

CODSALL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES
of the
Council Meeting held in the Parish Chambers,
Station Road, Codsall
on Wednesday 11th June 2008 at 7.30pm. following Planning

PRESENT

Councillors J Michell (Chair)
R Etheridge
Mrs E Forster
P Kenyon
R Marshall
Mrs C Millar
Mrs S Oatley
G Owen
D Walls

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Ewart, Holland, Chapman, Campbell and Stovin.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Stephen Skinner advised the meeting that the Speed Watch scheme will become operational as soon as Ray Jones the Speed Watch Co-ordinator is able to complete all of the appropriate risk assessments in the Parish. These are required to ensure that the roads where the Speed Watch teams will be operating, comply with legal requirements and more importantly do not put the volunteers at any risk.

Mr Skinner advised that although they had approximately seven volunteers more are needed for the scheme to be a success. Mr Skinner asked the Parish Council if they could produce and display a suitable appeal notice. The Clerk readily agreed.

Some discussion then took place on the automated speed notices triggered by speeding drivers. The conception was that these are being ignored on Histons Hill and to some extent on Wood Road. The suggestion was that a request should be made to County Council to move these signs on a temporary basis to other roads. County Councillor Sonja Oatley undertook to speak to the appropriate officers at the County Council.

4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2008 were received, unanimously approved and immediately signed by the Chairman.

5. POLICE REPORT

A police report relating to the period 15th May - 11th June was received.

Statistics

Burglary dwelling	0
Burglary other	0
Theft of motor vehicle	0
Theft from motor vehicle	7
Anti Social Behaviour	19

The public phone at the front of the Police Station is not working at present, but it is hoped that it will be repaired over the coming week. The Police have asked that if anyone finds the phone not working or anything that the Police should be aware of, could they please report the problem by an alternative phone, in order that the problem can be resolved.

Notices' giving names and contact numbers for officers responsible for Codsall are on display throughout the village.

The Boxing Club is becoming very popular and those responsible, PCSO Layton and Judy Russon included, should be congratulated for their efforts.

The Laser devise continues to be used to good effect, with Strawmoor Lane being targeted due to excessive speed. Civilian operation is on the verge of being introduced and the Police feel that this can only help.

In terms of ASB or kids causing nuisance in the village has been less of an issue. Involving parents more has certainly helped the situation, and a different system used in other Divisions may be adopted in Codsall, as the way forward.

Parking around the village and especially by those who leave for the day has raised its head at various locations. The Police will soon be issuing advisory notices and will always hand out penalty notices if the circumstances dictate; the message therefore is please park with all due consideration for others.

6. URGENT CORRESPONDENCE AND DISCUSSION TOPICS

a. Codsall Conservation Area

Notice of Public Exhibition on Tuesday 15th July 14.30 to 18.00 followed by a Public Meeting 19.00 to 20.00 Codsall Village Hall
All Councillors and residents are encouraged to attend

Received and noted

b. Pay Phone Realignment

i. Oaken – Preservation of Historical Red Phone Box

We are led to believe that B.T. are considering removing this little used phone box. Details are to be forwarded from S.Staffs Council in due course.

Residents of Oaken are requesting consideration be given to preserving the 'Red Box' as an historical item of street furniture within this hamlet. The attractive boxes are fast disappearing around the country.

Following discussion, the meeting unanimously agreed to write to South Staffordshire Council asking that this phone be retained, as there is not another public telephone within the immediate area and with a lot of elderly people in the village, it is considered prudent and necessary to retain a public telephone for emergency purposes.

Should B.T. however decide to remove the telephone equipment, the Parish would like see the retention of the traditional red telephone box which is a feature of the area and this is supported by Mr David Burton-Pye, South Staffordshire Councils Conservation Officer. Mr Burton-Pye has intimated that this telephone box, together with several houses in Oaken, maybe approved for consideration for listing, when the current conservation consultation exercise has been completed. More information will be made available at the Public's exhibition at Codsall Village Hall, on the 15th of July.

