

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
held on 5 May 2016 at 7:30 pm at Coddington Village Hall.

Present:

Members: Cllrs Cox (Chairman), Allen, Armstrong, Carver, Gangel, Hedge, Molloson, O'Donnell, Parrett, Rowden-Allen.

Clerk: Mrs Y Wellard.

In Attendance: County Cllr Dobson, District Cllr Payne and Cllr Lee, Andrew Clifford, Naturally Outdoors Forest School.

1. Apologies for Absence.

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest.

Five Cllrs declared their membership of the Community Spirit Group.

3. Public Contribution.

Other than Mr Clifford, there were no members of the public present.

4. District and County Councillors.

Cllr Dobson informed the Council that a public meeting had been arranged for 27 July, when the Rights of Way Officer, Neil Lewis would give an update on public access at Beaconfield. The District Cllrs had nothing to report.

5. Page's Wood.

Mr Andrew Clifford from the Naturally Outdoors Forest School circulated copies of his plans for Page's Wood and outlined his proposals for early years' outdoor education on the site. Initial clearance work would include the removal of some dead wood, nettles and brambles, some tree maintenance (eg removal of ivy), and improvements to the hedgerow boundaries. The aim was to establish a long term sustainable woodland management plan and provide a Forest School programme on the site with links to Coddington School and other community groups. Following Cllrs' questions on impact, safety and insurance, it was proposed by Cllr Rowden-Allen, seconded by Cllr Carver, and unanimously agreed that the Council would support in principle the use of Page's Wood by Naturally Outdoors as outlined in Mr Clifford's information sheet dated 5 May (copy attached).

6. To receive and accept Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7 April 2016.

Proposed by Cllr Rowden-Allen, seconded by Cllr O'Donnell, the minutes of the meeting held on 7 April were approved, and signed by the Chmn.

7. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes.

6. Parking. Cllr O'Donnell would meet Mike Keeling (NCC Highways) when he next visited to consider parking problems.

6. Greenfields. Some Cllrs were still noticing an occasional smell in the area, but it was now a different kind of smell and could be from Greenways. The Clerk would continue to report it.

6. Field behind Old Hall Gardens. The Enforcement Officer was unwilling to meet the Chairman for a site visit. Cllr Payne would enquire about an off-site meeting to discuss unresolved issues.

6. Old Hall Gardens ACV subsidence. Cllr O'Donnell reported that the mole had been caught.

7b Minerals Local Plan Consultation. Steven Osborne James' response to the Parish Council's complaint about the format of the consultation had been previously circulated for information. Cllrs again expressed disappointment with the process.

6. Litter on the A1. Cllr Dobson reported that NSDC had signed a 12 week contract with Highways England and would be sending the 'litter squad' out on the A1.

9f. Allotments. Cllr Allen reported that allotment 5a had received some attention following the Council's written warning to the tenant. The Clerk would produce an updated plan of the allotments for members of the Working Group.

11. Banners on the C208. The response from NSDC dated 18 April said that the banners would be investigated within the next 10 working days. As that time had passed, it was agreed to remove the banners from the fence and keep them for collection.

8. Planning and Consultations.

- a) Community Infrastructure Levy - consultation on proposed amendments.
Information had been previously circulated. There were no comments from the Parish Council.
- b) Application 16/00643/FUL – change of windows at The Barn, 2 Hall Farm.
There were no objections to the plans.
- c) Application 16/00506/OUTM – outline planning for 1800 dwellings at Fernwood.
Grave concerns were expressed about safety at the right hand crossing of the A1 and about the impact on the number of vehicles cutting through Coddington village to Fernwood. **Cllr O'Donnell** would prepare a draft submission of the Parish Council's objections for circulation prior to agreement at the next meeting.
- d) Application 16/00628/FUL – gates, and wooden pillars at the entrance to Willowdene.
By a majority vote with one abstention, Cllrs opposed the design as far too large and out of character in a rural setting. The Clerk would ask Cllr Lee to request that the application be reserved to Committee, and would include a reminder about replacement trees which were a condition of the planning consent.
- e) Strategic Priorities Consultation. Cllrs had been given a link to the consultation site, and would respond individually if they wished to.
- f) Planning Decisions. The Parish Council expressed disappointment that permission had been given for the erection of sponsorship signs on the Stapleford Lane/A17 roundabout.
The Chairman reported the Planning Committee's decision to refuse The Plough development application.
- g) Core Strategy DPD Review Consultation Meeting. The Chmn, Vice Chmn and Cllr Molloson attended the meeting which was organised to provide parish councils with background information for the forthcoming consultation. The **Clerk** would forward a copy of the presentation slides to Cllrs for discussion at the next meeting. Cllr Molloson expressed thanks to Matthew Norton and Matthew Tubb for their presentations.
- h) Meetings with Matt Lamb and Cllr Payne. Meetings with Mr Lamb (NSDC Development) and Cllr Payne had also provided information on the Core Strategy Review and an explanation of the status of NSDC's Development Plan. The **Clerk** would circulate notes on the meetings to all Cllrs.

