

CODSALL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Council Meeting held at
Parish Chambers, Station Road, Codsall
on Wednesday 14th June 2017 at 7.00pm - following Planning

Present: Parish Councillors – B Spencer (Chairman), Mrs V Chapman, Mrs K Ewart, B Holland, T Jeavons, S Jenkinson, I Kenyon, Mrs C Millar, Mrs A Morrison, P Wright
Parish & District Councillor Mr J Michell **Parish & County Councillor**
Mr R Marshall

PSCO Tromans was present and three members of the public were present.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr M Barrow, Cllr N Caine and Cllr N Loftus.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Declaration of Interests received: A non-pecuniary interest in item 6.2 - Cllrs Chapman, Holland, Jeavons, Jenkinson and Kenyon.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

4. MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 10th May 2017 be approved and signed as a true record.

5. POLICE REPORT

5.1 Crime and anti-social behaviour figures for Locality 4

Criminal damage (exc Arson) 8, Drug offences 2, Less Serious Violent Crimes with Injury 6, Other Serious Sexual Offences 1, Other sexual offences 1, Other Theft 3, Other Violence against the person 9, Public Order 1, Theft of Motor Vehicles 2, ASB 22

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

PSCO Matt Tromans provided the meeting with the following information regarding the crime and ASB figures. Criminal damage involved the Bull Public House. Drug offences were in Bilbrook and the offender has been locked up. Number of assaults were down to staff been assault in local care homes. ABS is still going down compared to Bilbrook. Terrorist threat level has been reduced to critical.

Special Constables will be doing patrols for visibility and have more powers than PSCOs. PSCO Karen Terry is returning to work part time in Codsall with Matt.

Incident of illegal posters been put on cars and in the shelters at Codsall Train Station asking commuters to not park in Chapel Lane and Broadway. The local PSCO has removed the posters and has been enquiring with residents to who has been putting up the posters.

Cllr Spencer commented that the reduction of crime against the person and public order is welcomed, however raised issue of whether Codsall has a drug issue. The PSCO advised he will be working closely with the schools in the next couple of months but currently restricted on time.

Cllr Spencer raised the issue of the tree ties that had been cut with knives on the Wheelfield. Matt advised that knives had been found abandoned in Bilbrook but no witnesses, although there is no suggestion that there is a knife problem in Codsall. Will be organising a Knife Awareness Week in July and August.

6. URGENT CORRESPONDENCE AND DISCUSSION TOPICS

- 6.1 Fitness Sessions in the Park at Codsall-** an email dated 5th June 2017 from Exercise to Health for permission to hold fitness sessions in one of our Open Spaces areas was **received and considered.** Cllr Spencer and Cllr Chapman raised concerns that Parish Council does not normally allow businesses to use open spaces. Cllr Jenkinson queried if Exercise to Health would be charging customers and whether they would be wanting to use the open space free of charge. Cllr Chapman raised her concern that while Exercise to Health is using the open space it might mean that members of the public may be prevented from using the open space or be put off from using the open space. Cllr Michell advised it is a facility for the whole community. Cllr Kenyon and Cllr Wright are concerned it could create a precedence.

(7.26 PSCO Tromans & Cllr Marshall left the room)

Cllr Spencer believes it is a public space that should not be hired out. Cllr Morrision queried which field Exercise to Health wish to use and the Clerk advised that at present it was a general enquiry whether the Parish would consider the proposal.

(7.28 Cllr Marshall returned)

Cllr Holland advised that he thought the Wheelfield 'unsuitable', Chapel Lane has access and parking issues and Moatbrook has no parking. Also issues of who pays for any damage caused by Exercise to Health. A vote was taken, to obtain more information regarding which open space, how much Exercise to Health would be charging customers, frequency of use, how much Exercise to Health are planning to pay for use of open space and what plans are there for parking, , 8 approve and 4 against.

(7.30pm member of public arrived)

- 6.2 Codsall Community Group – Summer Dog Show**- the groups Risk Assessment and Health and Safety Event Policy Document for the Summer Dog Show to be held on the Wheel Field, 2nd July 2017 was **received and considered.** Cllr Spencer pointed out that the plan did not contain risk assessment of gas bottles. It was agreed to accept the Risk Assessment and Health and Safety Policy Document with an amendment to include adequate arrangements for use of gas bottles.
- 6.3 The Great Charity Bake off** – details of the event which is to be held on Saturday 17th June 10.00am-1.00pm at Codsall Village Hall was **received and noted.**
- 6.4 Codsall Parish Council Open Spaces**
- 6.4.1 Moatbrook Playing Fields** –it was advised that one side of the Goal post on the field have been pulled up and the other has been loosened by vandals. It was discussed that it was deliberate and potentially criminal damage as the goal posts are concreted in but have been ‘worked’ loose. Clerk advised that Police have been made aware. **Resolved** that the goal posts could be refixed and concreted.
- 6.4.2 Wheel Field** – it was advised that all tree ties have been cut through by vandals and one tree broken. Issues had been raised with the Police. Will require a professional tree company to replace the ties as it is a specialist job. Cllr Spencer suggested that the Police are asked for their Anti-Social behaviour plan, which was **approved.**
- 6.4.3 Codsall House Field** – it was advised that the
- i. no dog sign has been vandalised. **Received and noted.**
 - ii. Resurfacing of part pathway has been undertaken. **Received and noted.**
- 6.4.4 Singing Lady Gardens** – it was advised that the tree works have been carried out. **Received and noted.**
- 6.4.5 Watery Lane Allotments** – it was advised that the tree works have been undertaken. **Received and noted.**
- 6.5 Request for permission for a traffic mirror opposite Oaken Drive** –an email from a resident dated 31st May 2017 was received and considered. Resident has offered to pay for a traffic mirror. Cllr Marshall to look into it with highways and report back.