- ii** Other proposed phone box removals:
Moatbrook Ave. Codsall
Codsall Wood Road, Codsall Wood
Sandy Lane, Codsall

The meeting unanimously agreed that the Parish Council should write to South Staffordshire District Council and request retention of all of these telephone and telephone boxes, as there are no other public telephones within the immediate area and again it is considered prudent and necessary to retain an emergency phone, particularly with the high number of elderly people within each of these area's.

**c. Staffs County Council
Temporary Road Closure Notice**

Elliotts Lane, Codsall
Histons Hill, Codsall

From 21st July 2008 to 31st July 2008 (anticipated completion date).

The Clerk advised that it would appear that both of these road junctions will be closed contemporaneously and that County Highways have been asked to ensure that the diversion signage will make it clear from both sides of the village that Elliotts Lane and Histons Hill are closed from Wolverhampton Road, to avoid confusion by drivers when they reach the traffic lights at this busy junction.

- d. **South Staffs Community Safety Partnership**
Annual Meeting 9th July, Council Offices, Codsall 10am to 2.30pm.
Councillors and residents are invited to attend.
Councillors are requested to notify their anticipated attendance.

Councillor Christine Millar advised that she would attend.

- e. **South Staffs Council**
Children & Young Peoples Conference 2008
Wombourne Civic Centre Wednesday 25th June
9.30 to 3pm
Delegate requested

Councillor Robert Marshall who will be chairing this conference will of course represent the Parish Council; no other member was able to attend.

7. ACCOUNTS

- a. **The** report on Council Finances for the year to 31st May 2008, approval recommended by Councillor Marshall, seconded by Councillor Walls and unanimously approved by the meeting.
- b. **The** schedule of payments to 11th June 2008 was presented by the Clerk with an explanation of each item. Approval proposed by Councillor Oatley, seconded by Councillor Walls and unanimously approved by the meeting.
- c. **The** Revised Income and Expenditure Account for year ended 31st March 2008, showing the resulting figures for the Annual Audit Return, **and the Annual Return for year end 31st March 2008 and Annual Governance statement**, authorising the Chairman of the Meeting and the Responsible Financial Officer to immediately sign the document.

Approval proposed by Councillor Robert Marshall, seconded by Councillor Forster and unanimously approved by the meeting. The Chairman Councillor John Michell and the Clerk Peter Serieys as the Financial Responsible Officer immediately signed the Annual Return and Governance Statement in front of members present.

8. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

A written report was received from County Councillor Sonja Oatley.

A new Deputy Fire Chief, Chris Enness started his new position 1st May, his previous post was as Deputy Fire Chief for Wales.

There has been three fire deaths related directly or indirectly to smoking since Christmas. A new prevention strategy has been developed. A vital part of this strategy to prevent deaths is the introduction of a freephone number – 0800 0241 999 to make it easier for older people and related agencies to book a free home risk check. Home fire risk checks are designed to offer practical support and action to protect and prevent fires in the home. People are urged to get in touch, particularly if they are elderly and vulnerable or if they know someone who is.

The Boxing Club has seen increased attendance each week.

Possible completion dates for the ATC build have come indicating completion in time for Christmas. Closure for tenders last week in June and award contract during the following two weeks.

9. CODSALL VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The minutes of V.H.M.C. meeting of the 19th May 2008 and attaching report was received and noted.

10. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

District Councillor Marshall advised that there was little to report this month, other than the District Council has agreed to modify its Council meetings to allow more involvement by members, to allow greater debate.

Councillor Walls advised that he was pleased to see that Place Signs had now been erected on the five roads into Oaken. This had been requested by many residents several years ago through Councillor Walls, which had been endorsed and requested by The Parish Council at that time, it was pleasing that they had at long last been put in place. Councillor Walls however questioned why the signs were so small and wondered if this was as a result of new regulations? Both Sonja Oatley as County Councillor and Robert Marshall as District Councillor, agreed that they would make enquiries to see if they were regulation size, or whether it was simply down to lack of room to place larger signs.

CONFIDENTIAL

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.

NEXT MEETING

9th July 2008