

# CODSALL PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES

Council Meeting held in the Parish Chambers,  
Station Road, Codsall  
on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2010 at 7.30pm. following Planning

### PRESENT

**Parish Councillors** Mrs C Millar (Chair), Mrs V Chapman, Mrs E Forster, B Holland, P Kenyon, G Owen, D Walls, **District Councillors** Mrs P Campbell J Michell, **County Councillor** R Marshall

### 1. APOLOGIES

**Apologies** were received from Cllr Ewart, Stovin, Oatley, Barrow and Etheridge.

### 2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

### 3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

**Limited** to 2 minutes per speaker and 15 minutes overall.

Mr Stephen Skinner thanked the Parish Council for receiving the comments and proposals relating to the Wheel Field at last months meeting and requested that perhaps these could be considered in the new year as he believes that St Nicholas First School is very interested in becoming involved in this suggested Nature Project.

The Clerk to the Parish Council expressed surprise at the comments relating to the St Nicholas Schools involvement as when the Moatbrook Nature Reserve was first implemented all schools were invited to be involved including St Nicholas's but non have actually done so. The Moatbrook Nature Reserve is developing and the Parish Council would welcome schools involvement at Moatbrook which is a particularly fine water meadow site with an abundance of birds and wildlife.

Mr Stephen Wildman spoke reinforcing Mr Skinners request suggesting that the Parish Council should move forward with proposals for the Wheel Field as outlined by the 'Friends Group'.

The Parish Council Chairman advised Mr Wildman that it is not the Parish Councils intention to pursue any proposals at the current time as this has become a very contentious issue with the 'Friends of the Wheel Field' proposals being only one of many suggestions being

made for use of the Wheel Field. The Chairman advised that the Parish Council wishes a reasonable length of time to elapse before any further discussions take place.

#### 4. MINUTES

**The Minutes** of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2010 were received, approval proposed by Cllr Campbell, seconded by Cllr Kenyon, unanimously approved by the meeting and immediately signed by the Chairman.

#### 5. POLICE REPORT

**A report** on policing was given by P.C. David Allen.

Burglary dwelling 6, 2 were attempts and at least one was a mainline break where they enter the premises for car keys.

Burglary other 4 in each case commercial.

Theft of Motor Vehicle 2 in both cases the keys to the vehicle were left in the vehicle.

Theft from motor vehicle 2, items of value were left in the vehicle albeit out of site. If possible take all valuables with you.

Criminal Damage 2

Anti Social Behaviour 6 for the month and included 2 noise nuisance and one case where 2 youths were refusing to pay for their fare on a bus.

Parking problems have been looked at 2 problematic sites in Codsall. A meeting was held with a various parties participating a number of ideas were discussed which will be considered further.

Speeding remains a concern more officers are now trained to use the new speeding devise and it is being used to good effect.

Drugs are a factor no matter where you live today and we continue to police the provision and the use of it in this area: a number of searches have taken place over the last month with some good results.

#### 6. URGENT CORRESPONDENCE AND DISCUSSION TOPICS

- a. **Letter from Mr J Boucher** concerning deteriorating pavements Church Road.

The Chairman and County Councillor Robert Marshall advised the meeting that prior to receiving Mr Bouchers letter remedial

action was already in hand and in fact the remedial work has now taken place on the pavements on the part of Church Road identified by Mr Boucher.

- b. South Staffordshire Conservation Area Management Plans**  
to raise any comments or observations following Exhibition on 7<sup>th</sup> October and viewing on: [www.sstaffs.gov.uk/conservationareas](http://www.sstaffs.gov.uk/conservationareas)  
**This was received** and noted without any adverse comments from members. The Clerk did advise members that they can pass any observations that may come to mind on line through the District Councils website as above.

- c. Staffordshire Parish Council's Association**

Annual Report and Accounts 2009-2010. **Received and noted.**

- d. South Staffordshire N.H.S – Primary Care Trust**  
Consultation on S. Staffs Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment

**To raise** any comments or observations. Documents available for viewing on: [www.southstaffordshire.nhs.uk](http://www.southstaffordshire.nhs.uk)  
**Received and noted.**

- e. South Staffordshire Council**

Licensing Act 2003 – Statement on Licensing Policy – Consultation  
Closing date for responses 31 October 2010

Members appreciated that this is an important policy document, which may need a response from the Parish Council. Members asked that this item be brought forward to the Planning Meeting of the 27<sup>th</sup> October which will allow members further time to review the document and bring items for discussion and agreement on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

- f. South Staffordshire Local Strategic Partnership**

**Locality Member Forums**

Invitation to next meeting Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November at Patteringham Village Hall 6p.m.

Please advise The Clerk should you wish to attend.

