

CODSALL PARISH COUNCIL

MAIN MINUTES

**Council Meeting held in the Parish Chambers, Station Road, Codsall
on Wednesday 10th November 2021 at 7.00pm. following Planning**

Five members of the public present

Present: Parish Councillors: Mrs K Ewart (Chairman), M Adams, Mrs S Adams, N Caine, Mrs V Chapman, R Hillback, B Holland, T Jeavons, S Jenkinson, N Loftus, C Macey & P Wright;

Parish & District Councillors: Mrs M Barrow & J Michell

The Chairman asked if the meeting was being filmed the Clerk confirmed the meeting was.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence received from Councillor Spencer

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Declarations of interest received:

Agenda item 6.3 - Cllr Hillback works for the M.P. for South Staffordshire.

Agenda item 6.7 – Cllr Caine – Committee member of the Staffordshire Parish Council's Association.

Agenda item 6.11 – Cllr Barrow, Chapman and Ewart – members of the Codsall Christmas Fair Committee.

In accordance to Standing Order v.2iii The Chairman requested that agenda item 6.11 be moved to the start of the meeting, Councillors resolved approval for the item to be moved.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman of Codsall Christmas Fair Committee advised that as two of the three schools had pulled out of the carol singing around the Christmas tree because of Covid-19 and staff numbers. He had approached Tettenhall Operatic Singing & Community Carols, but they are not available. He understands that the Council need to talk about Covid issues and if measures have to be taken for the Carols.

The Christmas Fair has nearly 50 stalls coming, and it could be great draw for our local businesses. The fair is still going to go ahead, and he is hoping that the carol singing goes ahead too.

Representatives of Histons Hill Residents Association came to discuss issues of road safety along the Histons Hill road and also raise their concerns regarding the village with the proposed future planning and infrastructure needs. The Residents Association advised that Staffordshire County Council said that the Parish Council would be responsible to fund a Speed Indicator Device, Staffordshire County Council would be looking into a traffic survey. The resident went on to advise that their group would also be willing to set up a speed watch scheme, they have at least fourteen willing volunteers however they would like the Parish Council's support in funding the equipment.

The Chairman Cllr Ewart said we will look into the issue and talk with County Councillor Cllr Spencer and Mark Keeling from Staffordshire County Council.

Gavin Williamson the MP for South Staffordshire said it needs to go through the Parish Council.

We need to do something; however, a survey costs a lot of money.

Cllr M Adams asked if the group is prepared to set up a community speed watch campaign.

4. MINUTES

Cllr Adams said he did not want to bring this up at the meeting and wanted to be subtle regarding wording used in the minutes by a phone call however, the Clerk said that he would need to bring this up at the meeting.

The Clerk read out her notes on the item concerned and the meeting was advised that the minute takers notes should be taken as the true record.

Cllr Sue Adams said that she had an issue with something she felt that she had not said. The Clerk read out her notes on the item.

The Chairman Cllr Ewart said that she also had an issue with something she felt that she had not said. The Clerk read out her notes on the item.

A vote was taken to approve the minutes: 10 for; 4 abstentions; 0 refused.

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

5. POLICE REPORT

5.1 Crime and anti-social behaviour figures for Locality 4

7th October – 6th November 2021.

Cllr Jenkinson said the crime figures are high.

Cllr Barrow said the Crime Commissioner would prefer more Police Constables on the streets.

Cllr Jenkinson said Perton have set up a boxing club, but Codsall have no PCSO's. Cllr Caine said they no longer have Shona and only have Ashely and that Codsall have the local Police if there is an incident, Perton has no community Policing however Codsall has a Police presence with the police's office being based at the Council Offices in Codsall.

Cllr Barrow said there is no designated spots for PCSO's, they are all shared by the five localities of South Staffordshire. There are five Police Officers, if they are sent to an incident they have to go in pairs. We think the issues are an emergency, but in the realms of things they are not. We are working with Ben Adams, the problem is our incidents are not significant compared to other areas, there is not the manpower to cover all incidents therefore prioritising is necessary.

