

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**held on 6 March 2014 at 7.30 pm at Coddington Community Centre**

**Present:**

**Members:** Cllr O'Donnell (Chairman),  
Cllrs Allen, Bell, Carver, Cox, Elliott, King, Molloson, Parrett.

**Clerk:** Mrs Y Wellard

1. **Apologies for Absence.**  
Apologies were received from Co. Cllr Dobson and Cllr Armstrong (holiday).
2. **Declarations of Interest.** There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.
3. **Public Contribution.** There were no members of the public present.
4. **Public Contribution – County and District Councillor.** Cllr Dobson was not at the meeting, but had updated the Chairman on matters arising from the previous minutes (comments included below).
5. **To receive and accept:**
  - a. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 6 February 2014.**  
Proposed by Cllr Allen and seconded by Cllr Parrett, the minutes were approved, and signed by the Chmn.
  - b. **Accounts for February 2014.**  
Proposed by Cllr Parrett, seconded by Cllr Molloson, the accounts were agreed, and signed by the Chmn.
6. **Matters arising from the minutes.**
  - 4b** The campaign to improve the bus service from Coddington to Newark was on-going with correspondence between Patrick Mercer MP, Notts CC and the Stagecoach bus company.
  - 4c** Cllr Dobson's contact at Sustrans, Alan Hudson, would be invited to a Parish Council meeting to discuss provision of a track from Coddington to Newark.
  - 4e** The litter bin had promptly been replaced on lamp post 4, Newark Road, and Cllrs expressed their thanks to Cllr Dobson. There were concerns about the amount of litter on all roads in the village. The litter bin at the bottom end of Thorpe Oaks had not been replaced. The Clerk was to request a replacement, and an extra bin at Thorpe Oaks. Cllr Parrett would speak to Bruce Richmond about increased hours for litter picking, to cope with the increase in the size of the village.
  - 6** Two of the interactive signs had been installed. An email from Jonathon Barron had confirmed that they would be connected in the next few days.
  - 8a** Jeremy Hutchinson, N&SDC Environmental Health Dept, had responded to the report on the smell from the drains opposite Greenfields Close. Officers would revisit the problem.
7. **Finance.**
  - a. **To approve expenditure as at 6 March 2014:**

	£
Clerk's net salary - February	288.00
Community Centre Annual Maintenance charges	4,720.60
Bruce Richmond - February invoice	48.90
Doug Lyne – Removal of branches at Page's Wood	462.00
Laurel Bushes – Community Centre	150.00
Printer	39.99
Postage for the year 2013/2014	23.58
Stationery for the year 2013/2014	8.74
Print cartridges for the year 2013/2014	94.79
Book Token (Coddington School prize)	10.00
Print Hub – March CVN	553.00
Clerk's mileage (CVN)	15.00

Proposed by Cllr King, seconded by Cllr Molloson, the invoices were approved for payment.

b. **Review of Parish Council Insurance.**

N&SDC had advised that Zurich was carrying out a full review all community block insurance policies. The Clerk had completed the proposal form based on previous years' cover, with the addition of cover for libel and slander.

c. **NALC Finance Seminar.**

The Clerk reported that NALC's Finance Workshop had been very useful in sharing best practice, including a suggested pro-forma for grant applications under S137, and information on alternative payment methods such as the use of BACs and debit cards.

There was also a briefing on the repeal of s.150 of the 1972 LGA which requires all cheques and payable orders to be signed by two councillors. The new order had not yet come into force; further information was due to be released to assist Parish Councils in reviewing their Financial Orders.

Councillors were reminded that any approved purchases made on behalf of the Parish should be invoiced to Coddington Parish Council, for VAT to be reclaimed.

8. **Administration.**

a. **Footpaths**

Severn Trent Water had responded to the problem of sewage overflowing where a manhole cover had been dislodged on the footpath between Yew Tree Wood and the A17. However, Cllr Bell reported that the remains of the sewage flow were still lying stagnant alongside part of the path. The Clerk was to investigate, and report as necessary.

b. **Coddington Community Association.**

- i. The storage unit from A Plant had been installed and laurel bushes planted around two sides for screening.
- ii. It was agreed that as the Community Centre Management Board was functioning well, Parish Council liaison meetings could be reduced to every six months.
- iii. Cllr Carver advised that she did not wish to stand again as a nominee to represent the Parish Council on the Board of Trustees. It would be decided at the Annual Parish Council meeting whether it was necessary to have another PC representative as well as Cllr Armstrong.
- iv. Cllr Bell queried N&SDC's responsibility for dealing with maintenance problems arising from the original building specifications e.g. wooden fascia and dips in the car park. The Parish Council had been assured that such issues would be resolved and financed by N&SDC.

c. **Village website.**

It was suggested that an abridged version of Notts CC's latest report on Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire (Jan 2014) should be included on the web site for information.

d. **Coddington Village News.**

The March newsletter had been delivered, and the Clerk continued to liaise with Cllr Elliott to collect all outstanding advertising revenue.

