

CODSALL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Council Meeting held in the Parish Chambers,

Station Road, Codsall

on Wednesday 8th January 2020 at 7.00pm. following Planning

Present: Parish Councillors: B Holland (Chairman), M Adams, Mrs S Adams, L Carpenter, Mrs V Chapman, Mrs K Ewart, T Jeavons, I Kenyon, N Loftus, S Jenkinson (late), Mrs A Morrison, & P Wright; **Parish & District Councillors:** Mrs M Barrow & J Michell; **Parish & County Councillor:** B Spencer

Two members of the public were present.

1. APOLOGIES

None

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

4. MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 11th December 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 - 11.12.19 to 04.01.20

There have been numerous calls of suspicious vehicles driving along Arps Road, with the occupants seemingly looking into parked cars; the cars of interest were Ford Fiesta's and Focus', VE Golf's and Mercedes. Reassurance visits have taken place and advice on keyless cars and faraday bags given. Reports of a Vauxhall Silver estate driving erratically throughout Codsall, three youths often seen inside driving predominantly around Redrock Drive, Queens Gardens and Histons Hill.

A works van was broken into on Arps Road, the offenders attempted to steal the van but couldn't bypass the immobiliser; there were no tools left in the van by the owner.

A Ford Fiesta was stolen off a driveway on Sandy Lane, this was the second time this car has been stolen after being recovered previously. The owner of the vehicle already had faraday bags and the keys were inside these at the time of the theft. Another Ford Fiesta has been stolen from Ravenhill Drive, fortunately the car was recovered on Pendeford Mill Lane.

A drink driver was stopped and arrested along Watery Lane; the driver was 4 x the limit.

Unknown offender(s) have by unknown means gained entry to a property on Suckling Green Lane by forcing the lock barrel out of the patio doors, the vehicle on the drive at the time was a VW Golf.

Cllr Spencer said crime is down from last year, there are new systems, technology has reduced numbers and validation of team booking of figures.

Cllr Spencer went on to say, having a position on the Community Safety Panel, it has been reported that there is an increase in vehicle crime, burglary crime and anti-social behaviour.

Write to tasking processes, reference made to the letter, chase up letter.

The position of Police & Crime Commissioner election will take place in May.

[Cllr Jenkinson arrived 7.35pm]

6. URGENT CORRESPONDENCE AND DISCUSSION TOPICS

6.1 Local Plan Consultation – Spatial Housing Strategy & Infrastructure Delivery 2019 - an email dated 7th December 2019 asking if fellow Parish Councillors are interested to form a non-political action group to combat the current proposal by the District Council to erode the Green Belt in order to provide overspill housing for the Black Country Councils was considered.

Resolved that in principle it seems like a good idea; any Councillor who wishes to join can if they wish to as an individual, but not as a representative of Codsall Parish Council.

[Cllr Morrison left the meeting 7.47pm]

6.2 Tree Planting in South Staffordshire – *[update to main meeting 11th December 2019 – item 6.6]* - an email dated 3rd December 2019 from South Staffordshire Council informing a lot of the tree stock for this planting season is now allocated to sites. Some small-scale planting could still be allocated before end of March 2020. The Woodland Trust are reopening for applications in January 2020 for trees to be planted in Autumn 2020.

Matter of report.

6.3 Removal of the payphone service from 27 telephone kiosks in South Staffordshire – *[update to main meeting 13th November 2019 – item 6.2]* – an email dated 19th December 2019 from South Staffordshire Council notifying that South Staffordshire Council have received from BT the removal of 27 telephone kiosks throughout South Staffordshire. A copy of the first notification/draft decision of the Council's final response has been made. Following the consultation period there were no eligible parties who expressed an interest in adopting any of the kiosks. A decision was made by the Council to object to the removal of the kiosks. **Matter of report.**

6.4 Moatbrook Nature Reserve grass cut - acceptance of quotation for six cuts at £105.00 per cut (£105.00 last year) for cutting Moatbrook Nature Reserve, also cut back as required around paths at a cost of £100.00 was considered.

