

CODSALL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

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

on Wednesday 14th December 2016 at 7.00pm. following Planning

3 Members of the Public were present

PRESENT: Parish & District Councillors Mrs M Barrow (Chairman), J Michell; **Parish Councillors:** N Caine, Mrs V Chapman, Mrs K Ewart, B Holland (late), T Jeavons, S Jenkinson (late), I Kenyon, Mrs C Millar, Mrs A Morrison, B Spencer & P Wright; **Parish & County Councillor** R Marshall

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs B Holland who had a prior engagement & N Loftus & S Jenkinson who may arrive late.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Declaration of interest: Cllr Mrs Chapman item 7.5.3 - a Trustee. Cllr I Kenyon item 7.5.3, a non-pecuniary interest – a volunteer.

There were no written requests received for dispensation.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

4. MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd November 2016 be approved and signed as a true record.

5. POLICE REPORT

5.1 Crime and anti-social behaviour figures for Locality 4

28 days up to 30.11.2016: Arson 1, Burglary dwellings 3, criminal damage (excluding arson) 5, less serious violent crime with injury 5, other offences 2, other serious sexual offences 1, other theft 8, other violence against the person 8, theft from motor vehicles 2, Vehicle interference 1, ASB 18.

In the 12-month period crime figures in the area has gone up, but ASB figures have gone down.

Cllr Spencer advised the meeting that at the last meeting of the Safer Neighbourhood Panel statistics provided show that crime in South Staffordshire is on the rise as it is nationally, however the percentage increase rise is lower in Codsall than other areas of South Staffs. Due to the last local inspection Codsall may lose a PSCO who may be deployed elsewhere within the district.

Councillors raised their concerns regarding the possible loss of a PSCO and felt that crime is lower in Codsall because of prevention and visible policing.

[7.36pm Cllr Jenkinson arrived]

Resolved that the Clerk writes to Inspector Giles Parsons to raise the Parish Councils concerns on the possible loss of one of the Parish's PCSO's.

6. CHAIRMANS REPORT

Acting Chairman Cllr Barrow informed the meeting that the Chairman over the past few weeks had attended a number of functions including attending the opening of the recently revamped Co-op; presented the Best Dressed Window plaque to the winner, Spangles. The Chairman also attended the Christmas Carols Around the Tree.

7. URGENT CORRESPONDENCE AND DISCUSSION TOPICS

- 7.1 South Staffordshire Enterprise Campus** – an email dated 6th December from South Staffordshire Business Hub was received and noted.
- 7.2 Affordable Housing Need in Parish of Codsall**- correspondence dated 7th November and 6th December 2016 was received and consideration was given for an Affordable Housing Need Survey to be conducted in the wider parish. **Resolved** approval for an Affordable Housing Need Survey to be carried out by the Housing Association.
- 7.3 Consultation on South Staffordshire’s draft Housing Enforcement Policy** – an email dated 5th December 2016 from South Staffordshire Council was **received and noted**.
- 7.4 Request for Sign Funding for Codsall Wood** -correspondence received from The Codsall Wood Village Committee was received and considered. **Resolved** that the Codsall Wood Village Committee be invited to attend a meeting of the Council and the Clerk would bring to that meeting additional costings for further consideration.
- 7.5 Grant Applications to received and consider the following Grant Applications:**
- 7.5.1 Codsall & Bilbrook Twinning Assoc** – [carried over from meeting held on 23rd November 2016] - a grant request of £336.00 towards the costs of hosting the bi-annual visit of Codsall’s Twinning partner - St Pryve.
Resolved approval to the grant request of £336.00.
[Cllrs Chapman & Kenyon left the Chamber]
- 7.5.2 Citizens Advice Bureau** [carried over from meeting held on 23rd November 2016] - a grant request of £500.00 to help fund the weekly advice sessions held in Codsall. **Resolved** approval to issue a grant for £400.00.
- 7.5.3 South Staffs Work Club** [carried over from meeting held on 14th September 2016] - a grant request towards the club’s operational costs. **Resolved** approval to issue a grant for £400.00.
[Cllrs Chapman & Kenyon returned to the Chamber]
[8.10pm Cllr Holland arrived]
- 7.6 Best Kept Village Competition 2017 – Codsall** – correspondence received from the Community Council of Staffordshire was received and considered. Following a lengthy discussion, the meeting **resolved** that the Parish Council would ascertain the interest from residents via the Parish Council’s noticeboard and website. If interest is established the item would be brought back for further discussion at a future meeting.

