

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**held on 5 June 2014 at 7.30 pm at Coddington Village Hall**

**Present:**

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

**Clerk:** Mrs Y Wellard

**CC&DC:** Cllr Maureen Dobson

**Public:** Alan Hudson (SUSTRANS), 2 parishioners

1. **Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Armstrong (holiday).

2. **Declarations of Interest.**

Cllr Allen declared an interest in the Local Minerals Plan consultation.

3. **Public Contribution.**

It was agreed to bring forward item 9(a), outline planning application for the erection of a dwelling adjacent to Blacks Farm, Ref: 14/00728/OUT:

a. Mr and Mrs Smith attended to support their application, but did not provide any details of building specifications beyond the outline planning stage. Their intention was to establish whether building would be allowed before commissioning plans to be drawn up.

Cllrs voted 8:1 in favour of outline planning permission. Cllr Molloson commented that full planning permission would only be granted if there was an identifiable proven local need as stated in the Core Strategy Policy.

b. Alan Hudson, a volunteer for the charity SUSTRANS, explained some of the processes and problems in creating a new cycle track from Coddington to the Newark industrial estate. Although there was a well-laid track, the route suggested by Coddington PC is not an established right of way and would need permission from the landowners. It would also have to be shown that the route had been used by the public for at least 20 years. The preference would be for the establishment of a legal bridleway, but if not possible, there would be the option of a permissive bridleway which would give landowners the right to reclaim the track. SUSTRANS would be supportive of the proposal, but there would be no money available for 2014/15. Cllr Dobson said that the concept had been agreed in principle by Notts CC, provided that the Parish Council was responsible for all the preparatory work. It was unanimously agreed by Cllrs to take the plans forward at the next meeting, and to invite representation from Newark Town Council to join a working party.

4. **Public Contribution – County and District Councillor.**

i. Cllr Dobson reported that there was to be no change to the No 1 bus route. Notts CC would now negotiate with Stagecoach to get at least some buses to the bus station.

ii. It was suggested that Cllrs should hold an additional meeting (following the public meeting) to formulate their response to the Local Minerals Plan consultation. This was agreed for 1 July at 2pm. **The Clerk** would arrange a venue and notify Cllrs.

iii. One of the new gateway signs had been installed.

iv. Notts CC had established a Community Commemoration Fund with grants of up to £300 available for projects marking the centenary of the First World War. Information on how to apply for funding was passed to the **Clerk** for action.

v. The underground leak at the Village Hall end of Chapel Lane was being investigated by Severn Trent Water.

5. **To receive and accept:**

a. **Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting 1 May 2014.**

Proposed by Cllr Molloson, seconded by Cllr Bell, the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting were approved, and signed by the Chmn.

- b. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 1 May 2014**  
Proposed by Cllr Allen, seconded by Cllr Bell, the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting were approved, and signed by the Chmn.
- c. **Accounts for May 2014.**  
Proposed by Cllr Parrett, seconded by Cllr Molloson, the May accounts were approved, and signed by the Chmn.

6. **Matters arising from the minutes.**

- a. There were no matters arising from the Annual Parish Council minutes.
- b. **4. Balmoral Drive:** Following the further discussion by Members of additional information received, the Parish Council had withdrawn its original objections to the application.  
**6 (11iv):** A new dog bin had been installed at Thorpe Oaks.  
**8 (d):** BKV flyers had been delivered to houses on Brownlow's Hill, but there had been no improvement to the gardens.  
**8 (hii):** **The Clerk** was reminded to write to Coddington Trust Fund re Charity House Farm land as agreed at the Annual Parish Meeting.  
**11:** The visit to Highways attended by 4 Cllrs and the Clerk had provided some useful information. The **Chmn** would write a note to Mike Keeling.  
**13:** The Village Hall Committee was to submit a pre-planning application to Building Controls. The Parish Council agreed to act as its agent.

