

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
held on 3 November 2016 at 7:30 pm at Coddington Community Centre

Present:

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

Clerk: Mrs Y Wellard.

In Attendance: County Cllr Dobson, District Cllr Payne (from 8:00pm), 6 members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Armstrong, Cllr Rowden-Allen, District Cllr Lee and PCSO Katie Hyde.

2. Declarations of Interest.

There were no declarations of interest from Cllrs.

3. Public Contribution.

- i) A group of 5 residents attended to convey their dissatisfaction at perceived objections by the Parish Council to the planning application for The Plough. They felt that the Council had tried to stop the re-opening of the public house which was contrary to what the majority of residents wanted. The Chairman explained that the Parish Council had always supported the plan to renovate and re-open The Plough as a public house with flats above. Its objections had focused on the siting of the car park in response to neighbouring residents' concerns, and on the proposed housing development which could set a precedent for further ribbon development in open countryside.
- ii) A resident of Claricoates Drive voiced a complaint about the number of cats living at a nearby house which were invading his property. The **Clerk** would refer this to NSDC on receipt of further details.

Cllrs agreed a proposal by the Chairman to discuss item 8b The Plough, prior to Cllr Payne's arrival as he had requested.

4. The Plough Inn

Following the site meeting with Planning Officers and the owners' agent, revisions to the previously agreed letter to Matt Lamb re landscaping had been circulated. Two further amendments were proposed: 1a. the hedging should be *hawthorn* (not beech). 1d. & 2b. a substantial hedge *with trees planted within the hedge* along the northern and western boundaries of the new housing on the north side of the C208. Proposed by Cllr Carver, seconded by Cllr Parrett, the amended letter was agreed. Cllr Allen abstained from the vote.

Cllr Payne joined the meeting, and members of the public left.

5. District and County Councillors.

- i) Cllr Payne explained changes to the CIL policy which he said would affect businesses in the town centre, but would not impact on Coddington.
- ii) Cllr Payne highlighted an article in the Newark Advertiser reporting claims that Newark and Sherwood was the happiest district in the country.
- iii) Cllr Dobson referred to the amended Schools' Admission Policy, and commented that the emphasis on distance from the school was a great improvement.
- iv) Cllr Dobson drew attention to a new Groundworks initiative offering grants for the development of community spaces which could provide funding for the Millennium Garden. **Cllr Dobson** would forward details to Cllrs Parrett and Hedge.
- v) Cllr O'Donnell reported that undergrowth on the A1S slip road had been only partially cleared by ViaEM, and Cllr Parrett added that brambles were hanging over the pathway around Greenfields. **Cllr Dobson** would look at this area with Mike Keeling.
- vi) Cllr Dobson reported that Greenways was now being monitored by the NSDC Enforcement Officer. NCC had granted a licence, but no planning consent had been granted by the District Council. Observations and photographs to be sent to Abbie Marwood.
- vii) Negotiations on the Beaconfield footpaths were continuing with discussions between two of the landowners, and it was hoped that things would move forward.

6. To Approve Minutes of the October Parish Council Meeting.

Proposed by Cllr Gangel, seconded by Cllr Carver, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6 October were agreed subject to the following addition to minute 8a, Development Plan Review:

*The draft was agreed with the inclusion of a further point, **suggested by Cllr Payne**, proposing that additional weight be given to the character of a village where the development lies within or affects the setting of a conservation area.*

7. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes.

6. Greenfields. As there was still a problem with smell, it had been arranged for the **Chairman and Cllr Parrett** to meet Philip Doughty (NSDC) and Philip Arden (Clearwater Care) at Greenfields for further investigation.

7c. Report on The Plough. The NALC legal team had confirmed that retrospective payments could not be made by the Parish Council.

7d. Audit. It was understood that other parish and town clerks had also been criticised for failing to retain audit notices, and had felt that this was not justified. Coddington Cllrs agreed that it was an unnecessary requirement and confirmed that they had full confidence in the Clerk.

8b. Electricity Sub-station. Western Power had planted some very small laurels around the box and had finished off the front with paving as agreed.

10b. Queen's Birthday Oak. **Cllr Parrett** would ask her son to plant the tree at the Community Centre.

10b. Grass and Hedge Cutting. Doug Lyne had declined to do a final cut for 2016, and Cllrs agreed to leave the grass until early next year, as part of the new contract. The **Clerk** would ask him again if he would cut the hedges.

10c. Handyman. Cllr O'Donnell confirmed that a trolley was not required for the time being.

8. Finance.

a) To Receive and Accept Accounts for September 2016.

Proposed by Cllr Gangel, seconded by Cllr O'Donnell, the October cash book was agreed and signed by the Chmn.

b) Approval of Expenditure at 3 November 2016.

Proposed by Cllr Molloson, seconded by Cllr Hedge, the following items were approved for payment:

Clerk's salary, October	367.16
Handyman's salary, October	144.00
D Britten, strimming Millennium Garden x 2	15.00

Payment of £17 for the poppy wreath, plus a donation to the Royal British Legion would be made from the Chairman's Allowance.

c) Funding for Coddington School DARE Project.

Cllrs expressed their willingness to support the DARE programme, but confirmed that in order to comply with the Council's own Grant Aid Policy, they would need to see a copy of the school budget, which the **Clerk** would request again.

9. Planning and Consultations.

a) 16/01701/LBC – secondary double glazing, The Laurels, Main Street.

There were no objections to the application.

b) The Plough Inn.

This item had been dealt with earlier in the meeting (minute 4).

c) Fly Grazing Policy

Copies of the joint policy by NSDC and NCC had been previously circulated. Proposed by Cllr Carver, seconded by Cllr Parrett, the policy was agreed for adoption by Coddington PC.

d) Community Infrastructure Levy Consultation.

