

MINUTES of the MEETING of CODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
Thursday 4 March 2021 at 7:30pm via ZOOM

Present: Cllrs Armstrong (Chairman), Allen, Ayers, Cox, George, Masding, McDonald, O'Donnell, Parrett.
Mrs Y Wellard (Clerk), County Cllr Dobson, 1 member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received from Dist. Cllr Brooks and Dist. Cllr Lee.

2. Declarations of Interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Public Contributions.

There were no contributions from the public.

4. County Councillor's Report.

Cllr Dobson had approached Highways and Road Safety about the provision of safer access to Stapleford Woods for pedestrians and cyclists. They had agreed to look at this, but as it would be an expensive project, they would like the Parish Council to conduct a survey in the village to establish how much demand there was for improvements.

Neil Lewis (NCC Rights of Way) would be arranging a visit to look at re-routing the footpath to Clay Lane which had been closed because of the danger of crossing the A1.

The school crossing lights had been repaired by NCC who had now taken over responsibility for repairs from Western Power.

Cllr Parrett suggested that the narrow strip of grass on Newark Road could be made use of to widen the narrow footway, and with the help of Cllr Ayers, would send photographs to Cllr Dobson to show where the problem is.

The County was still awaiting a response on Greenfields from the Environment Agency.

5. Planning and Consultations.

a. 21/00189/FUL – Highlander House, Stapleford Lane.

There were no objections to the conversion of existing outbuildings for residential use as a family annexe, but Cllrs agreed with the Conservation Officer's comments on maintaining the historic agricultural appearance of the building by the use of appropriate materials and by doors and windows being kept in line and in character with the original openings.

b. Revised Residential Parking Consultation.

Cllr Cox felt that the revised SPD did not go far enough and still did not include adequate provision of residential charging points for electric vehicles. Her draft comments would be circulated for agreement by the Parish Council.

c. Planning Correspondence.

i) Planning application 21/00428/FUL for 88 ground solar panels at Hilltop Farm, Balderton Lane would be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

ii) 20/01452/OUTM, A17 Distribution Centre. An archaeology report was now available on the planning website and new consultee comments on the possible effect on planned development to the south of Newark.

iii) 24 Post Office Row extension. An email received from the Enforcement Officer advised that there were no grounds to present a case to court at this time, but they would continue to review if non-compliance continued.

iv) The Chairman had been invited by NSDC to attend an online Open Space Strategy briefing on 8 March.

6. Minutes of the February Meeting.

Proposed by Cllr Parrett, seconded by Cllr George, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4 February 2021 were agreed as a true record.

7. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes.

7/1/21 9g. At a site meeting with Kevin Shutt (NSDC), it was agreed that the two dead conifers would be replaced by Scots Pines and more hedging would be planted around the gardens of the new houses.

4/2/21 4. Concerns were expressed that some of the trees planted at Thorpe Oaks were directly in front of one of the Parish Council's benches and would obscure the view. It was agreed to monitor the growth to see if the seat would need to be moved.

The Beckingham Road hedge which was obstructing the footway had not been cut and it was feared that it would now be too late because of nesting. The Clerk would ask NSDC to cut the hedge back as soon as it could be legally done.

4/2/21 5d. Cllr McDonald reported that The Plough had started the soft landscaping of the car park and beer garden.

4/2/21 7. A bin had now been installed at the C208 layby. NSDC had confirmed that all litter/dog bins are emptied weekly, but as Cllrs reported that they were still over-flowing, it was agreed to discuss a full review of litter bin provision at the next meeting. The Clerk would circulate the map of existing and proposed bins.

4/2/21 9f. Phil Hadfield (NSDC) would inspect the Thorpe Close playing field hedge to consider installing a gate.

4/2/21 10. Malcolm Baker had confirmed that Coddington's Neighbourhood Watch was now operating and asked Cllrs to sign up to it.

8. Finance.

a. Approval of Cash Book for February 2021.

Proposed by Cllr McDonald, seconded by Cllr Cox, the cash book for February which had been previously circulated was approved.

b. Approval of Expenditure at 4 March 2021.

