

CODSALL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Council Meeting held remotely by Zoom in accordance to Covid-19 2020 regulations on
Wednesday 10th February 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 **Parish & County Councillor:** B Spencer

1. APOLOGIES

None

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

4. MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13th January 2021 be approved and signed as a true record.

5. POLICE REPORT

5.1 Crime and anti-social behaviour figures for Locality 4

Cllr Jenkinson said in South Staffordshire there are 97 new Police, but none here yet.

Councillor Jenkinson expressed his view that if we get a new Police Crime Commissioner, we should invite to a Parish Council meeting he feels that not enough crime is being reported and that we need more of a Police presence, to bring back how we were going to manage the youth drug problems, smoking, and drinking.

We have no visible PCSO, we need to encourage them to come.

Cllr Holland mentioned the "drug den" off Oaken Drive near Springfield House which got dismantled. Cllr Holland said that an action plan is now needed on how to discourage young people from taking drugs.

Cllr Holland proposed that a discussion with Maggie Quinn the Community Safety Officer for of SSDC (who is the link between the Council and Police) and ask for a plan of action to stop youths drug taking and request a report showing youth engagement opportunities and that we expect an intervention report in 8 weeks. This was seconded by Cllr Jenkinson.

6. URGENT CORRESPONDENCE AND DISCUSSION TOPICS

6.1 Codsall Community Hub - Cllr Barrow provided the meeting with the following update.

Cllr Barrow said the Codsall Community Hub wanted to improve the facilities within the village, provide food parcels, someone to listen, and

signposting. Cllr Barrow said she had been in contact with the Housing Association, schools etc. The Hub is open twice a week at the Forget Me Not Club in Codsall for people who need support. Food packages and donations received from the Salvation Army and the Co-op.

The food parcels are distributed on a Friday. One gentleman is having medical treatment. If you know of anyone who needs help point them in the direction of Codsall Community Hub.

The Manager of the Co-op store in Codsall is helping by asking people to donate food by leaving a basket by the entrance for donations to be left. The Manager of the Bull Pub is helping by allowing the Hub to store the food.

Cllr Jenkinson said there could become more of a need for help and support as people come off furlough.

Two sacks of potatoes had been kindly donated at Christmas and 26 food parcels, it has been a good response and we are grateful.

Cllr Jenkinson said as a result of COVID-19 it is a bad time we are helping all kinds of people, this will only get worse in time, also bad weather has prevented some people getting to the shops.

Cllr Spencer gave a huge thank you for all that the Hub are doing - it is making a real difference.

- 6.2 Casual Vacancy** – the meeting was advised that Cllr Morrison had resigned from her position as a Councillor on the council. SSDC Election Team have been notified. **Matter of report.**
- 6.3 Wheel Field – Annual Fair** – a request from Mr Dobson for use of the Wheel Field for the Annual Fair from Thursday 13th May - 17th May 2021, subject to national and local COVID-19 measures in place at the time of the opening date was considered. Cllr Spencer didn't want to be a kill joy but thought we should not be making any plans for holding events and social gatherings and suggest we thank him for his request and at this point in time that we do not want to hold a public event, perhaps he could make arrangements to come later on in the year.
- Resolved** that the Clerks writes to say that his request for use on the Wheel Field in May in declined but suggest he arranges a date for later on in the year.
- 6.4 Oaken Field –**
- i. Commemorative Tree Request** – an email from a resident requesting the planting of a commemorative tree was considered. Cllr Holland proposes that the Clerk along with the Chairman of the Open Spaces Committee discuss a location and suitable species of tree. **Resolved** that the Clerk arranges a site visit with the Chairman of the Open Spaces Committee.

ii. Car Park – update.

Cllr Holland proposes the car park be landscaped by Thorn Architect, the same architects who designed the car park. The Chairman's allowance or the underspend on the Open Spaces reserve could fund this.

It was suggested before going ahead with any plan layout that Cllr Spencer chases up Staffordshire County Council's Liaison Officer for Amey to whether phase 2 of the pedestrian pathway from the station to the car park would still go ahead. Cllr Jenkinson suggested we name the car park "Marshall", after the late former County Councillor Robert Marshall.

Cllr Holland proposed that the Clerk to instruct the landscape architect. to create a planting scheme taking in consideration the design based around the original pathway layout submitted from Staffs County Council's Liaison Officer with the cost of this met from underspend of the Open Spaces Reserve and the Chairman's Allowance, this was seconded and agreed by Councillors.

Cllr Chapman said the car park is a special feature on the village and needs a good planting scheme. The Council were unanimous in Oaken Car Park being landscaped.

Cllr Spencer said he had noticed while walking that two of the bat boxes are in a state of dis-repair and that these need to be fixed.

Resolved that the clerk arranges for the architect to visit the car park to create a planting scheme including costs. The cost of the appointment of Thorn Architecture to be met from any underspend of the Open Spaces Reserve and the Chairman's Allowance, the design is brought back to the next Main meeting of the council.

6.5 Defibrillator – re-siting and maintenance– an update to meeting 13th January 2021 – and an email dated 30th January 2021 was considered. Matt Jeavons who is a Trustee of South Staffs First Responders advised the meeting that he looks after the C PADS sites in Codsall and Codsall Wood. These require a small amount of electricity to keep the pads running. The first issue is the re-siting of the Codsall defibrillator which is currently position on the side of the old Lloyds Bank. It also requires new batteries at a cost of £240. And new pads at a cost of £30

A new cabinet is needed as the lock has recently been broken.