e. **First World War Commemoration.**

The Chmn reported that Mr Mike Bache was working hard to collate information for the project and they would be meeting to discuss where to place a copy of the book inside the church. The Chmn would also ask Revd David Anderton whether a special church service was planned for the beginning of August.

f. **Page's Wood.**

Doug Lyne had completed the work to remove overhanging branches and ivy from the ash tree at the edge of the wood. It was noted that many of the trees inside the wood

were also covered in ivy. **Cllr King** would ask Coddington Scout Group Leader whether the Scouts would be available for general tidying in the woods again this year.

g. **Tree works.**

- i. Mrs Isabel Turner had written to report that a tree planted a few years ago at the back of the green on Brownlow's Hill appeared to be dead, and had suggested that it was the result of damage to the trunk caused by strimming. She requested that this tree be replaced, and that no strimming or mowing be done under trees on public land.
- ii. The horse chestnut tree outside 5 Newark Road had been completely cut down by Notts CC. They would return to remove the stump and roots and to replace the tree. Cllr Parrett suggested that two more trees could be accommodated on Newark Road.
- iii. Cllr Allen reported that trees were overhanging the verge on Drove Lane. The **Clerk** would report this to Notts CC Highways.

h. **Newark Healthcare Consultative Group.**

A report on the meeting of 19 February 2014 had been previously circulated. Cllr Cox drew attention to the increased representation and involvement of Newark Hospital.

i. **Defibrillation Unit.**

There had been no response to an email sent to Rob Birkin. The **Clerk** would try to contact him by phone to ask whether any of the Coddington volunteers had returned their training applications. The Chmn stated that, over two years, responses from volunteers had been very disappointing. Cllr Parrett suggested that the free First Aid Course which was to be held at the Village Hall might be a trigger for more people to take an interest in becoming a First Responder, and could be used for one last recruitment drive.

9. **Allotments**

- i. Cllr Allen reported that all the allotments had now been allocated, and all rents collected. The **Clerk** was to draw an up to date plan of the site.
- ii. Cllr Cox had obtained 10% discount vouchers for allotment holders from the Garden Shop at Hardy's Farm, Farndon.
- iii. N&SDC's Pest Control Officer had visited again and reported signs of fresh activity by rats. He suggested that two more bait boxes were needed down the Morgan's Close side and at the back of the allotments. **Cllr Allen** would look into it.

10. **Roads, Environment, Transport and Services.**

- i. Mike Keeling, Notts CC Highways, was due to go on leave and would respond to the question of boulders on Chapel Lane on his return. He would also look at the draft information leaflet which the Clerk had drawn up in response to various problems observed on the village walkabout.
- ii. At the last Safer Neighbourhood Group meeting, Cllr Dobson had suggested that Coddington PC organise a lorry watch using the hand-held traffic monitoring guns. Four volunteers would be needed for the operation. **Cllr King** would make enquiries about training and availability of the equipment.
- iii. Cllr Parrett reported that an IMP lorry had been seen parked on the grass verge of the A1South slip road on more than one occasion, and tabled a photograph of the vehicle. On this occasion, when approached, the driver maintained that he had a problem. **Cllr Parrett** would record any further sightings.
- iv. A number of Cllrs said that they would be interested in a visit to the Highways Department. The **Clerk** was to arrange this with Mike Keeling and forward the sample visitors' programme to Members.
- v. Cllr Parrett reported that the verge outside the Community Centre had been churned up by vehicles parking on the grass when collecting children from school. **Cllr Dobson** was requesting an extension of the wooden posts from the corner of Brownlow's Hill to the Community Centre entrance.

11. **Miscellaneous correspondence.**

- A letter from N&SDC promoting a public consultation by the NHS on Improving Dental Care and Oral Health, which would run until 16 May. The Clerk was to make copies for the village noticeboards and put the information on the village web site.
- An invitation to attend the Nottinghamshire County Show on 10 May as a guest of the President's official hospitality. As the Chmn could not attend, it was agreed that Cllr and Mrs Allen would represent Coddington Parish Council. The Clerk would reply to the invitation.
- The Coddington School March newsletter included a reminder to parents to use the Community Centre car park with respect, and attached a copy of the Guidance Policy for use of the car park.

12. **Matters of immediate note.**

- Cllrs expressed their extreme disappointment that the police had reportedly withdrawn support for the Scouts and would not be policing the traditional St George's Day Parade in Newark. The Clerk was to write to Paddy Tipping, Patrick Mercer MP and the Chief Constable (cc Cllr Dobson) to convey the strong feelings of the Parish Council on the importance of maintaining links in support of youth groups.
- It was understood that there was to be another consultation on the Notts CC Local Minerals Plan in view of revised estimates for allocations throughout the county.

13. **Matters for the next agenda.**

Cllr Cox requested a further update on the village walkabout report.

14. **Next CPC Meeting:**

Thursday 3 April 2014 at 7.30pm at Coddington Community Centre

**Annual Parish Meeting:**

Thursday 17 April 2014 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

**The meeting closed at 21:15hrs.**