Cllr Jenkinson said the public have no faith in the Police. There was an incident at the Co-op, this was not reported to the Police. We should have one dedicated PCSO for each area, we are sitting back and doing nothing.

Agenda item brought forward

- 6.11 Carols Around the Tree 2021** – consideration given to whether the Parish Council in light of Covid-19 wishes the event to still go ahead in the same manner as pre Covid and if so, if any precautionary measures need to be introduced. Chairman said we should continue as normal

6. URGENT CORRESPONDENCE AND DISCUSSION TOPICS

6.1 Grant Applications –

6.1.1 Codsall and Bilbrook Cancer Support Group – a grant request for £300.00 dated 11th October 2021 was considered.

Cllr Hillback said thought that this is a great cause

Resolved approval for awarding a grant of £300.00

6.1.2 Let's Talk – a grant request for £500.00 dated 16th October 2021 was considered.

Resolved approval for awarding a grant of £500.00

6.2 Open Spaces –

6.2.1 Oaken Field Car Park – a residents email dated 28th October 2021 concerning safety on the car park during darkness was considered. Chairman said we should write back to state no lighting was part of the conditions imposed for the car park.

6.2.2 Watery Lane Leisure Gardens – the purchase of a replacement noticeboard for use on site for Parish Council & or Watery Lane Allotment Society business was considered. Cllr Jenkinson said he had been to several Working Party Meetings. The Allotment Association now have a new Chair and Committee Members.

There needs to be a way of getting information to members also if there is an incident on site we can display, an address and or location reference. A new notice board is something they need, a functional one.

Resolved approval for a new notice board.

6.2.3 Open Spaces Schedule of Works for 2021/22 – 2022/23 a report was received from the Clerk. The Chairman Cllr Ewart said the report shows where we are at with the open spaces.

6.2.4 Codsall House Field – [update to Item 6.1.6 - 13th October 2021]

Regards to a sample, the contractor has to have to get one panel made specifically, which could take a few weeks. The contractor wishes to receive some form of verbal commitment from the council before they go to the expense of manufacturing a panel.

Acceptance of the supply and fit replacement estate railings around Codsall House field at an approximate cost of £15,822.00 was considered. Detail of Works – Supply and Install 144m of 1200mm high steel estate railings, galvanised powder coated white. Flat Rails are 8mm depth (currently they are 6mm). To take down and dispose of existing railings.

Resolved approval, including approval of the purchase of kissing gate and vehicle entrance gate.

[Cllr Hillback left the Chambers]

6.3 Road Safety/Speeding in the Village – a letter from the MP for South Staffordshire in relation to a meeting with the Histons Hill Residents Association and Staffordshire County Council was received and considered.

Cllr Barrow said she was asked to meet with the MP for South Staffordshire and residents, 25 to 30 met. The speed of the traffic and how they turn at the bottom of Histons Hill. Speed bumps and chicanes were discussed. The group looked at having VAS signs that shows what speed vehicles are doing. They also looked into a speed gun as used in Codsall Wood by the volunteer community speed watch, several people wanted to start one.

Cllr Barrow went on to say that it would be beneficial to volunteer it in another area, like Codsall Wood to stop the embarrassment of neighbours being caught speeding.

Arrange training and risk assessment with Michell Shaker.

It may be difficult to set up community speed watch on the bridge at Histons Hill, however this is where the mobile camera van is positioned.

Funding would be needed for a speed gun before any training would be given.

Look at residents for funding.

The group has fourteen volunteers.

Cllr Caine said in Perton they have SID signs that show a smiley face if you are within the speed limit.

Cllr Adams said the group could quite well apply for a grant from the Parish Council for a speed gun.

Resolved to bring back to the next meeting.

[Cllr Hillback returned to the Chambers]

6.4 Memorial Requests –

6.4.1 Memorial tree request on Oaken Field – a residents letter dated 11th October 2021 was considered. Cllr Jenkinson suggested looking at the location before deciding on which type of tree.

6.4.2 Codsall War Memorial Garden request – a residents email dated 16th October 2021 for ashes to be spread within the Memorial Garden was considered. Cllr Ewart said they donated the ground; we need to be considerate to their request. We cannot have a permanent memorial, just ashes.