Copies of NSDC's proposed amended CIL policy had been previously circulated. The **Chairman and Clerk** would draft a response to questions which were relevant to Coddington, and circulate for approval.

10. Administration.

a) Coddington Community Centre

- i) Following the change of ownership, it was agreed to continue the system of payments for repair and maintenance being made by the Parish Council, with an agreed percentage reclaimed half-yearly from the Community Centre. The first payment would be to Derry for the new boiler at a total cost of £3,198.00 + vat.
- ii) It was agreed that the parking notice in the car park should be altered to remove reference to NSDC, and that the wooden name sign with NSDC's logo could be removed.
- iii) There were no members of the Management Committee present to report.

b) Trees and Open Spaces

- i) Mowing – A draft mowing schedule had been previously circulated and additional amendments proposed by Cllr Parrett incorporated. It was suggested that a map, highlighting the corresponding numbers on the list of sites, should accompany the schedule. The Clerk would obtain 3 quotes based on this information.
- ii) Millennium Garden – Cllr Parrett reported that Mr Britten had done a very good job of tidying up the garden with his strimmer, a supply of wood chippings had arrived, and she and Cllr Hedge were going ahead with the new planting.
Zurich Insurance had rejected the Parish Council's claim for damage to the Millennium Garden seat on the grounds that the seat was old and had lost one of its wooden slats due to wear and tear, and that if this had been the result of damage, it should have been reported to the police. Cllrs were not satisfied with this response, as the slat had come off as a result of the concrete support being broken off in a single incident. It could have been accidental, and it was not something that the Council had wished to waste police time over. The Clerk would send these comments back to the insurers.
- iii) Ivy on Trees – Cllr O'Donnell was concerned about the thick growth of ivy which was damaging trees alongside the foot/cycle path on the C208. A number of Cllrs volunteered to help chop down the ivy.
- iv) The Plough Paddock – It was noted that the paddock on the south side of the C208 behind The Plough had been missed from the Parish Council's Open Spaces Report for NSDC and would be added on.

c) Highways and Environment.

- i) Recycling Bins Cllrs discussed the future of the glass and clothing recycling bins currently sited on the car park of The Plough as a well-used and valued facility which will be lost to the village when the site is redeveloped. Cllrs were asked to give some thought to possible alternative sites.
- ii) Litter bin for the C208 lay-by - The Clerk tabled a picture of a suitable floor-standing bin which would cost £199 + fixing from Broxap and would be purchased when Mike Keeling (NCC Highways) had completed checks for underground cables.
- iii) Speed Watch Cllr Gangel reported that arrangements were now in place for Cllr O'Donnell and him to do the speed gun training with Chris Allen.
- iv) Parish Noticeboards Cllr Gangel volunteered to paint the notice boards with preservative where needed, and also the seat at Wellgreen.

d) Footpaths.

The Clerk would write to the RoW, Rachel Rickell to request waymarks for Footpath 5 in the middle of the field as well as at each end, as the direction of the exit was not clearly shown. More Evidence of Use forms for Beaconfield were still needed, and a reminder would go in the December newsletter.

e) Allotments.

- i) Lettings – An application had been received from a Coddington resident for the vacant plot, but it would need to be cleared before re-letting. The Allotment Group would organise a meeting to discuss how to clear it in time for the new rental year in January. Cllr Parrett reported that the Allotment Officers' Forum which she and Cllr Hedge had attended was very useful. They had learned that although priority can be given to local residents, it is not necessary to impose a five mile restriction on distance from a tenant's home address.

ii) Review of Tenancy Agreement – District Cllr Payne advised that the agreement should be called a licensing agreement as a tenancy agreement carried additional rights. The **Allotment Group** would meet for further discussions and present the revised agreement for approval at the January Parish Council meeting.

Cllr Parrett circulated some of the main points from the Allotment Forum and suggested that it would be useful to join the National Allotment Association for a subscription of £55 as it supplied a lot of useful information. It was explained that rents are not intended as additional income for councils, and should be set at the level needed to provide facilities and maintenance for the allotments only.

f) **Reports from Elected Representatives.**

Cllr Molloson reported that the Coddington Trust Fund was spending a substantial amount on improvements to the alms houses, but there had been no applications for assistance.

Cllr Cox reported that the Village Hall's library access point would be closing as there appeared to be no demand for it.

11. Correspondence.

i) NCC Schools' Admissions Policy – the revised admissions policy was open for public consultation until the end of November. It was left for individual Cllrs to respond if they wished.

ii) An invitation from Balderton Parish Council to attend a Remembrance Sunday Service at Winthorpe Airfield on Sunday 13 November. The Chairman was unable to attend, but if anyone else could represent the Parish Council, they should contact the Clerk for details.

iii) An invitation to Newark & Sherwood Homes' AGM on 24 November.

12. Matters of Immediate Note / Next Agenda.

i) The Chairman announced the death of Mr Phil Hammond, a former Parish Councillor and Chairman who had served with some of the longer-standing members and been an active member of the community. The **Chairman** would put an announcement in the CVN.

ii) It was noted that a large timber framework had been erected close to the road in the field next to The Homestead on Balderton Lane. The Clerk had contacted NSDC's Planning Enforcement Officer for information.

iii) The **Chairman** would arrange to conduct the Clerk's annual review.

iv) Cllr Allen said that he would have to re-arrange the date for erecting the Christmas tree at the Community Centre. It was agreed for Friday 2 December.

13. Date of Next Meeting.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 5 January 2017 at 7:30pm in the Community Centre, to include setting the 2017/18 precept.

Parish Cllrs are invited to attend a preparatory precept meeting on Thursday 1 December at 3:00pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9:20pm.