**Received and Noted.** No member was able to make a commitment this evening.

**7. ACCOUNTS**

- a.** A report on Council Finances for year to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010, approval proposed by Cllr Holland, seconded by Cllr Kenyon and unanimously approved by the meeting.
- b.** The schedule of payments to 13<sup>th</sup> October 2010 was received with the Clerk providing an explanation for each item of expenditure.

Approval proposed by Cllr Millar, seconded by Cllr Walls and unanimously approved by the meeting.

## **8. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

County Councillor Robert Marshall gave the meeting the following information.

Concessionary Travel – From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011 County Council will take over the role of Concessionary Travel from the 8 District Councils. Each District has a slightly different scheme and the County is endeavouring to tailor the new scheme to match all requirements but with budgetary constraints there may well be a scaling back of the scheme as currently operated by some of the District Councils.

Household Waste – County Council has agreed from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011 certain sites will be allowed to accept Trade Waste at a small fee, including Bilbrook. This will help the small contractor to dispose of rubbish economically without the temptation to fly tip.

Budget – all departments and services provided by the County Council are being reviewed in order to reduce the County Council budget.

Boundary Review – The Boundary Commission for England and Wales has decided to look again at the Area Boundary in order to ensure that the Public is equitably represented by its County Councillors and not leave some Councillors representing significantly more than the median, whilst others significantly less.

High Speed Rail Link – Councillor Marshall advised that a Public meeting had taken place at Lichfield with many key speakers including local M.P's for the area, but it does seem likely that the Rail Link will go ahead despite the strong opposition as it is deemed to be long term commercial benefit to the Country and in particular the areas it passes through.

Parking – Councillor Marshall has attended two site meetings recently to review resident's complaints relating to parking. Firstly at Walton Gardens relating to school run parking for St Nicholas school where residents are regularly being blocked in their drives and insufficient space being left for emergency and service vehicles to gain access.

A similar situation is also arising in Chapel Lane caused in the main by train commuters parking all day and again on occasions blocking drives and causing obstruction.

Councillor Marshall advised that many suggestions have been put forward and these and any further considerations will reviewed by County Council Highways Department and should there be consideration for implementation of any of these schemes then these would be subject to full public consultation. Councillor Marshall also

sought views and suggestions from Councillors, which he will carry back to County Council for further consideration. In view of the complexity of the problems it was agreed to discuss the issue again on the 27<sup>th</sup> October.

Disabled Bays – Councillor Marshall advised that parking in Disabled Bays is being abused and the traffic warden has issued tickets recently to offenders. Councillor Owen supported by several other Councillors advised Councillor Marshall that the Disabled Bays installed on the Station Road Service area was a mistake and that together with the White and yellow lining has reduced parking in the service roads by over 40%. Whilst drivers should not abuse the disabled bays the signage is not tremendously clear and with the difficulty in parking it is understandable that drivers do on occasions abuse the bay.

Councillor Owen went on to advise that the Traffic Warden is rarely seen and whilst he can easily issue a ticket for incorrect parking in a disabled bay the abuse of the limited time parking spaces is significantly greater with many cars being left for 3 – 4 hrs. However with the Traffic Warden rarely seen within the village and never for any length of time it really is a waste of time having the current restriction of 1-hour limit with no return within 1 hour. Both County and District Councillors present this evening will endeavour to seek longer visits and more frequent visits from the Traffic Warden who is controlled by South Staffordshire Council.

**9. CODSALL VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

The minutes of V.H.M.C. meeting of the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2010 and attaching reports were received and noted.

**10. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Nothing to report this evening.

**11. HIGHWAYS ISSUES?**

Several issues were raised this evening, which County Councillor Robert Marshall will seek to remedy:

- Holly Bush – Street Lights, the first and second lights going up the hill are obscured by trees and foliage.
- Church Hill/ Church Road, the street lights near to the junction is obscured by foliage.
- Church Road from the junction of Church Lane to the Church, trees are overhanging the pavement forcing pedestrians onto the road.
- Station Road Pedestrian Crossing surface is deteriorating as well as the road and pavements between Wilkes Road and Chapel Lane.
- Clarification is sought on the liability of placing edging stones onto highway edges and banks.

- Moatbrook Avenue, deterioration of road and pavement was raised by Councillor Campbell. Councillor Marshall advised that this had been assessed and is in the remedial works programme but not as a high priority.

The following highway issues were reported to County by the office over the last three weeks:

- Pothole at the junction with Chillington Drive and Wolverhampton Road
- Fly Tipping at Oaken Lane near Strawmoor Lane
- Fly Tipping on Stafford Lane
- Overhanging burs on Wolverhampton Road reducing pedestrian visibility
- Station road numerous potholes on pavement and road

**12. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE**  
**None**

**NEXT MEETING**  
**10<sup>th</sup> November 2010**