

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 28 APRIL 2022

AT 7.30pm in CODDINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Present:

Cllr David Armstrong (Chairman), Cllrs Bernard Allen, Mike Ayers, Linda Cox, Nerissa McDonald, Lorna Mosedale, Theo Parkhouse, Wendy Parrett. Yvette Wellard and Dawn Hockenhull (Clerks), Co. Cllr Debbie Darby, Dist. Cllr John Lee 5 members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence - Bob O'Donnell

2. To receive and accept minutes from the APM held on 22 April 2021

Minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting were proposed as a true record by the Chairman and agreed by those present via Zoom at the 2021 meeting.

3. Matters arising from the minutes.

Issues raised at the previous Parish Meeting had been addressed by the Parish Council at subsequent meetings and there were no further matters arising.

4. Annual Reports of the Parish Council

a. Chairman's Report.

The Chairman presented the annual report of the Parish Council and welcomed everyone to the first in-person meeting since 2019. He thanked volunteers from the Coddington Volunteers Scheme for their support to villagers through lockdown, Collingham Area Food Pantry along with Coddington Trust Fund for their generous donation to the Pantry, the Parish, District and County Councillors for their hard work, Malcolm Baker as editor for Coddington Village News and Chairman of the trustees of Coddington Community Centre and to the Allotment Working Group for managing this facility. The Chairman also thanked everyone involved on improving the Millennium Garden and handyman Glen Bower for his commitment to keeping the village tidy. Yvette Wellard is to retire as Parish Clerk and the Chairman praised her for her commitment and professionalism to the Parish Council over the years. Dawn Hockenhull will be the new Parish Clerk and the Chairman welcomed her and Debbie Darby, the new County Councillor. He also welcomed two new councillors Lorna Mosedale and Tugkan (Tuk) Dikkez and thanked the two retiring councillors Denise Masding and Maggie George whilst remembering the sad losses of County Councillor Maureen Dobson and retired

Parish Councillor Mary Molloson. The development of warehousing next to the A17 KnowHow site has now been rejected at the District Council's Planning Committee and Winthorpe village now have to wait about a year for the formal consultation on the preferred route for dualling of the A46 Newark Bypass (published by Highways England). The Parish Council is progressing several community surveys. (Chairman's Report in full – appendix 1).

b. Allotment Working Group Report

Cllr Parrett presented the Allotment Group's report on the 22 allotments. One allotment was recently vacated and has now been relet. An inspection in March resulted in letters being issued to 3 holders for various reasons. The Allotment Holders' Agreement is to be revised to include a requirement for permission to erect a polytunnel. A new water trough has been donated and fitted by holders. There is still a long waiting list for the allotments with Coddington residents being given priority.

c. Finance Report

Copies of the draft annual accounts were circulated, and the Clerk highlighted the healthy balance which includes receipt of a further £7,000 C.I.L. money from new housing developments. The accounts would be published on the Parish Council website and be available for public inspection during the audit in June/July.

5. Annual Report of Coddington Trust Fund

Investments of £275,000 are held by the Trust. Very few requests for assistance were received during the pandemic, and Mrs Bartley asked that anyone aware of someone who needs help that is not covered by state benefits, to refer them to the Trust. Contact details for the Trust are published in the Village News. (Coddington Trust Fund Report in full – appendix 2)

6. Annual Report of Coddington Village Hall Charity Trust Committee

The Chairman, Mike Cox reported that although the last two years had been very quiet, bookings were now picking up and finances were sound thanks to grants received from the District Council to off-set the effects of the pandemic. A professional cleaner is now employed once a week and although the hall is breaking even on its regular income, it is dependent on events to make money. The refurbishment plans have now been scaled down as they were unable to get a grant for the work; a new more efficient boiler is being fitted, existing toilets will be refurbished and the main hall re-decorated. Wifi has been installed and automatic remote controls will make the heating more economical. The hall is now run as a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation). Mr Cox thanked Bernard and Joyce Allen for their many years of support.

7. Annual Report of Coddington Community Centre Association

The CCA Chairman, Malcolm Baker thanked Ian, Marion, Barry and all the Trustees for all their hard work in running the centre. Cllr Derby had provided a donation towards replacement LED lighting and new low-level lighting in the main hall. The recycled water tanks in the roof would be disconnected and toilets instead would be connected to the mains supply to avoid costly Legionella inspections, and an immersion heater would be powered by the solar panels. The CCTV had been used to support a report of vandalism to the police. (CCA Report in full – appendix 3)

8. Annual Report of Coddington C of E Primary and Nursery School

The acting Headteacher, Tim Head reported that the school has now been without a permanent Headteacher for two years and the post was currently being advertised. School life was getting back to normal after the pandemic and is looking at introducing staggered start times which will alleviate parking problems. Student numbers have been stable over the past 5 years, there is a new outdoor play area and the Ofsted rating is 'good'. The children's School Council has been re-formed as a School Parliament on the Government model and look forward to engaging with the Parish Council to find out more about the local community.

