

CODSALL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Council Meeting held in the Parish Chambers,
Station Road, Codsall

on Wednesday 12th February 2020 at 7.00pm. following Planning

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

In the absence of the Chairman Cllr Holland, the Vice-Chairman Councillor Chapman acted as Chairman during the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors: Holland and Loftus.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Declaration of interest or written requests received for dispensation - none

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

4. MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 8th January 2020 be approved and signed as a true record.

5. POLICE REPORT

5.1 Crime and anti-social behaviour figures for Codsall & Bilbrook – November to December 2019: Anti-social behaviour 23; Bicycle theft 2; Burglary 5; Criminal damage & Arson 17; Drugs 0; other theft 16; Possession of weapons 1; Public order 1; Robbery 0; Shoplifting 5; Theft from person 1; Vehicle crime 13; Violence & sexual offences 18.

5.2 Crime figures for Codsall & Bilbrook – the annual crime figures for Codsall & Bilbrook 2019 were **received and noted.**

Vigilante group set up in Wheaton Aston to help prevent crime in the village. 16 Million allocated for more Police Officers.

Cllr Spencer reported that Chief Inspector O'Donald will be on the Safer Neighbourhood Panel.

There has been a drop in crime, Anti-social behaviour is also down.

Staffordshire Police have applied for an additional 90 Police Officers, not sure how many will come to South Staffordshire, it takes two years to train to become a Police Officer.

Since PCSO Tom Evans left, Codsall does not have its own PCSO at present, two PCSO's from Perton cover Codsall and Bilbrook for the time being. Looking forward, Bilbrook and Codsall may get one or two PCSO's, in the meantime they will utilise Specials.

It is reported that the Smart Alert is not working at present.

The new Chief Inspector is introducing a new initiative and asking Codsall and Bilbrook what their three local priorities/needs would be.

ANPR – 1 proactive day

Funding for County Lines

Apply for funding for new Specials

The Councillors had a discussion on what they feel should be the three priorities for Codsall.

1. To stop car, van and drug crime
2. Greater Police visibility, a permanent PCSO on duty
3. Stop and search for weapons and drugs

Resolved the Clerk writes to the Chief Inspector indicating what the three priorities for policing in Codsall would be.

5.3 **Crime and anti-social behaviour Police Report for Locality 4**

No report received. PCSO unable to attend.

6. **URGENT CORRESPONDENCE AND DISCUSSION TOPICS**

6.1 **Codsall Station Parking** – various correspondence relating to Oaken Field Carpark and parking on Station Road were considered.

A suggestion of either double or single yellow lines being placed along Station Road. Cllr Spencer advised that Staffordshire County Council enforcement team can deal with parking on the drop kerb and a white 'H' mark could be put in to help highlight the drop kerb.

Cllr Spencer advised that South Staffordshire District Council could also help with issuing a polite notice to drivers parking on Station Road, advising them of the problems that they are causing.

Cllr Bob Spencer then went on to seek councillors thoughts regarding spending his County Councillor money should it be all spent on yellow lines as has been the case over the years, spent on other highway safety issues that residents have raised with him, such as speeding. Cllr Jenkinson suggested that the money should be spent on yellow lines to be placed on Station Road with parking restrictions between 11am to 11.30am.

Resolved: a site meeting to be arranged for 9.15am on Monday 24th February to assess the condition at Oaken Field carpark.

6.2 **Moatbrook Lane and Wood Road** – an email dated 30th January 2020 from Cllr Spencer regarding flooding on Moatbrook Lane and speeding on Wood Road was considered.

The meeting was advised that a local farmer needs to dig out the ditches on their land. HGV's are using the lane, it appears Sat Navs are taking them this way.

Resolved: for the Clerk to draft and issues a standard polite letter to the companies who's Heavy Goods Vehicles are using the lane as a cut through.

6.3 **Tree planting** – an email dated 28th January 2020 from a former resident of Codsall Wood who would like to mark his 60th birthday next year by planting 60 trees in or around the parish of Codsall was considered.

It was suggested that fruit trees could be an option, the former resident could pay for a report, a suggested site could be on Chapel Lane Playing field as a community orchard. Cllr Spencer said trees could be paid for using "People Helping People" fund.

