

# CODSALL PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES

Council Meeting held in the Parish Chambers,

Station Road, Codsall

on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 7.00pm. following Planning

Two members of public present

**PRESENT: Parish & County Councillor:** B Spencer (Chairman);

**Parish Councillors:** N Caine, Mrs K Ewart, T Jeavons, S Jenkinson, I Kenyon, D Walls and P Wright; **Parish & District Councillor:** Mrs M Barrow

### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Chapman, Holland, Loftus, Michell, Millar and Morrison.

### 2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensation received.

### 3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

### 4. MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting on held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019 be approved and signed as a true record.

### 5. POLICE REPORT

#### 5.1 Crime and anti-social behaviour figures for Locality 4

Police Crime and ASB Report received - 6.1.19 to 11.2.19.

There has been an assault that took place within the Lloyds Pharmacy, Church Lane, the offender has been identified and enquiries are on-going. The shop has employed their own security from the immediate future. Numerous calls have been received regarding suspicious males selling goods within the area, the roads targeted have been Hazel Gardens, Bakers Gardens and Princes Drive. A report of youths congregating on Bentley Drive by the garages and subsequently car tyres being punctured by nails. A suspicious vehicle has been seen frequenting Codsall and surrounding areas, it is a silver Astra, (KK05 M\*\*). There have been 3 reported burglaries, 1 in Keepers Lane and Oaken Lane where the home address was broken into and valuable items stolen, the 3<sup>rd</sup> in Holyhead Road where the shed was broken into and tools stolen. Anti-social behaviour reported within the grounds of the Bull Pub, children are using the garden/play area as a hideout. Children also reported throwing stones onto the railway. On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January, Police Neighbourhood team carried out an operation, targeting youngsters engaging in anti-social behaviour and drug use. Several groups have been spoken to.

Three lads have been caught climbing on the roof of a business at the back on Lacey's Bistro, after questioning it turns out they were also responsible for damage to signs on the car park at the Co-op in Wood Road, owned by the owner of the pet shop. They were taken home to their parents and in the morning taken to apologise. From other groups alcohol and cannabis were seized. There are still reports of

poaching and hare coursing in rural parts of South Staffs including Oaken, Codsall Wood. Land Rover Defenders are still being targeted, either stolen or for their panels.

Cllr Jenkinson talked of the assault in Lloyds Chemist and the lack of a Police presence encourages more crime. Some reassurances are needed.

Cllr Barrow advised the meeting that the new Chief Inspector, Mark Ward is keen to carry on the work of the previous Inspector. There are 19 Officers working from Codsall. Burglaries have reduced, but car theft has increased. A limited number of key pouches are available for anyone who wants one for those who have a car with keyless entry. There is the problem of cross border crime, people coming over from Wolverhampton, there has always been an issue with this type of crime.

Cllr. Caine said the Chief Crime Commissioner is not expecting an increase in money for Staffordshire Police, but the precept is to increase. With more houses being built this should mean more money coming in for the Police.

Cllr Spencer agreed there should be additional money. Staffordshire Police have taken over the running of Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Services, this should make back office more effective funding more Police Constables on the beat. There has been increases in certain types of crime, such as cyber-crime. There is a marginal decrease in crime over the last 6 months, but this in on the back of years of increases in crime. Key fob readers may have reduced keyline burglaries. Due to the geography of Codsall there is risk of cross border crime, effort is being made to curb this. The Chief Inspector Mark Ward should make a commitment to policing and the Police Crime Commissioner should not get away from the fact that crime is going up, although Codsall is still not a high crime rate area.

Cllr Spencer advise the meeting that police figures show that Codsall should really only have need of one PCSO, we had to fight hard to have two for Codsall and Bilbrook. People's voices are heard; processes are in place so our concerns are listened to. The next update will be after the next Safety Neighbourhood Panel meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

## 6. URGENT CORRESPONDENCE AND DISCUSSION TOPICS

- 6.1 Staffordshire Way finger post- replacement** – consideration was given to the purchase of a one arm oak finger post with 'Staffordshire Way' engraved on each side to be placed on Oaken Field Track, at a cost of £170 plus installation costs. **Resolved** approval.
- 6.2 Oaken Drive Field – Car Park**
- 6.2.1** a progress report from the Clerk was received and noted.
- 6.2.2** an email and draft signage of bye-laws as recommended by SSDC's Legal Department was considered. **Resolved** approval of the draft signage.
- 6.2.3** Signage - the purchase of various signs for the car park at a cost of approx. £500.00 was considered. **Resolved** approval of the purchase of various signs for the car park at an approximate cost of £500.00.

**6.2.4 Opening & Closing Car Park** – [update to minutes 24<sup>th</sup> January 2018 – item 7.2] – consideration was given to recruiting a person(s) to open and close the car park, seven days a week, 1 hour a day – Wage Rate to be set at minimum wage.

**Resolved** approval for the Clerk to recruit a person(s) to open and close the car park.

**6.3 Wheel Field –**

**6.3.1 Annual Fair** – a request from Mr Dobson for use of the Wheel Field for the Annual Fair from 9<sup>th</sup> May - 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019 was considered.

