

CODSALL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

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

on Wednesday 14th November 2012 at 7.00pm. following Planning

District & Parish Councillors J Michell (Chair), Mrs P Campbell, M Ewart, **Parish Councillors** Mrs V Birch, Mrs E Forster, B Holland, S Jenkinson, P Kenyon, Mrs C Millar, L Stovin **County Councillor** R Marshall

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence received from Cllrs Etheridge, Chapman, Barrow & Almond

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Resident expressed his thanks to members of the Public and the Councillors who attended the Codsall Clean Up Weekend.

4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th October 2012 were discussed, Cllr Stovin wished to clarify that a resolution was passed as stated on page 3 paragraph 3. Cllr Ewart wished it to be recorded that paragraph 1 on page 3, should be in bold and an amendment made to the minutes were altered and duly signed by the Chairman.

[7.30 – Cllr R Marshall arrived]

5. POLICE REPORT

- a. A report on policing from South Staffordshire Community Partnership was received.

The Chairman outlined to the meeting the telephone conversation with Inspector Donna Gibbs and the Clerk to correspondence sent by the Parish Council requesting a police report and an update by Police. The meeting **resolved** that the Clerk writes again to Inspector Gibbs to request that the response given is in writing and that the Clerk writes to the newly elected Police and Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire

advising of the apparent breakdown between the Community and Police.

6. URGENT CORRESPONDENCE AND DISCUSSION TOPICS

- 6.1. Staffordshire County Council – Street Lighting – Energy Conservation Initiative**
Views requested on the Parish Councils interest for the ‘Part Night’ Scheme.
Following discussion the meeting **resolved** that Cllr Robert Marshal invites Mark Keeling County Councils Highways advisor to attend the Parish Council Meeting of the 28th November.
- 6.2. Staffordshire County Council Highway Lighting – Annual Service Report 19th May – 18th May 2012.** Report can be viewed in the Council Chamber. **Matter of report.**
- 6.3. Recycle4cash – Community Parish Recycling.** Following discussion the meeting **resolved** that Codsall Parish Council would not participate with the scheme.
- 6.4. Open Spaces Committee –** To receive a formal proposal by the Open Spaces Committee to approve the cost of a design document prepared by a Landscape Consultant at an approximate cost of £1,700.00. **Approval** proposed by Cllr Stovin, seconded by Cllr Jenkinson and unanimously approved by the meeting.

7. ACCOUNTS

- 7.1. To receive** a report on Council Finances for year to 31st October 2012. Unanimously **approved.**
- 7.2. To receive** and approve schedule of payments to 14th November 2012 Unanimously **approved.**
- 7.3. To receive** confirmation by the Chairman of the authorisation of the Clerks time sheet. **Matter of report.**
- 7.4. Annual Review** of Finance Regulations, no amendments were
- 7.5. Annual Review** of Parish Council Strategy Document, following discussion the meeting **resolved** that this item be brought back at the meeting of 12th December.
- 7.6. To formally approve** remedial maintenance undertaken on the Allotment Driveway at a cost of £330.00 excl. VAT. **Approval**

7.7. Parish Council - Business Debit Card

The Chairman outlined a report by the Clerk that there is a growing need to purchase items from the internet; this benefits the Parish Council to purchase goods at lower prices. However payment of many of these transactions have to be made by the Clerk and reimbursed at a later date. The Clerk suggests that the Parish Council hold a Debit Card for use by the Parish Council. The Clerk recommends in order to limit financial risk, a separate bank account is opened with a maximum balance of £200.00 held at any given time. However if it is likely that a transaction would exceed this amount, then a transfer from the current account to the debit card account can be made to cover the full transaction cost.

The Debit account would be controlled by the Clerk as the RFO.

The meeting **resolved** that the Clerk makes the arrangements for a separate debit card account be opened, with the same bank signatories as the current account.

8. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

A written report received from County Councillor Robert Marshall.

The main issues that affect Codsall are as follows:

OFSTED came in Last Monday morning to check up on how we are doing with our "looked after children". It is a very stressful time – made worse by the fact that so far in this set of inspections, NOBODY has been scored as good or excellent (the best mark has been adequate) and over half are marked as inadequate.

Crime figures are still on the way down although it is becoming more varied with some up, some down. Staffordshire Rural is doing better than Stoke. Bilbrook / Codsall are down a tiny bit, but Perton (for example) is having some problems with burglary from across the border to Wolverhampton. On the subject of domestic burglary, please get in direct touch with me about forensically marking YOUR home and as long as you persuade two other homes (ideally your neighbours) to come to watch the demo, I will do it within a week of your call. Spreading this message will help us to get Codsall (and Bilbrook) covered.

There is no more news to report on the Education Funding debate. I am watching this one closely. This particularly affects the Middle Schools across the whole of Staffordshire.

There is going to be some VERY good news on Alcohol soon, but that will be made more clear by December / January.

9. CODSALL VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of V.H.M.C. meeting of the 17th September and attaching reports. **Matter of Report.**

10. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

A report from District Councillors.

- South Staffordshire District Council will be replacing existing recycle boxes and bags with one blue bin. All paper, glass and plastic are to be put in the new blue bin. The blue bins should be delivered to all households by April 2013.
- Core Strategy Seminars are being held by District Council.
- The M54 –M6 toll link is still under review.

11. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

None

12. HIGHWAY ISSUES?

To raise any concerns with County Council Highways

None

NEXT MEETING

12th December 2012

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

In pursuance of the powers contained in Section 1 of the above Act I move that the press and public be now excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the business about to be transacted is of a confidential nature and that publicity will be prejudicial to the public interest.

Confidential**1. Administration Assistant.**

Cllr Holland advised the meeting that the interviews are to take place on the 16th November; Cllr Millar, the Clerk and he will conduct interviews. The meeting **resolved** that delegated powers to appoint be given to Cllr Holland and Millar.