

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**held on 9 January 2020 at 7:30 pm in the Community Centre.**

**Present:** Cllr Armstrong (Chairman) Cllrs Allen, Baker, Cox, George, McDonald, O'Donnell, Parrett, Rowden-Allen.  
Mrs Y Wellard (Clerk) Dist . Cllr Lee. 5 members of the public.

**1. Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies were received from Co. Cllr Dobson and District Cllr Brooks.

**2. Declarations of Interest.**

Cllr Allen and Cllr George drew attention to their roles on the Village Hall Committee for item 9e on the agenda, but it was not deemed necessary for them to withdraw from discussing a donation towards rebuilding the wall between the Village Hall and the Scout Hall.

**3. Public Contributions.**

**i) Parking at Coddington School.** A parent of children at the school expressed serious concerns about the aggressive attitude and lack of respect shown by some parents, creating problems for residents and safety issues for children by inconsiderate and careless parking around the school, and asked that the Parish Council consider ways of dealing with the problems.

**ii) Traffic on Brownlow's Hill.** In addition to recent correspondence received concerning traffic on Main Street and Brownlow's Hill, residents of Post Office Row spoke about the particular problems of parking and the difficulties of two-way traffic on the narrow stretch of road outside their homes which along with the increase of traffic using Main Street as a cut-through, would soon be exacerbated by a new development behind Post Office Row. Residents felt that this could be alleviated to some extent by a one-way system along Main Street and Brownlow's Hill to help traffic flow and asked the Parish Council to start a petition.

**4. District and County Councillors.**

Cllr Lee said that parking wardens do visit, but are in high demand particularly at school times.

He passed on apologies from Robert Jenrick MP and David Lloyd who had been invited to the meeting by residents of Yew Tree Way.

Cllr Lee reported that the District Council was planning to plant trees around the edge of the Thorpe Oaks playing field, and also that he had again requested improvements to the play area.

Cllr Dobson had reported through the Clerk that the drainage problems on Morgan's Close had now been resolved, and Cllr George asked whether the double yellow lines would be re-painted.

*Members agreed the Chairman's proposal to bring forward agenda item 11a for Cllrs to respond to residents' concerns on traffic.*

**5. Traffic on Brownlow's Hill and Main Street.**

Cllrs discussed whether a one way system would be an improvement or create problems elsewhere. Highways had previously rejected a one-way system as unworkable, but Cllr Parrett recalled that at one time, the school had a voluntary one-way scheme in place for parents which had helped. Cllr Baker confirmed that new safety measures had been introduced in the Community Centre car park, and it would remain available for school staff and visitors' parking. It was proposed by Cllr Armstrong, seconded by Cllr Cox and by a majority of 7 in favour with 2 abstentions, was

**RESOLVED** that the Parish Council lead a petition for a one way system on Main Street and Brownlow's Hill for residents and other regular users.

**6. Planning and Consultations.**

**a) 20/00001/FUL 16 Penswick Grove, single storey side extension.**

There were no objections to the plans.

**b) 19/02228/FUL Additional dwelling off Main Street on the Ablehomes Development site.**

The main issue for the Parish Council was the additional cars, deliveries, and services that would be generated by the new development, adding to congestion on Main Street. It was

**RESOLVED** by a majority of 5 against: 4 in favour, to oppose the planning application because of the concerns over traffic and parking at junction with Balderton Lane and Main Street.

**c) 19/02211/FUL 12 Beckingham Road, single storey side extension.**

There were no objections to the application. One Cllr abstained from the vote.

**d) 19/00131/FUL Land adjacent to 4 Yew Tree Way.**

As the Chairman would not be available, it was agreed that Cllr Cox would speak at the Planning Committee meeting to raise further points of objection concerning the loss of trees, in conflict with the District Council's objectives of planting trees for a greener environment.

**e) Brownlow's Hill development – landscaping.**

N&S Homes submitted a revised landscaping plan to the Parish Council which included a boundary between the driveways and the public areas. Cllrs expressed disappointment that only one of the three Scots Pines that had been lost was to be replaced, and questioned an apparent gap in the hedge which was to be re-planted along the C208 boundary. It was also felt that the post and rail fencing around the area should be closer to the kerb to prevent parking on the grass, and questions were raised about responsibility for mowing the public areas. The Clerk would request another site meeting to look at these issues.

**7. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meetings.**

Proposed as correct by Cllr Allen, seconded by Cllr Parrett, minutes of the meetings held on 7 November, 14 November and 9 December were approved by the Council following a request to remove the word 'ancient' in relation to Yew Tree Wood (minute 4, 14/11).

**8. Matters Arising from the Minutes.**

Cllr Baker said that after a slow start, the outreach Post Office appeared to be picking up. Cllr George reported that the proposal for picnic benches at Valley View had been welcomed by a number of residents.