Resolved approval to the ashes at the memorial site but no memorial to be placed.

6.5 The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons 2nd June 2022 – *[update to main meeting 14/7/21 6.9 and planning meeting 28/7/21 7.2 and main meeting 6.3, 8/9/21]* – a letter dated 21st October 2021 from Deputy Lieutenant of the Staffordshire Lieutenancy was considered. It was suggested to having a Tea Party, things for the big lunch. We need to form a sub-committee,

Resolved to be brought back to the next main meeting.

6.6 Free trees for planting projects – an email from Woodland creation offering free trees for planting projects dated 31st October 2021 was considered. The Chairman advised the meeting that a minimum of 150 trees is too many. Leave it at the moment not suitable. It was suggested to see if other Parish Councils are interested. The Chairman said that perhaps the Clerk to write to other Parish Councils to see if these are interested in a share of the tree and if they have a suitable place for them. Cllr Caine suggested black poplar as they are the rarest tree in Britain.

6.7 Local Plan – [updated to planning meeting 7.1, 27/10/21]. – an update from Councillors who attended the Local Plan Consultation Meeting on 9th November and for Councillors to give consideration to a formal response.

Cllr Holland said the fundamental validity of the number of houses and that the numbers are challengeable, however it is thwart with difficulties. The Local Plan is looking at numbers from the Black Country. Our members proposed at looking at the numbers.

Resolved that a workshop to outline the Parish Council's response to be held on Monday 22nd November at 10am for Councillors who are able to attend. The draft response to be brought to the next Planning meeting for consideration.

6.9 Japanese Knot Weed – (raised at main meeting 13/10/21, item 13). Cllr Barrow said she would speak with Ryan Taylor from South Staffordshire Council.

6.10 Pothole quality repairs – photographs supplied by Cllr Macey on the poor quality of pothole repairs (raised at main meeting 13/10/21, item 13). The Chairman advised an email should be sent to Mark Keeling of Staffordshire County Council.

6.11 Carols Around the Tree 2021 – consideration given whether the Parish Council in light of Covid-19 wishes the event to still go ahead in the same manner as pre Covid and if so, if any precautionary measures need to be introduced. The Chairman said there is no risk and we should go ahead with Carols Around the Tree. Need to put this on the Parish Council's website. Cllr Jenkinson suggested Christmas music be played in the background at the parish chambers buffet. The Chairman Cllr Ewart said for her and the Clerk would arrange.

7. ACCOUNTS

7.1 Resolved that a report on Council Finances for year to 31st October 2021 be approved.

7.2 Resolved that the schedule of payments to 8th November 2021 be approved.

7.3 Confirmation by the Chairman of the authorisation of the Clerks time sheet. **Resolved** to bring to the next meeting.

8. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

None

- 9. CODSALL VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CVHMC)**
The minutes of C.V.H.M.C. meeting of the 27th September 2021 was **received and noted.**
- 10. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**
A report from District Councillors.
- Bin collection is improving, hoping this will continue. Residents are asked to give 3 days' grace before contacting the council.
- 11. Councillors and Clerks Report**
A report from the Clerk was previously circulated.
Cllr Barrow has asked Andy Aston of South Staffordshire Council to take a look at the trees in Bakers Way (by Love & Liquor) concerns over health and safety due to the conditions of the trees. Cllr Jenkinson thanked Cllr Barrow for doing this.
- 12. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE**
- 12.1 Commonwealth Games 2022 Cycling Time Trial Event** – details of the event taking place on 3rd and 4th August 2022 from South Staffordshire Council were **received and noted.**
- 12.2 Councillors have Standards** – supporting paperwork to training by Zoom was **received and noted.**
- 13. Items for future –**
- The Council's Policy on the filming of meetings
- 14. HIGHWAY ISSUES**
- Large hole on Hollybush Lane, the Clerk to report it. It was thought by members that if a reported road fault was not looked at within twelve months it would drop off the systems.

NEXT MEETING**Wednesday 8th December 2021***[Meeting closed 8.45pm]*