The new defibrillator needs to be in a more prominent position, a suggestion of the front of the Co-op store might be a good location, there is no cost for the defibrillator, also an additional one at Birches Bridge shops.

They are easy to use, and training is not necessary anyone would have the capability to use it.

The cost to move the defibrillator from Lloyds Bank to the Co-op would cost £650.

The Hardware store at Birches Bridge would be a possibility to site a new additional defibrillator.

Re-siting the old defibrillator to the Co-op gives easy access by foot or in a car.

Cllr Holland proposed we record out thanks to South Staffs First Responders for the information given and the Clerk, in consultation with Matt Jeavons

discuss getting the kit up to standard and also an additional defibrillator at Birches Bridge and the cost of funding required.

Cllr Spencer also wished to thank Matt Jeavons and that an additional defibrillator at Birches Bridge is a good idea. The Ambulance Service would want some say in where the defibrillators would go, and South Staffs First Responders would work with them on a suitable location.

Most people know where they are, but could advertise the new locations, need to discuss were.

If the defibrillator is needed by telephoning 999 this would direct them to the new site.

The Council were unanimous in Cllr Holland's proposal.

Resolved and the Clerk, in consultation with Matt Jeavons discuss getting the kit up to standard and also an additional defibrillator at Birches Bridge and the cost of funding required.

- 6.5 Localities offer to Parish Councils** – an consider email dated 20th January 2021 was considered. **Resolved** to ask Maggie Quinn of South Staffordshire Council to kick start this safer neighbourhood.
- 6.6 COVID Marshal** – to receive update email dated 1st February 2021. **Matter of report.**
- 6.7 Staffordshire Lieutenancy** – a letter dated 1st February 2021 was **received and noted.**
- 6.8 War Memorial** - Cllr Holland said the job that was done to repair the stone wall was a poor one, mortar has crumbled away. The Clerk informed the meeting that lime mortar was used, in line with proper conservation methods and the company employed to do the job are specialised in repairing ancient buildings and monuments and the use of lime. The Clerk went on to say that shaling of the lime mortar is not uncommon especially with cold weather and with the works only being completed in the Autumn the lime did not have the time to properly cure. The contractor has advised that they will come out under the works warranty and do the necessary repairs once the risk of frost has passed.

7. ACCOUNTS

- 7.1 Resolved** that a report on Council Finances for year to 31st January 2021 be approved.
- 7.2 Resolved** that the schedule of payments up to 5th February 2021 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.

- New Police Officers have been recruited; it takes 12 months to be trained up. There is a new PCSO. Sgt Kelly Wareing is the Deputy Commander.
- Maggie Quinn the Community Safety Officer for South Staffordshire Council gave a presentation at Bilbrook Parish Council. She should be invited to a

Codsall Parish Council meeting and give her a warm welcome. If we want this partnership to work

- The Community Safety Challenge panel are not meeting at the moment.
- There has not been an update on potholes and flooding, gritting is priority at the moment.
- Members of the public are urged to please report any potholes via the County Council portal, we need to encourage more people to do this.

Cllr Holland asked if the pedestrian gateway on Sandy Lane is on the list to be done; Cllr Spencer advised he will report back.

9. CODSALL VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CVHMC)

No meetings had taken place due to COVID-19, therefore no minutes were available. The Chairman Cllr Chapman advised the meeting that so far three local people have responded to the recent advertisement for new Trustees.

10. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Report from District Councillors:

- Cllr Barrow said that there is now a Covid-19 testing station at the leisure centre in Codsall, this is aimed at those who have to go to work.
- Cllr Michell said due to Covid-19 everything is on hold at the moment.

11. Councillors and Clerks Written Report

The Clerks written report was received and noted.

12. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

None

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 a discussion on improvements Codsall House Field.
- Cllr Michell would like to discuss the use of weed killer around the village and strimming by South Staffordshire Council Street Scene, is this something we want done.

14. HIGHWAY ISSUES

Concerns with County Council Highways:

Councillor Spencer advised the meeting that Staffordshire County Council had been tied up recently with gritting due to the cold spell, however he will be chasing up issues with regards to potholes and flooding and would update the council at the next meeting.

Cllr Jenkinson said that he would like to make a comment on flooding, it has been happening for a long time now, over 12 months in areas such as Keepers Lane, Shop Lane, and Barnhurst Lane. Barnhurst Lane last year looked like a bomb site with potholes, the people on the boats help clear the pathway of litter, but it is an accident waiting to happen, when it rains over ¾ of the road is full of water and Cllr Spencer keeps saying nobody is reporting these flooding issues, so nothing is happening. Moatbrook Road is going on for some time now and that has big issues and sop why do not Highways just take one job, even if it is just one job a year at least something gets done, but nothing seems to get done. In Shop Lane it is a disaster around there, when we have rain it just becomes another accident waiting to happen, we need more done regarding flooding. We only notice flooding when we get rain and then we get issues. When we get frost, we get problems, we only care when things happen and if they are not being reported I cannot believe it, Cllr Spencer knows more than me.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 10th March 2021

[Meeting closed 8.53pm]