

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 16 APRIL 2013
IN CODDINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Present:

Members: Cllr O'Donnell (Chairman) Cllrs Allen, Carver, Elliott, Molloson
District Cllr: DC Cllr M Dobson
Clerk: Mrs Y Wellard
Public/Press: 6 members of the public were present, including Mrs Caputa, Head Teacher, Coddington School. No press members were present.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Parrett (other engagement), Cllr Cox (holiday), Cllr Armstrong (holiday), Cllr Bell (holiday)

2.
 - a. **DVD film of Coddington Jubilee Celebrations 2012:** Footage showing highlights of the village celebrations was shown.

 - b. **60th Anniversary of the Coronation.** Mrs Beryl Rimmer reported on the Special Events Group which now had a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. £1116 had been donated to Save the Children. The next planned event would be to mark the 60th anniversary of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth on Saturday 1 June. Mrs Rimmer outlined some of the plans for the day and invited further suggestions; the next SEG meeting would be on 22 April. The Chmn thanked Mrs Rimmer for her support in taking the Group's work forward in the past year.

3. **To receive and accept minutes from the APM on 17 April 2012:**
Minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting having been distributed, were proposed as a true record by Mrs Allen, seconded by Cllr Carver, and were accepted by those present and signed by the Chairman.

4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes:**
The Chairman reported that the Defibrillation Unit and First Responder Scheme was going ahead. There were currently three volunteers applying for training, and one trained responder, but it was hoped that more volunteers could be recruited.

5. **Annual Report of the Parish Council:**
 - a. **Allotment Working Group Report.** Cllr Allen reported that there had been 5 changes in the last year, and everyone on the waiting list had been accommodated.

 - b. **Chairman's Report.** Cllr O'Donnell presented his report for the year (full report attached) and acknowledged the work of the newly formed Special Events Group as a significant step forward for the Parish. The Council's focus had been on reducing speed through the village and he thanked CC Vincent Dobson and DC Maureen Dobson for all their work.

6. **Annual Report and Observations on the Parish Council's Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2013:** Due to the recent absence of a permanent clerk, the Parish Council was unable to present the completed accounts, but these would be presented at the next Parish Council meeting on 2 May 2013 and published in the Coddington Village News.

7. **Annual Accounts of Coddington United Charities:** Mr Bartley presented his report (copy attached) highlighting remedial work carried out on Chapel Lane homes due to subsidence, and the benefits received by Parishioners from the Collingham Advice Centre.

8. **Annual Accounts of Coddington Village Hall Charity Trust:** Cllr Allen reported a successful year thanks to the volunteers, and tabled a copy of the annual accounts. He outlined plans for major renovation and modernisation of the hall which included a new roof, insulation, and changes to the internal layout. This would require substantial funding and the support of residents for grant applications. Comments in writing were invited.
9. **Annual Report of Coddington CE Primary School:** The Head Teacher, Mrs Tamsin Caputa reported that there were 452 pupils and the school enjoyed good support from parents and the community. Communication was via a monthly newsletter, a half-termly magazine and a new web site which had some public access. The School Council was very active, involving peers in decision making and a new 7 point Rainbow Christian Values had been launched to reflect the ethos of the school. The school had strong links with the community and the Church and Rev Anderton was a frequent visitor. The school would continue to encourage safe parent parking for which Cllr Dobson and the police had been very supportive. There would be enforceable double yellow lines outside school to stop roadside parking. Friends of Coddington had provided new audio visual equipment for the hall to enhance performances and Mrs Caputa thanked the Parish Council for their contribution of a dictionary and faith book for Year 6 pupils. Cllr Elliott requested a school report for the CVN to inform members of the Parish who did not have direct links with the school.
10. **Annual Report of Coddington Community Association:** Mrs Rimmer presented a report which Cllr Carver had prepared (copy attached). The CCA met every two months and would consider how to improve the Centre's finances through a Liaison Committee working with the Parish Council, a finance committee and a fund raising committee.
11. **Matters Arising from the Public:**
- a. The problem of dog fouling was raised. DC Dobson said that the only effective course of action was to take people to court.
Issue to be included on the Parish Council agenda
 - b. Mr Bartley stated that the public footpath across the A1 from Clay Lane was very dangerous and should have warning signs and possibly a diversion over the foot bridge.
Issue to be included on the Parish Council agenda
 - c. Mr Bartley asked why the Parish Council minutes were not on the web site. The Chmn informed him that the N&SDC site was not being updated, but that the village web site was currently under construction and minutes of the meetings would be published there.
 - d. Mr Bartley suggested that Stapleford Woods and Coddington Post Office should be defined as Assets of Community Value under the Localism Act.
To be discussed by the Parish Council
12. **Matters for next Agenda:** None

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

*Attachments: Parish Council Chairman's Report
Community Centre Report*

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 16 APRIL 2013
CODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL – CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1. **Introduction.** The Parish Council has had a very busy and successful year. We have also seen some staff changes as Mrs Pam Hemphill, who had served the PC well for many years, resigned in June 2012. Her successor Sarah Tomlinson, was, unfortunately, unable to stay with us. We are delighted to welcome Mrs Yvette Wellard who, although a Barnby resident, is no stranger to Coddington.