9. Finance

- a) To receive and accept accounts for April 2016.
Proposed by Cllr Parrett, seconded by Cllr Carver, the April cash book was agreed and signed by the Chmn.
- b) Approval of Expenditure
Proposed by Cllr Molloson, seconded by Cllr Gangel, the following payments were approved:

	£
Clerk's salary, April	396.00
HMRC – PAYE	50.88
Town & Country Groundwork mowing	450.00
NSDC - Community Centre Maintenance	2,987.45**

** £1,735 to be reimbursed by the CCA.
- c) Insurance Renewal
The Clerk reported that the insurance was being renewed through Newark & Sherwood DC from 1st June, with no changes to last year's policy.
- d) Community Spirit Group Funding Request
The request for funding had been withdrawn. The Community Centre would be made available free of charge for the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations on 11 June.

10. Administration.

a) **Matters Arising from the Annual Parish Meeting 28 April 2016.**

Cllrs had received copies of the draft minutes. No changes to the minutes were proposed. The following points were raised at the meeting:

- Acceptance of the revised overage deed for the transfer of ownership of the Community Centre was given full support by members of the parish who were at the meeting, and would now be finalised.

- Reduction to a 30mph speed limit on the C208 through the village. Cllr Dobson said that there was no chance of any further reduction in the speed limit.
- Questions on how long before the churchyard burial space was full. The Clerk would make enquiries, initially with the Verger, Peggy Harwood.
- Hazardous crossing of the A17 at the Drove Lane staggered crossroads. Cllr Dobson said that this point had been raised many time before, but Highways did not deem it to be of sufficient danger to warrant any change.

b) Community Centre.

Cllr Rowden Allen reported on the Trustees' meeting held on 27 April. The Management Committee was considering an increase in charges for the Centre. Mrs Beryl Rimmer had resigned as a Trustee, and it was hoped that more members could be recruited.

c) Village Clean-up.

The Community Spirit Group had divided the village into areas, and proposed 4th June for their work day, but Cllrs felt that the clean-up should be started as soon as possible by other volunteers. The Chmn and Cllr Parrett would allocate the areas to volunteers, and liaise with Mrs Philips (Community Spirit Group). Information would go in the CVN, asking for other volunteers to join in throughout June and July.

d) Grass Cutting.

Several Cllrs were unhappy with the standard of the first cut by Town & Country Groundwork. The Clerk would send their comments to the contractor.

e) Millennium Garden, Footpaths and Open Spaces.

- A member of the Gardening Club had suggested that they may be able to help tidy the Millennium Garden.
- It was reported that the hedge at the corner of Morgan's Close was growing over the footway. The Clerk would write to the owner.
- Cllr Molloson drew attention to some substantial trees at the rear of the car park on the north side of the C208 which she felt should be preserved. The Chmn and Vice Chmn would identify the trees for the Clerk to report to Lee Robinson at NSDC.

f) Handyman.

It was proposed by Cllr O'Donnell and agreed that this item should be confidential, and has been minuted separately.

11. Correspondence

- Notification of a temporary closure of Chapel Lane on Monday 6 June for work by Severn Trent Water.