Approval of the following payments was proposed by Cllr George, seconded by Cllr Ayers and agreed as follows:

	£
Zoom subscription for March	14.39
Annual dog bin contract (Drove Lane)	62.40
J Wilkins – CC Pat and fire alarm tests	360.00
PTSG – CC lightning protection checks	150.00
Admin expenses Jan - March	34.05
Domain renewal	7.44
Willsons Printers – March CVN	350.00

c. Review of Community Centre Payments.

Following the liaison meeting with the Community Centre Chairman, Cllr Armstrong proposed the following changes to the Parish Council's contributions:

Contents insurance could be added to the building insurance premium for an additional £85 p.a. which would still be a saving of almost £400 on the premium that had previously been paid for buildings only via the Community Centre's insurance policy in 2019/20.

The Parish Council would take on the cost of the annual gas boiler servicing for c.£700 instead of paying for the main doors and sewer systems to be serviced, so that as owners of the building, they had financial responsibility for services relating to safety.

The proposal was seconded by Cllr Parrett and agreed with one abstention.

d. Grant Application for the Village Hall Extension.

Copies of the Village Hall accounts and financial statement for 2020 had been circulated. The Clerk advised that £730 was left in the Grants and Donations budget for 2020/21 and in addition, considerable savings had been made in several other areas of the budget due to Covid restrictions. It was proposed by Cllr Armstrong, seconded by Cllr Parrett that virements should be made from some of the underspent areas of the budget to allow for a donation of £1,000 Section 137 funding towards the upgrade of the Village Hall as a well-used and important asset for the community. The proposal was agreed with one abstention.

9. Administration.

a. Parish Council Vacancy.

The Clerk reported that there had been two expressions of interest and one formal application for co-option to the Council. Interviews would be held via Zoom from 6:30pm prior to the Parish Council meeting on 1 April. The Clerk would forward details of applicants after the closing date of 12 March.

b. Future of Parish Council Meetings.

In response to a survey by SLCC, Cllrs were unanimous that May would be too soon to return to physical council meetings and that the legislation should be extended in line with national lifting of social distancing restrictions. It was agreed that copies of the agenda should be displayed on the Parish Council's Facebook page for extra publicity.

c. Community Centre.

Cllr George reported that the Centre was planning to re-open from the end of April and was looking at the possibility of taking over the weekly coffee shop when restrictions allowed. The next meeting of the Trustees would be held on 18 March.

d. Allotments.

The allotment rents for 2021 had been paid in full. Cllr Parrett reported that all the trees from the eastern boundary had been given away to residents. The Allotment Group would carry out the first inspection on Tuesday 9 March.

10. Roads, Footpaths and Open Spaces.

a. Greenfields.

Cllr Cox had attended an inspection by Severn Trent Water at the site and her report was circulated to Cllrs. STW confirmed that the drainage around Greenfields was not their responsibility, and in their opinion, the smell was being caused by stagnant water and decaying vegetation rather than sewage. Brian Beddows (Environmental Health NSDC) believed that the dykes were the responsibility of Highways and was waiting for a site meeting with the County Council.

b. Thorpe Oaks Goal Posts.

The Parish Council had received a large number of emails from residents in support of returning the goal posts to the Thorpe Oaks playing field, and it was understood that this was the intention of the District Council. It was proposed by Cllr Armstrong, seconded by Cllr George and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council would support the return of the goal posts, with the recommendation that they be moved from time to time to allow the grass to recover.

c. Access to Stapleford Woods.

Cllrs agreed to the County Council's request to conduct a survey of residents on the level of interest for improved access for pedestrians and cyclists from the village to Stapleford Woods. Cllr Armstrong would design a website survey and circulate for approval.

d. Public Space Protection Orders.

NSDC was conducting a review of public space protection orders of which there are two in Coddington, both for the exclusion of dogs within the enclosed play areas at Thorpe Oaks and at Thorpe Close. It was agreed that these should remain in place and that there was nothing to be added. The Clerk would check that the PSPO notices were still in good condition at both sites.

10. Correspondence and Matters for Immediate Attention or the Next Agenda.

Information from NCC on school admission arrangements 2022-23 for community and voluntary controlled schools would be circulated.

The Clerk was reminded to set a date with Coddington School for Carols Round the Tree.

The annual village inspection was arranged for Tuesday 3 August at 10am.

**Date of the Next Parish Council Meeting:
Thursday 1 April 2021 at 7:30pm via ZOOM.**

The meeting closed at 9pm