7. ACCOUNTS

- 7.1 Resolved** that a report on Council Finances for year to 31st May 2017 be approved.
- 7.2 Resolved** that the schedule of payments to 14th June 2017 be approved. Cllr Holland queried the cost of the repair of the stone wall on Station Road and the tender process. As it was conservation work, the Clerk had contacted the District Council for recommended companies to approach for quotes. Four companies approached but only two quoted. The majority of the cost was for road closure. Plan of work and cost of work was approved by Parish Council at meeting

of 8th February 2017 item 7.1. The cost has only increased by a fraction compared to the work carried out on the wall eight years ago. Cllrs queried whether the approved supplier list of the District Council could be adopted, but it was decided to continue with the present process as it gives more freedom to use local contractors. Clerk advised government guidelines should be followed during any tender process.

- 7.3** Confirmation by the Chairman of the authorisation of the Clerks time sheet.
Matter of Report.

8. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The following verbal report from County Councillor Robert Marshall was given.

- Due to the County Elections, a reshuffle took place and Cllr Marshall is now on the Pensions Committee, Corporate Policy and reserve on the Police, Planning and Countryside Rights Panel.
- Pension pot doing well, last quarter 4.3% up benchmark is 4%, and 22.9%, benchmark 21.9%.
- Work on potholes was carried out and updated on 18/5/17. 18 potholes were repaired in Barnhurst Lane, 6 in Keepers Lane, 9 in Wergs Hall Lane and 9 in Wood Road.
- Chapel Lane consultation closed Friday 9th June. Of the over half who replied, 82% in favour, 17% not in favour and 1% said yes to lines but no to car park. Next step, the objectors will be written to for their concerns to be addressed, then proposal will be advertised and be completed mid August. Potentially the 1st September, the lines could be started. Cllr Marshall suggested the Parish Council make an official comment on the consultation process.
- Kingsley Gardens was not included in the original consultation. Cllr Marshall approached residents of the small cul de sac and 3 were in favour of lines, 4 said no to the lines and 3 abstained. After a discussion, it was agreed not to include Kingsley Gardens and no lines to be put down. Cllrs agreed it is a difficult place to park and was not included in the original consultation. Long Acre will be included although not included in the original consultation. **Resolved** that the Parish Council to formally write to say we are in favour of lines but not include Kingsley Gardens.

9. CODSALL VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CVHMC)

The minutes of C.V.H.M.C. meeting of the 17th April 2017 were **received and noted.**

10. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The following verbal report from District Councillors was given.

- Cllr Marshall advised the SAD sessions start on Monday 26th June 2017 and all District Councillors have been invited. The Clerk to contact District Council to clarify who can attend.

11. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

11.1 South Staffordshire Parish Councils Assoc –bulletin dated 18th, 25th May and 1st June 2017 was **received and noted.**

11.2 Newcastle Magistrates Court Case, Bushi Raza/Bushra Bi - an email from John Littleton, Enviro-Crime Enforcement Officer, dated 23rd May 2017 was received and considered. Cllr Spencer summarised that the lady was prosecuted not the contractor she used, who dumped the rubbish illegally. Cllr Wright said it sends a good message, but queried whether it really prevent fly tipping. Bona fide contractor will provide the correct paperwork. Issue of fly tipping on private land, private land owners expected to deal with illegally dumped waste themselves. Cllr Jenkinson raised the issue that when he has reported fly tipping, but never receives feedback on the issue reported. Cllr Spencer queried whether there is monthly data on performance regarding dealing with illegally dumped waste. Cllr Holland asked whether there are figures for the fly tipping and whether it has increased since the tip has introduced charges. Cllr Marshall advised the cost of dealing with fly tipping against removing the charges at the tip have been looked at by County and there is only a small amount saved. Cllr Marshall will obtain the figures for Locality 4. Cllr Wright asked if it was a crime to fly tip and Cllr Spencer advised only if the person is caught in the act.

Resolved a letter to be sent to District and County Council asking them to reconsider the charges at the tip, to consider the problem of fly tipping on private land.

12. HIGHWAY ISSUES

Resolved for members to raise any concerns with County Councillor Robert Marshall on Highways matters after the meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 12th July 2017

(8.15pm meeting closed)