[Cllr Morrison left the meeting]

6.4 **A Councillor's Workbook on acting on climate change** – the Councillor workbook from the Local Government Association was considered. How much can the Parish Council do? Look to get tool

kits from other Councils. There is an opportunity to start with schools, to hold a local community public meeting. It could be part of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr Wright said the Government keep changing their mind on what is good or what is bad.

Cllr Spencer said we still need to meet practical needs, if we reduce hedge cutting this could be viewed as a cost cutting exercise.

The consensus would be what would residents like to see?

Volunteering, how to show leadership, volunteers, make a difference.

Wombourne has a list of 120 volunteers. Cllr Ewart felt that there is an issue with people sitting in their cars with the engine running especially outside schools.

Resolved:

- To include Climate Change within the Neighbourhood Plan
- To bring to a future meeting of the council some of the reports outlined within the workbook for further consideration.

6.5 Notification by Members of Codsall Parish Council: Register of Members' Acceptance of Gift(s)/Hospitality – a reminder was given to councillors for them to update their notifications if applicable in accordance with the Code of Conduct. **Matter of report.**

6.6 VE Day – 75th Anniversary – Councillors gave consideration to marking the 75th Anniversary on Friday 8th May 2020, i.e. bunting or other initiatives.

A suggestion was made to have an Afternoon Tea Party on the green (Wheel Field), and to liaise with local businesses to help with funds to mark the occasion.

Suggestion were also mentioned regarding Bunting on the streets.

Resolved:

- Bunting to erected in the village centre
- to bring the item back for further discussion on other ideas to mark the occasion at the next Planning meeting on 26th February 2020.

6.7 Wheel Field - Easter Egg Hunt – a suggestion from Cllr Jenkinson, for the Parish Council to organise and run an Easter Egg Hunt on the Wheel Field and if agreed, to consider event date, time, promotion and associated costs.

Councillors discussed for the event to take place either the weekend of the 4th or 5th April, between 10 – 12 noon was suggested. Councillors felt that the event would need to be advertised with leaflets and posters in shops, and perhaps placed in Jungle Boogies. Instructions/rules on how to find a plastic egg. A charge for face painting, a craft tent in case of wet weather on the day. Councillors were in agreement that £300 set aside of the S137 Community Event budget should be used to fund the Easter Egg Hunt.

The Community Group could provide gazebos.

Resolved to bring back to the next Planning Meeting on 26th February 2020 to discuss further and arrange a working party.

7. ACCOUNTS

- 7.1 **Resolved** that a report on Council Finances for year to 31st January 2020 be approved.
- 7.2 **Resolved** that the schedule of payments to 13th February 2020 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:

- Highways are on track with filling in potholes. It is important that people report potholes to ensure they get filled and kept on top of.
- Suckling Green Lane has now been done.

9. CODSALL VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CVHMC)

The minutes of C.V.H.M.C. meeting of the 16th December 2019 was **received and noted.**

10. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

Cllr Barrow reported that there has been a 7% increase in people using the mobile breast screening clinic since it was relocated at the District Council Offices. Looking for the unit to be brought back in the near future.

11. Councillors and Clerks Written Report

The clerk advised the meeting that two site meetings have taken place with playground providers to discuss changes to the play area. The providers will be submitting design ideas before the end of February 2020.

12. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

- 12.1 **Removal of the payphone service from 27 telephone kiosks in South Staffordshire** - [*update to main meeting 13/11/19 – item 6.2 and main meeting 8.1.20 – item 6.3*] – a list of the telephone kiosks currently undergoing review by BT following the District Council raising an objection and vetoing the removal on heritage grounds due to the impact upon the street scene and local character was **received and noted.**
- 12.2 **Staffordshire Parish Councils Association** – bulletins dated 16th, 23rd, 30th January and 6th February 2020 were **received and noted.**
- 12.3 **SSDC – Council News Round-up** – issues 150, 151, 152, 153 and 154 were **received and noted.**
- 12.4 **Staffordshire Pension Fund – Employer Focus** – January 2020 bulletin was **received and noted.**

13. HIGHWAY ISSUES

Concerns with County Council Highways:

The meeting was advised that South Staffordshire Council Street Scene has one sweep street cleaner. Staffordshire County Council are doing some gully clearing. It is important any gully which requires clearing gets reported.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 11th March 2020

[Meeting closed 9.00pm]