a hapless political advisor to defend government policies and, more farcically, an ill fated business meeting in a garden centre. Our only criticism was that sometimes the explanations of the background political events seemed unnecessarily lengthy but perhaps the author had in mind future readers who wouldn't be familiar with them.

### CRESSING EVENT VOLUNTEERS

Yes! we are back, smaller in number but just as keen, we are planning as our Restart Lunch that old favourite the Fish & Chips Lunch.

For this Lunch we will be using **St Barnabas Hall, Claude Ince Avenue, on Friday the 8th October from 12.00 till 2.00pm serving at 12.15pm.**

**The cost is £5.00 payable in advance.**

So why not join us for lunch plus a chance to meet other residents, test your Knowledge in our Quiz, and your luck in our raffle, we cannot say you will win but promise to do our best make you welcome.

**To book your place Please Call Pam on 584170 or Jackie on 327064**

We are also planning a Soup lunch Monday 1st November at Cressing Community Church Hall, The Street, for £2.00 again from 12.00 to 2.00pm so please note the date.

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