**9. Finance.**

**a. To receive and accept accounts for November / December 2019.**

Proposed by Cllr O'Donnell, seconded by Cllr McDonald the accounts were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**b. Approval of Expenditure at 9 January 2020.**

The following payments were approved:

Clerk's expenses	53.00*
Post Office table	33.88*
RS Gray – Christmas tree	90.00
Village Hall hire	8.00*
Willsons – December CVN	380.00
CHT Defibrillator maintenance	151.20

\* It was agreed that these payments could be made by bank transfer.

Payment of £40 for poppy wreaths would be made from the Chairman's Allowance.

**c. Approval of Budget.**

Copies of the draft budget for 2020/21 having been previously circulated, it was proposed by Cllr Parrett, seconded by Cllr George and unanimously agreed.

**d. Precept.**

It was proposed by Cllr Cox to increase the precept for 2020/21 to £15,728 which represented an increase of 3% on a Band D property. Seconded by Cllr George, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED** that the precept for 2020-21 would be set at £15,728.

**e. Donation Requests.**

The Parish Council had received requests from Coddington School for a donation towards the DARE programme and from the Village Hall Committee towards the reconstruction of the boundary wall. It was proposed by Cllr Parrett, seconded by Cllr Cox to award the school a grant of £250 which was still available in the current budget. Cllrs noted that £300 budgeted for noticeboards would not be spent this year and a virement to grants was approved. Proposed by Cllr Baker, seconded by Cllr McDonald, a donation of £300 was then unanimously agreed towards the new wall between the Village Hall and the Scout Hall.

**10. Administration.**

**a. Parish Council Vacancy.**

As no requests for a poll had been received, the Parish Council would co-opt a new member. The vacancy would be advertised on the noticeboards, Facebook and Coddington Crew with a closing date of 5 February.

**b. Community Centre.**

Cllr Baker reported that the main doors had been adjusted to provide automatic opening, that there were problems with the pump and that Coddington School was considering using the Centre for an after-school club. However, they would need at least 99 children to attend to make this viable, and other users of the Centre may be affected. A new constitution was currently under discussion.

The Clerk would forward an email to Cllr Baker concerning disabled parking at the Centre.

**c. Allotments.**

Cllr Parrett reported that the new trees had been planted with help from Mr Thompson, but more hawthorn was needed to complete the row. As the current rents cover the costs of the allotments, it was proposed by Cllr Cox, seconded by Cllr Rowden-Allen and agreed that there would be no increase in rents for 2020. Cllr Cox would check that the 10% discount from the Farndon Garden Centre would be continued.

**d. Annual Parish Meeting.**

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday 9 April in the Village Hall at 7:30pm. Residents will be invited to discuss use of the CIL money and the future of burials in the village.

**e. Review of Carols Round the Tree.**

The event went well and the Christmas quizzes for children were popular. £32.30 was received in donations in addition to £30.22 from the previous year.

Proposed by Cllr Rowden-Allen, seconded by Cllr McDonald, the following expenses were approved for payment:

Mulled wine and mince pies	£29.27.
Materials and prizes for indoor activities	£20.67.

The Clerk would thank all those involved in erecting the Christmas Tree, the School for providing music and decorations and set a date with the School for next year's event.

**f. VE Day Celebrations.**

A planning meeting is to be held on 31 January in the Village Hall. The Parish Council will be represented by Cllr Rowden-Allen with Cllr Allen and Cllr Baker liaising for the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council.

**11. Roads, Footpaths and Open Spaces.**

**a. Brownlow's Hill and Main Street.**

Cllr Armstrong would consult with Co. Cllr Dobson on organising a petition for a one-way system along Main Street and Brownlow's Hill as agreed earlier in the meeting (minute 5). Cllr Cox and Cllr Allen suggested that other solutions to the traffic problems should also be investigated such as parking bays on the C208. The Clerk would seek to organise a meeting with Highways, inviting representatives from Post Office Row, Coddington School and parents.

**b. Speedwatch.**

Cllr Baker reported that one new volunteer had come forward to join the team and sessions would start again in the Spring.

**c. Footpaths.**

A meeting with Neil Lewis (NCC RoW Team) had been arranged for 17 January to discuss the next steps in establishing a right of way at Beaconfield.

Cllrs reported that the bumps caused by tree roots on the C208 cycle path were getting worse. Yellow highlights painted by NCC had worn off, and pedestrians and cyclists were vulnerable. On the opposite side of the road, a large gap had been appeared in the hedge where trees had been cut back on the corner of the A1 slip road, leaving a dangerous exposure to the dyke. The Clerk would report these hazards to NCC.

**d. Trees.**

It was agreed that the Clerk would include a request for 30 hawthorn trees in the offer of free trees from NSDC, to be planted around the allotments and would liaise with NSDC on their plans for planting trees in Coddington to see whether any more species were required for the village.

**12. Correspondence.**

An invitation from Coddington School to attend the DARE Graduation at the school on Wednesday 22 January at 2:30pm.

**13. Matters for Immediate Note and the Next Agenda.**

No further matters were raised.

**14. Date of the Next Meeting.**

Thursday 6 February 2020 at 7:30pm in the Community Centre.

*The meeting closed at 9:30pm.*