2. **Social Events.** The Social Events Group was formed after last year's APM and was responsible for the village's Jubilee celebrations on 5 June, organising the Children's Parade from Well Green to the Community Centre, followed by competitions and Games, using the school playing fields. The bells of All Saints' Church rang out a peal for the Parade. Reuben Singh of The Inn on the Green, and Allen Farms made major contributions to the evening's celebrations, Hog Roast and Beacon Lighting, held at the Inn. The Group then organised, with the School and All Saints Church, Carols around the Tree at the Community Centre, on 19 December. The wet weather forced the whole event inside the Centre, but it was another successful and memorable occasion for the village. The formation of the Group has been a significant step forward for Coddington.

3. **Highways and Services.** I am pleased to report that highway improvements are taking place within the parish. As ever the focus has been, and will continue so, to reduce speeds and speed limits, and to improve safety. Vincent Dobson and Maureen Dobson, our County and District Councillors, have continued to work extraordinarily hard to get results for us. Along the A17, there is now a 40 mph zone towards Barnby, and the hazardous junction to Newark Golf Club has been greatly improved. During the year Vincent and Maureen Dobson have also arranged meetings for us with the County's Highways Department, which has now heard all our traffic concerns directly; we shall all continue this pressure for improvements. Traffic censuses have now been completed on all routes into the village and we can analyse better the flow of vehicles. Detailed plans are now being prepared for the installation of 3 interactive road signs: on the C208, by the Community Centre and east of the Plough crossroads, and at the southern entrance to the village on Balderton Lane. We now look forward, in the summer, to the resurfacing of Main Street from the Plough to the School, and along Balderton Lane; there will also be "enforceable" yellow line parking restrictions placed outside the School.

4. **Village Improvements.** In conjunction with our District and County Councillors, we have been working to obtain improvements through Nottinghamshire County Council's Local Improvement Scheme (LIS). We have held several public meetings, although these were not well supported. We have applied for new "gateway" village signs for Balderton and Drove Lanes which should also help to deter speeding motorists. The Scout Group has obtained a LIS grant to improve the Scout Hall's frontage. The Village Hall is applying for a grant, whilst we are seeking LIS support, for the longer term, for restoration of the boundary walls at All Saints' Church. Other on-going LIS work includes footpath and environmental improvements in Drove Lane, and the provision of village information display boards. Outside the LIS, the County Council have now completed the preliminary procedures prior to improving the alignment of the footpath leading across the fields from Drove Lane to link with FP 5.

5. **Issues.** Strong representations were made at all levels following the changes to the village bus service, and new termination point at the castle roundabout. Regrettably, the changes have not been overturned. In the village, the PC is again concerned, sadly, about vandalism. We have seen the benches at Thorpe Oaks playing field totally destroyed. The fences alongside the C 208 pavement/cycle path have been damaged on several occasions. Plastic litter bins have been destroyed by fire, whilst noticeboards have been similarly attacked. Litter is a continuing difficulty and, along with vandalism, we have to look to all residents encourage prevention and better standards. Finally, we still see HGVs ignoring the restriction signs; again, we can only urge residents to take details when possible and pass these to the County's web-site, detailed in the Village News.

6. **Thanks.** The Council is grateful for all those who have supported us, in various ways, during the past year. Especially, we thank those who have taken the lead in our 2 major community events, which were so successful, and those who help to distribute the Coddington Village News.

Lastly, April 2013 marks the final full month in office for our County Councillor, Mr Vincent Dobson, who retires on 2 May 2013. Coddington Parish Council wishes to record publicly, and with gratitude, his outstanding commitment and endeavours on behalf this village over the past 24 years.

Community Centre Report:

The Community Centre continues to be well used by both Coddington residents and other groups from outside the village.

As at March 2013, the Centre has 30 regular users. This compares with 18 in 2011 and 24 in 2012

Between January & March this year there have been 14 children's parties - the demand for parties is increasing - 1 charity event and 1 band rehearsal. All have taken place at weekends.

Currently there appears to be a problem with storage. Some regular users wish to leave their equipment at the centre between bookings. Currently there simply is not enough storage for all who would like it. This problem is being considered, with a view to the provision of more storage units, although it is likely this will have to be charged for.

Some refurbishment is taking place at the school later this year, and it is intended that the school will make use of the community centre on occasion at this time.

Finances remain very tight however, and the centre is expensive to run. Hire costs will be discussed at the next trustees' meeting. At present the centre is losing £2,500 a year (without maintenance costs). The CCA is currently seeking a voluntary treasurer! At the moment the only paid staff are the secretary and the caretaker. The trustees are all volunteers, including the booking clerk.

Sub committees have recently been set up: These are:

A Liaison Committee. This is a committee set up to work with the Parish Council, which is the landlord of the centre. The aim is to ensure co-operation between the two organisations to the benefit of the centre.

A Finance Committee: To monitor the financial side of things and to seek ways of cutting costs wherever feasible, without affecting the running of the centre, or its standard of service.

A Fund Raising Committee: To come up with, and implement, fund raising ideas for the centre. This is becoming more and more essential if the centre is to continue as a community asset for Coddington. Suggestions for fundraising events have included: Village Ventures, a highly successful scheme which brings talented musicians to local venues, a barn dance and a Music Hall evening, **any ideas will be greatly welcomed.**

The CCA has its own website, which is regularly updated. It is currently being further developed.

Trustee meetings are held every two months. Suggestions and comments from the public, users, etc. are very welcome.