7. **Finance.**

**To approve expenditure as at 5 June 2014:**

	<b>£</b>
Clerk's net salary - May	328.00
Bruce Richmond - May invoice	54.69
Print Hub – June CVN	553.00
Parish Council Insurance	203.68
Heartwood Trees	430.00
LCR subscription	17.00

Proposed by Cllr Carver, seconded by Cllr Parrett, the above invoices were approved for payment.

8. **Administration.**

**a. Footpaths**

Trees and hedgerows between the two footpaths from the kissing gate and the corner of Drove Lane were dangerously overgrown. Trees were also overhanging the cycle path on the A1 slip road. **The Clerk** would report these concerns to Highways.

**b. Coddington Community Association.**

No report was available.

**c. Village website.**

**The Clerk** would advertise the public meeting on the Local Minerals Plan consultation on the village web site and notice boards.

**d. Coddington Village News.**

Cllr Elliott reported that he had been contacted by one or two people interested in taking on the role of editor and would speak to them again.

**e. First World War Commemoration.**

The Chmn reported that a draft copy of the booklet had been printed by Willsons for proof reading. He would be meeting with Rev Anderton to discuss placing a copy of the book in a cabinet in the church. Other hardback copies would be produced for the school, the History Group and the Parish Council.

**f. Page's Wood.**

- i. It was thought that the existing sign could have been made by Max Neale. **The Clerk** would make enquiries about renovation, or making a new sign.
- ii. **Cllr King** would contact the Scout Leader re clearing the pathways.

**g. Trees.**

- i. Heartwood Treecare had satisfactorily completed work on the trees at the junction of Old Hall Gardens and Newark Road, as recommended by Lee Robinson, NSDC.
- ii. Cllrs noted correspondence from Yew Tree Way residents to NSDC requesting that trees be replanted on land adjacent to No 4.
- iii. Approval had been granted for the removal of an oak tree at 8 Balderton Lane.

**h. Newark Healthcare Consultative Group.**

The minutes of the last meeting were not yet available. **Cllr Cox** will report at the next meeting.

**i. Defibrillation Unit.**

Cllr Cox would be meeting Philip Jessop later in the month to discuss the different types of defib units. Although there had been some further interest in the First Responder Scheme from the latest newsletter appeal, there were not enough volunteers to make a viable team. The possibility of joining with the Balderton scheme was suggested. **The Chmn** would make contact.

**9. Planning.**

- a. Planning application 14/00864/FUL.** 12 photo-voltaic panels, Old Vicarage, Chapel Lane. There were no objections to the plans.

**b. i. Community Governance Review.**

The Chairman's draft response had been previously circulated. It was agreed that there should be no reduction in the number of Parish Councillors, as the agreement for 10 Members preceded the construction of the 58 houses in the Coddington West Ward and membership should therefore remain the same if the parish boundary did change. Apart from this amendment, all other points were agreed for submission (copy attached).

**ii. Local Minerals Plan Consultation.**

In view of the strength of feeling over the mineral extraction plans for Coddington, a public meeting had been arranged for Tuesday 24 June at 7:00pm in the Village Hall. The Parish Council would then meet on 1 July to formulate its response.

**c. Planning Decisions.**

Planning approval had been granted by NSDC for the following addresses:  
24 Balderton Lane, 7a Beckingham Road, 1 Old Hall Gardens, 22 - 26 Balmoral Drive.

**10. Allotments.**

The Allotment Group had nothing to report.

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

**i.** The village handyman had reported a lot of litter (cigarette ends and cans) at the entrance to Greenfields, which he thought had been dropped by the staff. **The Clerk** to write to the owner, suggesting that a bin be placed outside for the smokers.

**ii.** **Cllr Parrett** would remind Bruce Richmond that he should wear a fluorescent jacket when litter picking.

**iii.** There had been complaints about overhanging bushes at the bus stop on Brownlow's Hill on Mr Beckett's land next to the school. **The Clerk** would ask Highways to contact the landowner.

**12. Miscellaneous correspondence.**

- A letter was received from Patrick Mercer asking whether the Parish Council wanted its file to be destroyed or transferred. It was agreed that there was nothing of importance in the file.
- The new Vice Chairman of the Notts Assoc of Local Councils is Mrs Linda Ogilvie.
- **Cllr Armstrong** had been invited to attend a meeting for the county's 'Digital Champions' at County Hall on 20 June for an update on Broadband progress.