12. Matters of Immediate Note / Next Agenda.

- Cllr Parrett was to meet with Cllr Payne to discuss complaints about Greenways.
- The next agenda would include a review of Community Assets, the Core Strategy Review, and discussion of a commemorative tree for the Queen's 90th birthday.

13. Date of the next Parish Council meeting.

- The next meeting would be Thursday 2 June at 7:30pm at the Community Centre. Cllr Gangel gave his apologies in advance.

The meeting closed at 9:15pm.

NATURALLY OUTDOORS FOREST SCHOOL (NOFS) – PLANS FOR PAGE’S WOOD

Introduction

Page’s Wood is a small area of amenity woodland, owned by Coddington Parish Council (CPC). It is currently an underused asset within the local community and is not at present maintained in a way to promote its long term ecological sustainability.

NOFS has approached CPC to seek permission to use Page’s Wood to provide Forest School (FS) driven experiences for early years to school aged children and families within the local area. The site is located on Balderton Lane on the edge of the village within easy walking distance by paved footpaths from both the school and the village hall. Some previous paths/ trails were established within the site using landscape fabric, although minimal maintenance has seen these grow in. There are some existing bird boxes within the site. Minor evidence exists of litter/nuisance use.

The site has existing hedgerow boundaries to 2/3 sides including to the East on Balderton Lane and onto open farmland to the South and West. Access is from an area of unmade (gravel/stone) ground to the North adjacent to a cluster of properties setback from the road. The woodland site is mainly left to nature and opportunities to develop include a ‘base camp’ area with fire circle, den making, habitat piles and play areas to include balancing and other physical challenges.

Short Term Goals: immediate – 3 months

Following the completion of an Impact Assessment (Primary Survey) in line with FS Ethos:

1. Creating a fit-for-purpose FS area for children to have access to Outdoor learning to improve social, physical, intellectual, communication and emotional skills via the holistic approach of Forest Schools Programmes.
2. Removal of dead and dying wood for use as habitat wood piles, fire wood and den making.
3. General clearance of the area to allow for more investigation by learners – to include removal of some (not all) brambles/stinging nettles and low level vegetation.
4. Promote health of existing trees – ‘ring’ to encourage dieback of ivy/other invasive climbers and subsequent removal at low level.
5. Improvement of existing hedgerow boundaries – encourage weaving of existing to fill gaps
6. Creating a useable base-camp & fire circle area within the woodland.
7. Creating an area to include habitat piles for mini beast exploration.
8. Creating a windbreak (using existing trunks and fallen wood) to shelter from prevailing wind

Medium Term: 3-12 months

To support an Ongoing Development Plan (see sample framework):

1. Establishing of long term Forest School Programmes on site with regular access to Page’s Wood
2. Developing closer links with the Coddington Community and other user groups (Guides/ Scouts, School etc..) to foster continued environmental awareness and opportunity to complete tasks within the site.

Long Term: 12 months onwards

1. Woodland management of site to ensure that the area is not overused and run down.
2. Possible expansion by NOFS to other suitable sites to ensure sustainable growth and usage
3. Establishing and running Level 3 Forest Schools practitioner courses in line with FS and NOFS ethos to promote outdoor experiences.

Other Matters/ Information:

- NOFS will be led by a L3 trained Practitioner who also holds Enhanced DBS (Criminal Records) Check
- Full Public Liability Insurance will be held to cover all sessions run by NOFS, provided by specialist insurers
- All risk assessments including First Aid/Emergency Plans will be completed by NOFS
- NOFS will support CPC in meeting any other statutory obligations which the proposed use of the site may affect (Dog Control orders, etc.)

Clearly the items laid out above are not set in stone and can be adapted to suit both CPC and NOFS needs. Clear communication is key to the proposed plans being implemented and a positive outcome being reached for all. Therefore, NOFS will ensure that CPC is kept up to date with ongoing use, future plans and the progress of the site. It would be beneficial to consider a dedicated person/point of contact within CPC.

On behalf of NOFS, I look forward to working with CPC and hope this new venture will be mutually beneficial to all stakeholders, most importantly our local children and families.

Kind regards

Andrew Clifford

Naturally Outdoors Forest School