

CODSALL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Council Meeting held remotely by Zoom in accordance with Covid-19 2020 regulations on Wednesday 13th January 2021 at 7.00pm following Planning.

Present: Parish Councillors: Mrs V Chapman (Chairman), M Adams, Mrs S Adams, Mrs K Ewart, B Holland, T Jeavons, S Jenkinson, N Loftus & P Wright; **Parish & District Councillor:** Mrs M Barrow & J Michell

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs Morrison & Spencer

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Declaration of interest: Item 6.1 - Cllr Chapman – Chairman & Trustee, Cllr Barrow – Trustee.

There were no written requests received for dispensation.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Limited to 2 minutes per speaker and 15 minutes overall.

None

4. MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9th December 2020 be approved and signed as a true record.

5. POLICE REPORT

5.1 Crime and anti-social behaviour figures for Locality 4

PC Sandy Kaur said that Codsall and Bilbrook has seen a slight increase in distraction burglaries. There are more patrols in the area, we need to get the information out there and build up a repour. PC Sandy Kaur then went on to advise that an earth cable has been stolen from the work site at the South Staffordshire Council Offices. At present crime overall is low and not too serious.

Cllr Jenkinson said it was on Facebook that an elderly couple had been robbed by a couple, but no one has reported crimes to the police.

PC Sandy Kaur advised that victims of crime are being asked to come forward and report these crimes.

With COVID-19 restrictions in place Police are patrolling the area, this has heightened, and fines are being issued for Covid-19 breaches. It appears that people are not taking Coronavirus as seriously as in the first lockdown back in March 2020.

Cllr Holland said there has been media reports of vehicle and catalytical converters being stolen. PC Sandy Kaur advised that these thefts occurred mainly in Perton; there are leads to the perpetrators.

Cllr Jenkinson said it is good to see a police presence and asked the question to PC Kaur if she is on her own, to which she replied that she works alongside PC Percival.

Cllr Jenkinson continued to say that visible policing is needed for people to have the confidence to come forward to report crime.

Cllr Holland asked PC Kaur what is the current situation with the custody suit, will this remain in Cannock, Watling Street? PC Kaur informed the meeting that as far as she is aware the custody suite for the foreseeable future will remain at Watling Street.

The Chairman advised that herself, Cllr Spencer and Cllr Martin Adams are on the Safer Neighbourhood Panel Committee and said they would bring the issue of custody suits up at their next meeting.

6. URGENT CORRESPONDENCE AND DISCUSSION TOPICS

[Cllr Chapman left the meeting during the following discussion. Cllr Ewart took the position as Chairman]

- 6.1 Grant request – South Staffordshire Works Clubs** – a grant request for £750.00 was considered. Cllr Michell said this request was from South Staffs Work Club, is this grant request just for Codsall & Bilbrook or would it be proportioned with other South Staffs areas.

Cllr Adams advised that the grant was for Codsall & Bilbrook rent costs for the use of Trinity Methodist Church to hold the sessions.

Cllr Jenkinson proposed funds are for the premises of Trinity Methodist Church.

Resolved approval for the grant request of £750.00 for the use of rent costs to hold sessions at Trinity Methodist Church.

[Cllr Chapman returned to the meeting and resumed position as Chairman]

- 6.2 Defibrillator** – a request from Cllr Holland for consideration for a suitable place to re-site the defibrillator which is currently located at the side of the old Lloyds bank building was given.

Cllr Barrow thought the most appropriate place to site the defibrillator would be at the Co-op store and the Parish Council should write to them and ask if they would consider the request.

Cllr Jenkinson said the cost of a new defibrillator with maintenance would cost around £2,500.00. Cllr Holland asked if the Co-op would maintain it.

- 6.3 Parish Council Publicity** – deferred from meeting held 9th December 2020 regarding Social Media. A draft Social Media Policy and platforms to be used and safety measures required were considered. Cllr Chapman said I would like the village to be aware of what we are doing. Stopping and talking does not override what we are doing. People have noticed the War Memorial works. People also need to be aware of Parish Council's open spaces using Facebook. Cllr Michell gave an example of blue bins not being emptied; a message could be put on Facebook to say when the bins will be emptied.

Cllr Holland said we need to message on Codsall & Bilbrook Facebook page. Need to use this page to blow our own trumpet.

Cllr Michell said he would speak with South Staffordshire Council Street Scene's Andy Aston regarding delays in emptying bins and notifying Parish Council's so they can assist in getting the message out.