**12. Matters of immediate note.**

None

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

- Appointment of a working group for the cycle track project.
- Health Care Group report (**Cllr Cox**)
- Community Commemoration Fund application.
- Ratification of Local Minerals Plan Consultation response.

**14. Next CPC Meetings:**

- Tuesday 1 July at 2:00pm (venue to be confirmed)
- Thursday 3 July, 7.30pm at Coddington Community Centre.

**The meeting closed at 21:30hrs.**

**COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW – CODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

1. In response to your email dated 29 April 2014 Coddington Parish Council (CPC) wishes to make the comments below (paras 2-4). Also, for completeness, we do note a possible error in para 3.3 (line 7) of the CEO's brief for Agenda Item No 10, which we think should have read "Newark & Sherwood District Council Beacon Ward "and not "Newark Town Council...".

2. **Boundary.** Para 3.0(d) of the Review's Terms of Reference (TORs) concerns the current boundary between Newark Town Council (NTC) and Coddington Parish Council (CPC). CPC welcomes a measure to redress the current anomaly concerning the Coddington (West) Ward. It considers this change would make good sense as the enclave to the west of the A1, is now a geographical and historical anachronism in relation to the remainder of Coddington Parish. CPC does note however, that the intermingling of land parcels along the NTC/CPC boundary goes beyond the Coddington West Ward. Immediately to the north of the C208 there is an extended tract of land west of the A1, but still within Coddington Parish. Further north and east of the A1, adjacent to Thorpe Oaks and Beaconfield Farm are 2 strips of land, one quite small, which are part of Newark Town. We would therefore suggest that the NTC/CPC boundary might be redrawn along the central reservation of the A1 between grid points SK 8264 5346 and SK 8191 5515. This would eliminate the current anomalies whilst providing a quite distinct demarcation line for each council's responsibilities.

3. **CPC Structure.** Para 9.0 of the TORs discusses the electoral ratios in some depth. CPC notes that it might notionally lose one Member with the transfer of Coddington West to NTC. However, CPC's 10th Member was extant prior to the development of the Newbury Road estate. Following construction within the Coddington parish enclave, a separate N&SDC polling district (Beacon AAAA4) was created. Concurrently, at parish level, CPC's West Ward was designated and one of its 10 members nominally allocated to it for election purposes. Whilst the electoral ratio in Coddington is quite generous in comparison to some of the other wards and parishes, CPC would not wish to function with less than its current 10 members. The parish has a number of organisations where the CPC provides members in representational or functional roles, in addition to duties allocated within the Council. Any reduction in the members' strength would make the number of roles per capita to cover these duties, and ad-hoc tasks, too burdensome, whilst reducing the flexibility, diversity and experience 10 members provide. Please note, also, our comments below in para 4 regarding the Beacon Heights influence.

4. **Precept.** Para 13.0 of the TORs shows clearly that Coddington parish enjoys a far lower precept than most of the affected parishes. In greater part, this reflects a lesser level of services provision, especially

compared with the demands placed upon Newark Town and Balderton. The level also reflects however, the historical care by CPC to keep the precept as low as realistically possible. The transfer of Coddington West will reduce precept income by about 8% (£1200 – £1400), although CPC does not anticipate a comparable reduction in its fiscal responsibilities to support the village in 2015. We stressed, in our recent unsuccessful submission to the Boundary Commission's District Electoral Review, that a considerable proportion of participation across the village's activities and in the use of facilities, was from Beacon Heights' residents. In many areas the level is 50% or more. For example, Coddington Primary School receives an annual DARE campaign grant from CPC of £300; 54% of pupils were from the Beacon Ward in the latest figures. In essence CPC has for some years budgeted with the expectation that Beacon Heights' residents share substantially in the village's activities. Some form of transitional relief would therefore be needed to shield the village from a drastic precept increase in 2015 which could entail a referendum and additional expense for the parish.