7.7 Public Space CCTV – an email dated 8th December 2016 from South Staffordshire Council (SSC) detailing SSC's consideration to moving to a re deployable system from 1st April 2017 and an invitation for the Parish Council to consider purchasing its own camera at a cost of £3,640.00 plus moving costs of £200.00 was received.

Councillors raised their concerns that the static CCTV cameras may be changed to re deployable cameras by SSC, questions raised were: where does the responsibility lie; would notices must be displayed when cameras are in situ; has the police conducted a risk assessment if the static cameras are removed.

Cllr Spencer was surprised at the costs involved and advised that the Police have their own mobile cameras that they put up in problem hotspots.

Councillors felt the fixed cameras work well as a deterrent.

Resolved that a representative from SSC's Policy & Partnership Services is invited to a meeting of the Parish Council to outline the plan and Cllr Spencer would enquire with the Police Service on risk assessment and feedback to the next meeting of the council.

7.8 Let' Work Together – an email dated 9th December and a copy Agenda for latest training module to be held on 16th January 2017 were **received and noted.**

Any Councillor wishing to attend to advise the Clerk. **Matter of report.**

7.9 Neighbourhood Watch – Cyber Crime Survey – an email dated 13th December 2016 was **received and noted.**

7.10 Codsall Station and London Midland – Adopt a Station Project – an email dated 13th December 2016. Cllrs outlined that one of the reasons cited by Codsall Station Preservation Society for disbanding was the lack of support given by London Midland to the group.

Resolved that the Parish Council writes to London Midland to request details of additional support offered by London Midland to any group/organisation wishing to take on the responsibility.

8. ACCOUNTS

8.1 Resolved that a report on Council Finances for year to 30th November 2016 be approved.

8.2 Resolved that the schedule of payments to 14th December 2016 be approved.

8.3 Confirmation by the Chairman of the authorisation of the Clerks time sheet. **Matter of report.**

9. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

A written report from County Councillor Robert Marshall:

- SCC Pension Fund is on track
- Fire Service Retained Duty System reduction in budget from £5.5m to £4.5 m no affect to service levels but would aid transparency.
- Bonfire week more attendance was required in the north of the County especially in Stoke.
- County Council are cutting their Drug & Alcohol budget, however the number of alcohol related A & E admissions in the County are 20% higher than the national average.

- Business rates for the i54 will be continued to be shared with Wolverhampton up to 2037, despite the motorway access will be paid off by 2027.
- County Council has an overspend of £12.2m mainly due to the Better Care Fund of £15m not being received from the Clinical Commissioning Group.
- Amey contract for Highways will be scrutinised in early 2017.

A leaflet on the new waste charges was distributed to Councillors by Cllr Marshall.

10. CODSALL VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CVHMC)

There were no minutes of C.V.H.M.C. meetings received this evening.

11. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

A report from District Councillors:

- South Staffordshire Council (SSC) received an outstanding audit.
- Finances are in a stronger mid-term position.
- Challenge Panel is reviewing Grants, each recipient must be more accountable.
- Cllr Marshall will consider calling in 59 Suckling Green for members to decide.

12. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

12.1 Staffordshire Parish Councils Association –bulletins dated 24th November and 1st December 2016 were **received and noted.**

12.2 Healthwatch Staffordshire – Conversation Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent bulletin was **received and noted.**

12.3 SSC Parish Summit – A summary of the Parish Summit held on 25th November 2016 was **received and noted.**

13. HIGHWAY ISSUES

Resolved to suspend Standing Orders in pursuant to Standing Order V2.i.

Councillors advised that it was good to see some resurfacing works being carried out in the village and the number of potholes appear to have reduced, however the quality of pothole repairs seem to be poor.

Councillors raised the following issues to be brought to County Councils attention:

- Street Lighting improvement on Hollybush Lane
- Whitehouse Lane from St Peters Church to Gunstone – the road is in such a bad condition it is disappearing, becoming little more than a bridleway.
- Roads need sweeping in Oaken –leaf debris.

NEXT MEETING

11th January 2017

[9.06pm meeting closed]