9. County and District Councillors

Co. Cllr Debbie Darby reported that she had advised Nottinghamshire County Council of a number of broken roads and pavements around Coddington and the wider area. Unfortunately, the sad loss of former Cllr Maureen Dobson meant that the area's Highway's priorities did not get submitted. However, Nottinghamshire County Council have agreed that the Co. Cllr can provide them with a list of three roads or pavements that need fixing and three major transport infrastructure improvements. She has discussed with Shaun Brown, the Via East Midlands' Highway's Manager, resurfacing of Balderton Lane and they will shortly arrange an inspection. The Co. Cllr has also requested that either Shaun Brown or Gary Wood attend a future Parish Council Meeting to discuss the traffic survey submitted to them. She attended a meeting with Stagecoach and Nottinghamshire County Council regarding bus issues in Coddington and in particular the issue of parked cars causing difficulties for bus drivers. Financial support for repairs to All Saints churchyard wall is in hand via Paul Roberts, Programme Officer at the Communities Team at County Hall. The Co. Cllr is happy to supply a full letter of support for this. The Councillor's Divisional Funding is now available and the Co. Cllr asked for details of any community organisation in Coddington that may need financial support. The Community Centre have received £1000 from last year's fund to upgrade lighting in the function room.

Dist. Cllr John Lee reported that the school had worked to resolve the issue of the Community Centre car parking and that there had been no more complaints. He toured the village with Co. Cllr Debbie Darby to inspect the aftermath of recent

antisocial behaviour. This included bins and posts being ripped up, amongst other things. He asked that anyone and everyone to report any issue and that there would be letters to all houses for a 'Report It' campaign. Trenching at Thorpe Oaks and Thorpe Close looks a mess, but it had deterred any illegal encampments. There is a long waiting list for housing in Coddington and not all of the open space at Thorpe Close is protected from development.

10. Open Forum

- Concerns were raised by several people about the lack of future provision for burials in Coddington.
- There were questions on the progress of the petition for a one-way system on Main Street which was presented to Co. Council last year and should be urgently addressed.
- The dangers of the staggered crossroads at the junction of Drove Lane and the A17 were again highlighted which could be improved by reflective bollards to clarify the crossing areas. Examples of recent accidents were discussed.
- Complaints were raised about the condition of the surface of the footway and cycle path along the C208 between the A1 and the Community Centre as being in a dangerous and over-grown state.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Appendix 1 – Chairman's Report

Welcome to our Annual Parish Meeting, the first in-person meeting since 2019 due to the Pandemic!

I would like to start by thanking all the volunteers who offered vital support to villagers during lockdowns through the Coddington Volunteers scheme which has ended, and to the Collingham Area Food Pantry that continues to provide food parcels to people in need. Coddington Trust Fund provided a large donation to support the Food Pantry, which delivers food parcels to families in Coddington via the School.

I would like to give thanks to the Parish, District and County Councillors for their hard work on everyone's behalf, and to remember the sad losses of Maureen Dobson our long-serving County Councillor and of our retired Parish Councillor Mary Molloson both of whom will be sorely missed.

Thank you to Malcolm Baker who continues to volunteer as editor for Coddington Village News and as Chairman of the trustees managing Coddington Community Centre, and to the Allotment Working Group who make sure this important facility in the village is well used

and managed. Thank you also to the people who have worked to improve the Millennium Garden – the village sign there has been removed ready for the creation of a replacement.

I would also give praise to Yvette for her commitment and professionalism in ensuring the Parish Council continues to operate smoothly and legally during these challenging times, and our handyman Glen Bower who has shown great commitment to helping keep the village tidy. Yvette has decided to retire after many years of service to the community, and I welcome Dawn Hockenhull who has just started as our new Parish Clerk and to Debbie Darby our new County Councillor.

I would also like to say thank you to the two Parish Councillors who retired over the past year, and the two new ones now filling the vacancies created:

Retiring Councillors	New Councillors
Denise Masding	Lorna Mosedale
Maggie George	Tugkan (Tuk) Dikkez

The most significant planning application in the village over the last year was for the development of a major industrial development of seven large warehouses between the existing KnowHow warehouses and the Thorpe Oaks residential estate, which was deferred and then rejected at the District Council's Planning Committee, with support from both our District and County Councillors.

In another major development affecting Newark, Highways England has published their preferred route for dualling of the A46 Newark Bypass. Our neighbouring village of Winthorpe has been working hard to minimise the negative impact on them, and will now need to wait for the formal consultation in around a year's time.