**Resolved** approval for Mr Dobson to have use of the Wheel Field to hold the annual fair during May 2019.

*[Kenyon, Jenkinson, and Barrow left the room for the following discussion]*

**6.3.2 CCG – Summer Fair** – a request for Codsall Community Group to hold the annual summer show on the Wheel Field on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2019 to start at 11.00am and finish 5.00pm was considered. **Resolved** that Codsall Community Group have use of the Wheel Field for their Summer Fair on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2019, 11am to 5pm. Cllr. Cain raised concerns over vehicles arriving to set up at 7am on a Sunday morning. Councillors agreed that no vehicles would be allowed on the Wheel Field before 8am.

*[Kenyon, Jenkinson, and Barrow returned to the Chambers]*

**6.4 Codsall Village Hall Playing Field/MUGA/Signage** – an email showing pictures of a vandalised sign post and sign was **received and noted.**

**6.5 SHELAA and Local Plan Review – FAQs** - an email dated 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019 and FAQ sheet on Ridgehill Wood was **received and noted.**

**6.6 Staffordshire in the Great War** – details of the final conference – Reflections - on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March at the Riverway Centre, Stafford, were received. Councillor's wishing to attend, to advise the Clerk. **Matter of report.**

**6.7 The Community Foundation for Staffordshire Best Kept Village 2019** details and expression of interest was received and noted. Cllr. Walls said Codsall has taken part in the past and done very well, although there are some areas of the village, we would have no control over. If an area is not right such as behind the shops on Bakers Way or a garden, then you are penalised.

Councillors said that the Parish Council would not take part but wondered if volunteers or a group of people would like to enter the competition.

**Resolved** that a poster would be created to advertise for volunteers/group of people who would wish to take the scheme forward.

**6.8 Textile Recycling Bank** – an email from the Children’s Air Ambulance who would like to put a recycle bank for textiles in Codsall was received and noted. **Resolved** that the Clerk to write back to say that the Parish Council would have liked to have helped but unfortunately would struggle to find a suitable place to site a textile bank.

## 7. ACCOUNTS

**7.1 Resolved** that as a report on Council Finances for year to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019 be approved.

**7.2 Resolved** that the schedule of payments to 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019 be approved.

**7.3** Confirmation by the Chairman of the authorisation of the Clerks time sheet.  
**Matter of report**

## 8. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

A report from County Councillor Bob Spencer.

- Staffordshire County Council are setting their budget, 35m of savings needed, ¼ billion has already been saved. However, the School Crossing Patrols will be maintained.
- Each County Councillor is to be given £20,000 of Government money for road improvements. Some organisations will to put funding in as well, but not necessarily match funding. We need to decide what we want doing and make a plan therefore if Councillors could provide by email a list of highway issues they feel need to be addressed. Cllr Jeavons advised that he felt that Chillington estate needs road markings.
- Staffordshire County Council have agreed that the top end of Birches Road is dangerous where the bus stops as it is just around the corner from the traffic island and with parked cars on the opposite side makes it hazardous for approaching cars. Yellow lines will be considered.
- The Staffordshire Connect Bus service has now been reinstated and runs on a Tuesday and Friday for a two-year trial period. People of South Staffordshire are being encouraged to use the service.

## 9. CODSALL VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CVHMC)

The minutes of C.V.H.M.C. meeting of the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018 was **received and noted.**

Cllr. Barrow advised the meeting that she has set up a Bingo group for people who are lonely, 26 people attended the last session. It is run once a month on a Friday and includes tea and cake. Everyone is welcome. For anyone who has difficulty in getting to the Village Hall, can book the Connect Bus.

Cllr Jenkinson said the Village Hall Management Committee is running well, well done to Cllr. Barrow, the village hall should be the hub of the community.

**10. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

A Report from District Councillors:

- The link road between M54 and i54 has been chosen, it is to run alongside the A460. The District Councillors are asking why this decision has been made, and why they are not being listened to. There are concerns over the number of vehicles over 15 years. Junction 11 island is to expand. A second consultation is to take place.

**11. Councillors and Clerks Written Report**

The Clerks written reports was **received and noted.**

**12. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE****12.1 Grants Application – Watery Lane Allotments & Leisure Gardens**

**Association** – a letter of thanks for the grant received for the project of raised beds for the disabled was **received and noted.**

**12.2 MUGA at Codsall Village Hall Playing Field** – a letter of thanks dated 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019 from a resident was **received and noted.****12.3 South Staffordshire Connect** – details of the Zone 2 bookable Connect bus service was **received and noted.****12.4 South Staffordshire Work Clubs** – the latest update was **received and noted.****12.5 Codsall & Bilbrook Twinning Assoc – Anniversary Gift, Village Sign** - a picture of the finger post in position at St Mesmin was **received and noted.****12.6 Staffordshire Parish Councils Association** – bulletins dated 17<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> January and 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019 were **received and noted.****12.7 SSDC – Council News Round-up** – issues 100, 102 and 103 were **received and noted****12.8 Staffordshire County Council Updates** – the January 2019 newsletter was **received and noted.****13. HIGHWAY ISSUES****Concerns to be raised with County Council Highways**

- Hawthorne Lane and Wergs Hall Road need white lines.
- Keepers Lane has potholes.

**NEXT MEETING**

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

[Meeting closed 8.15pm]