7. ACCOUNTS

- 7.1 **Resolved** that a report on Council Finances for year to 31st December 2020 be approved.
- 7.2 **Resolved** that the schedule of payments up to 7th January 2021 be approved.
- 7.3 Confirmation by the Chairman of the authorisation of the Clerks time sheet. **Matter of report.**
- 7.4 **Annual Budget Precept Requirement for 2021/22** – was received and considered:
- i. The Minutes of the Finance Committee dated 25th November 2020 were received. **Resolved approval.**
 - ii. **Parish Office equipment** – consideration was given to the request from Cllr M Adams for the replacement of the Parish Office computers. Cllr Adams feels that the Parish Council should look to renew the computers every 5 years due to changes in technology, the computers were last upgraded in 2008.
Resolved approval for a reserve to be made in the 2020-21 Budget/Precept requirement utilising the gain from changes to the Council Tax Base Rate for the replacement of the Parish Councils computers.
 - iii. **Codsall Parish Council's Finalised Draft Budget/Precept requirement for 2021/22.** Cllr Holland proposed acceptance of the recommendations for the finalised draft Budget/Precept requirement with the addition of the agreed in item 7.4 (ii), this was seconded by Cllr Chapman, a vote was taken:
The vote was unanimous in approving the finalised draft Budget/Precept 2021/22 with the addition agreed in item 7.4 (ii).
Resolved a Budget Precept 2021/22 request will be made to SSDC of £183,552.60 (a 2% increase to last year equivalent to 0.02p per week on Band D) as outlined in the finalised draft budget with an amendment to reflect the Councils decision in item 7.4(ii).

8. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Holland asked that in the absence of Cllr Spencer could the Clerk email Cllr Spencer to make him aware of a potential safety hazard for young children regarding the new footpath on the new Watery Lane housing site which runs straight down and out onto Sandy Lane, could safety barriers be erected by Staffordshire County Council.

9. CODSALL VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CVHMC)

There were no minutes of C.V.H.M.C.

Cllr Barrow said the removal of asbestos and a new eco-friendly boiler will be funded from grants.

Cllr Chapman informed everyone that the current Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer will be retiring in March. A new advert will go on the website, looking for new volunteers to go on the committee.

10. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

A verbal report from District Councillors:

- Cllr Barrow said the council is concerned with the Covid-19 figures.
- Looking at the local plan within the next month.
- Blue bins will be emptied tomorrow staffing and snow have caused delays.
- There is an increase in fly tipping, however it is being removed quite quickly by SSDC.

11. Councillors and Clerks Written Report

The following clerks report was received and noted:

War Memorial Works — a missing stone from the end pillar of the wall by the telegraph pole has now been fixed by the contractor; the invoice for the works has now been paid. Recent frost damage to the mortar is being looked into by the Contractor.

Parish Council Noticeboards — We have started to install the new Parish Noticeboards.

Finance Committee Meeting - Budget/Precept — The Draft budget has been completed and will be discussed and approved at tonight's Main meeting.

Village Hall New Playground — We are still scheduled to start works end of February. Service reports are being obtained.

Parish Council's Website — Updates for the new calendar year have been made.

Oaken Field Drive — Bridleway & Path - Specification for quotations have been drawn up.

12. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

12.1 Highways update — an update from Cllr Spencer regarding highways issues in Codsall was received & noted:

- Fly tipping in layby on A41 has now been cleared. Landowner has installed a barbed-wire fence to prevent further tipping.
- Heath House Lane flooding is mainly due to a large pond, works scheduled for the beginning of February.
- Flooding around Dam Mill caused by run-off from a nearby field, this remains a problem and will continued to be monitored.
- Ditch clearing in Station Road, Highways working with landowner to address this.
- Outstanding drain and gully cleaning in Oaken Lanes, Moatbrook Lane remain on the schedule list but with no delivery dates at present.

Cllr Jenkinson said on the A41 a camera is in position, South Staffordshire Council Enforcement have a good record on catching the culprits. There is a CCTV sign on Stafford lane, this has helped stop the problems.

Street Scene are clearing up quickly.

Cllr Barrow said for District Councillor's to get together to work out a way forward.

- 13. Items for future** - Each Councillor may use this opportunity to report on matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise items for future agendas.

Councillors should note that this is not an opportunity for debate or decision making:

- Cllr Barrow would like to discuss the new Codsall community Hub.
- Cllr Jenkinson would like to discuss Codsall House Field – he will contact the Clerk before the next Agenda has to be distributed to discuss the details.

14. HIGHWAY ISSUES

Concerns to be raised with County Council Highways:

Cllr Chapman mentioned that a Kelly's Highway van is parking overnight on the pull-in to the cemetery on Church Road.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 10th February 2021

[Meeting closed 8.28pm]