Resolved approval.

7. ACCOUNTS

- 7.1 **Resolved** that a report on Council Finances for year to 31st December 2019 be approved.
- 7.2 **Resolved** that the schedule of payments to 9th January 2020 be approved.
- 7.3 Confirmation by the Chairman of the authorisation of the Clerks time sheet **Matter of report.**
- 7.4 Codsall Parish Council's Finalised Draft Budget/Precept requirement for 2020/21 was considered. The Budget/Precept increase of 2% has been added to the Play Area reserve for new play equipment, this equates to 0.2p on a Band D property. Councillors felt that this needs to be publicised on social media such as on the Codsall & Bilbrook website, the Parish Magazine and on the Parish Council's website. Councillor Chapman proposed acceptance of the recommendations for the Budget/Precept requirement, this was seconded by Councillor Kenyon, a vote was taken:
The vote was unanimous in approving the Budget/Precept 2020/21.
Resolved for a request to be made to SSDC for a precept requirement of £175,616.57 which equates to a 2% CPI increase to last year.
- 7.5 The third quarter Accounts and Budget Review for 2019/20 were **received and approved.**

8. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

A report from County Councillor Bob Spencer:

- 64 million still needs to be saved from the next financial years budget
- Adult and social care costs - there is a promise of Government assistance
- Potholes and flooding, several calls have been received. Highways to re-prioritise flooding issues in Codsall & Bilbrook. There is a big concern of Birches Road, and the defect is being tracked, several members of the public have reported the issue.
- People are urged to report defects – much easier for him to follow up if the pre-reported issues.
- Several members of the public have reported the condition of Barnhurst Road
- Reports of speeding on Wood Road
- Special Educational Needs are up in South Staffs, trying to deal with the bad behaviour, positive attempts are being made to deal with through help and support, Codsall High School helping through leadership roles.
- A reduction in crime with more visibility of police, Codsall gets its fair share of crime. Residents are urged to report all types of crime, this results in an increase of police presence.

9. CODSALL VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CVHMC)

None

10. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

A report from District Councillors:

- From July 2020 there will be an annual charge of £43.60 for green bin collection – the subsidy received from Staffordshire County Council to District Council for recycling has been withdrawn, therefore savings are required this maybe overturned if green waste recycling becomes mandatory. Cllr Barrow advised that District Cllrs M Ewart, B Spencer and herself abstained from the vote at District Council to charge for green bin collection. Cllr Barrow felt that not enough research has been done on a possible increase in costs of fly tipping and an increase in Co2 emissions with more cars driving through Bilbrook and Codsall to take green waste to the tip.

11. Councillors and Clerks Written Report

A written report from the Clerk was **received and noted.**

The Clerk ran through with an update regarding the Local Plan Consultation – Spatial Housing Strategy & Infrastructure Delivery 2019 and the Neighbourhood Plan – Designation of Area.

The Chairman, Cllr Holland said he was not happy with how long it is taking the District Council to respond to the submission for the designation of the Neighbourhood Area in accordance with Regulation 5A, and suggested that the Parish Council asks if our MP could write to the Chief Executive of the District Council on our behalf.

Cllr Spencer said there needs to be a joined up 3 tier meeting, why are there obstructions to working together? He is disappointed and concerned.

Cllr Michell advised that District Council is following its procedures which cannot be bypassed.

Resolved that the Clerk writes to the County Council and District Council to relay that the Parish Council looks forward to co-operation in moving forward to a joined up 3-tier working with the Neighbourhood Plan playing an integral part for the Parish Council and 'People Helping People'.

12. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

12.1 Staffordshire Parish Councils Association – bulletin dated 5th December 2019 was **received and noted.**

12.2 Staffordshire County Council – School Admissions – details of school admission relating to all community and voluntary controlled schools located in Staffordshire for the 2021/22 academic year was **received and noted.**

13. HIGHWAY ISSUES

County Council Highways - concerns

Cllr Spencer said if Councillors have any highways issues to let him know.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 12th February 2020

[Meeting closed 8.23pm]