The Parish Council has progressed the outcomes of several community surveys over the past year, and has recently completed another on road safety:

- Use of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Money – several benches and additional litter bins have been purchased and installed around Coddington, with more planned for future years. A group is also working with the District Council on installing play equipment for young people on the Thorpe Oaks open space. More CIL money has recently been released from the new houses at Hough's Yard, which will also go towards play equipment.
- The demand for a new Burial Ground in Coddington – the Parish Council is seeking to purchase a plot of agricultural land in the village, after being refused by Coddington Trust Fund on our first enquiry.
- Road Safety concerns showed a high demand for reductions in the speed limit on Beckingham Road, long campaigned for by the Parish Council against the objections of County Highways, and we are working with our County Councillor on a petition to submit to the County Council. Further petitions on other concerns will follow.

I look forward to the many events planned in Coddington for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June and have been impressed by the enthusiasm of all the groups involved in planning their events over the long weekend.

Cllr David Armstrong

Appendix 2 – Coddington Trust Fund Report

In 2021 the income for the year was just over of £19,000, this is mainly from the rents for the Almshouses and the farmland which the Trust Fund owns in Coddington, but also from the Trust Fund's investments.

In 2021 outgoings were around £9,000. This was mainly spent on professional fees, the maintenance of the garden and surrounding areas and the upkeep of the Almshouses. No donation was made to Collingham Rural Advice Centre in 2021 because since the death of John Pitchfork and the pandemic, the people running CRAC have been unable to confirm whether they have helped anyone from Coddington. I referred one person, but sadly she received no useful help from the CAB, however the Charity was able to offer her some financial help.

The Trust Fund has assets in the region of £275,000 invested in various bank or building society accounts as well as some bonds and shares.

Very few residents of Coddington, have been seeking help from the Charity recently. I would expect that in the present economic climate that there must be people out there who need help. We continue to advertise in the Village News and I believe we now feature on a Coddington web page. If you are aware of someone in need, please encourage them to apply. All the details are in the Village News.

Pat Bartley – Chairman

Appendix 3 – Coddington Community Centre Report

I would like to thank both Ian and Marion for the continuing work that they have done to ensure smooth running of the Community Centre. I would also like to thank Barry Wellard for looking after our responsibilities to HMRC.

Since the last report, Rev Louise Holliday has stepped down from the Board of Trustees for personal reasons. We also welcomed Councillor Linda Cox as Parish Council representative.

I would also like to thank Mike Cox, Maggie George, Mark Burrell, Clare Tewson, Jonathon and Anita Smith, for their service to the Community Centre.

I would also like to thank Councillor Darby for her donation towards the lighting in the function room.

We are back in full swing again with only 2 users who have not told us about their circumstances. Our diary is open and receiving bookings.

We have engaged the services of a plumber to disconnect the water tanks and connect the toilets to the mains water system. This would reduce our requirements to the legionella risk assessment as we would not have stored water in the building. The water tanks will be removed. This was delayed as the plumber contracted Covid. This would have to be completed during a half term when we have no activity on a particular day.

With the increase in energy costs, we will be having a timer installed on the immersion heater to allow us to heat the water tank from the solar panels instead of the gas boiler system. We will also be looking into other methods of reducing our costs.

We have had CCTV installed and it has already proved useful. On 6th April our centre manager reported that dog waste had been thrown against the front of the building. This was captured on CCTV. The incident was reported to the police and the CCTV uploaded for their information. As the incident occurred at 2am the image is grainy when zoomed in, but it shows the actions of the young people involved.

The lighting in the main hall has been replaced, we now have new LED sports lighting and warm lighting for other activities which can be switched to adjust the light levels as required. The lighting in the Function room has also been replaced with LED units as the original fittings were constantly being repaired and not giving an even light. Other light units in the building will be replaced as they fail.

During one of the winter storms the fence that runs beside the dyke and the car park failed. We have barriered the area off and are waiting for the contractor to replace it. The new fence will have a small gate to allow access for maintenance in the dyke. This is to prevent people from having to climb over the fence.

We have moved to the new charity format and are working on our policies and procedures. We have in place policies covering CCTV, Free usage, and Safeguarding. We are working on Health and Safety, updating the Fire Risk Assessment, General Risk Assessment, GDPR and Key holder policies. Any other policies will be generated as required.

The block paving in the car park has been pressure washed and fresh sand has been put down. Some people think the drainage is worse now but what we are seeing is the water coming down from the surrounding area, seeping up through the blocks before it drains into the dyke.

The use of the car park appears to have settled down, we do still have the occasional parent who think the double yellow lines are just for show but recently Councillor Lee was involved, and this resulted in a parking ticket being issued. I believe that Newark and Sherwood District Council are looking into newer methods of parking enforcement which will result in automatic tickets being issued for violations.

During the next year we would like to increase the number of trustees for the charity to help with actively supporting and running our operation researching new projects and keeping the grounds tidy.

Malcolm Baker, Chairman