

Coddington Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th January 2024 at 7.30pm
in the Community Centre

Present: Cllr McDonald (Chairman), Cllrs Allen, Armstrong, Ayers, Brooks, Hudson,
Mosedale, O'Donnell, Parrett.
Yvette Wellard (Clerk). 2 members of the public.

CPC 24-01 **To consider apologies for absence.**

The Chairman announced the resignation of Cllr Theo Parkhouse.
Apologies for absence were received from Co. Cllr Darby and later from
Cllr Oldham.

CPC 24-02 **To record declarations of interest from members in any item to be discussed.**

Cllr Hudson declared an interest in planning application 23/02166/HOUSE.

CPC 24-03 **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November 2023 and to receive updates.**

Proposed by Cllr Armstrong, seconded by Cllr O'Donnell the minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously agreed.
Cllr Ayers reported on Carols Round the Tree and recommended consideration of a new P.A. system. £137 was received in donations which would be split with Friends of Coddington School. The Clerk would thank all parties involved in the event and book Newark Town Band for Wednesday 11th December 2024 at 6pm. Cllr Ayers confirmed that the new barrier at the Community Centre would be installed in two stages on 13th February and 1st March. The Trustees would like to decommission all the showers at the Centre (February agenda item).

CPC 24-04 **Public participation.**

There were no contributions from members of the public..

CPC 24-05 **To receive updates from County and District Councillors.**

No Cllrs were present. The Clerk was asked to report the overgrown hedge on the A1slip road to Co. Cllr Darby.

CPC 24-06 **Administration.**

a) To consider arrangements for interviewing candidates for Parish Clerk and to appoint an interviewing panel.

Proposed by Cllr Brooks, seconded by Cllr Parrett, it was agreed to appoint Cllrs Ayers, Armstrong and Mosedale to conduct interviews of all 5 applicants on Wednesday 10th January and Thursday 11th January at the Community Centre.

b) To consider the process and timeline for handover to a new Clerk.

It was proposed to offer the successful candidate a starting date of 15th January for a two-week handover. The current temporary clerk would finish on 31st January and continue to claim any additional hours needed for time spent supporting the new clerk after that date.

- c) **To review the Clerk’s Contract.**
There were no proposed changes. Cllr Mosedale would look at the details of the contract to see if any updates were needed.
- d) **To consider future provision for burials in Coddington.**
Cllr Armstrong explained why the agricultural tenancy land on Drove Lane would not be a viable option for the Trust to consider for burials. Cllrs Armstrong and O’Donnell would be attending a Newark Town Council meeting on future burial provision which they would report on at the next meeting.
- e) **To consider arrangements for grass cutting in 2024.**
It was proposed by Cllr Ayers, seconded by Cllr Parrett and unanimously agreed that due to budget constraints, the council would require a maximum of 6 cuts in 2024 from the end of April at monthly intervals or less if growth was slow.
- f) **To approve the use of traffic cones at the end of Newark Road.**
Proposed by Cllr Parrett, seconded by Cllr Armstrong, it was agreed to purchase 12 small traffic cones which would be put out on the Millennium Garden side of Newark Road every term time weekday afternoon to prevent double parking at school pick up time.
- g) **To consider the use of land off Stirling Drive.**
It was agreed that the Parish Council would have no use for the land and it should remain the responsibility of the District Council.

CPC 24-07

Finance

- a) **To approve the budget for 2024/25**
Proposed by Cllr Armstrong, seconded by Cllr Ayers, the 2024-25 budget which had been previously circulated was agreed.
- b) **To set the Precept for 2024/25**
Proposed by Cllr Parrett, seconded by Cllr Brooks, a 5% increase was agreed for the 2024-25 precept giving a £1.26 p.a. increase on a band D property. The Clerk would submit the precept requirement of £17,773.
- c) **To consider the use of CIL funds for netball facilities and an events shelter.**
Cllr McDonald would contact Dist. Cllr Oldham to discuss the provision of a netball court at the Thorpe Close playing field.
There was a proposal by Cllr Ayers, seconded by Cllr Parrett to buy an events shelter which could be available for community events and for use by village organisations such as Brownies, Scouts and the school. The Clerk would discuss a recommended spec./supplier with the Scout Leader and obtain prices.
- d) **To receive accounts for November / December 2023.**
Proposed by Cllr O’Donnell, seconded by Cllr Brooks, the accounts for November and December 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman.
- e) **Approval of payments.**
Proposed by Cllr Parrett, seconded by Cllr Armstrong, the following payments were approved:

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| Willsons Printers – Dec CVN | 394.00 |
| Water Plus | 43.28 |
| J Wilkins Ltd - electrical inspection | 360.00 |
| Newgate (Newark) Ltd – barrier | 6981.60 |
| Paul Derry - boiler service | 780.00 |
| D Lyne – verges and CC hedge | 860.40 |
| D Lyne – Page’s Wood/allotments hedges | 312.00 |
| Allotment lease legal fees | 100.00 |

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| Allotment rent 2023/24 | 150.00 |
| Community Centre room hire Sept-Nov | 90.00 |
| Village Hall room hire | 15.00 |
| Handyman's coat and gloves | 37.59 |
| Coddington School book tokens | 20.00 |
| NALC – new Cllr training | 90.00 |
| Community Heartbeat – defibrillator | 151.20 |
| Remembrance Day wreaths (Chmn's Allow.) | 40.00 |
| Newark Town Band | 100.00 |
| M Ayers - Carols Round the Tree expenses | 56.27 |

CPC 24-08

Planning

- a) **23/02166/HOUSE** – Detached open front double garage, 5 Orchard Park.
Cllrs voted to support the application by a majority of 7:0 with two abstentions.
- b) **23/02205/FUL** – Ground mount solar panels, Hill Top Farm, Balderton Lane.
Cllrs unanimously objected to the location of the solar panels due to the impact on neighbouring properties and the lack of screening. An observation was made that the capacity for generating electricity appeared to be well in excess of domestic requirements.
- c) Cllrs noted applications for the removal of a yew tree in the churchyard of All Saints and felling of four protected trees in the grounds of 2 Newark Road.
- d) The **Clerk** was asked to arrange a meeting for Cllrs with Jill Sanderson and Matthew Tubb from NSDC to discuss neighbourhood planning for Coddington.

CPC 24-09

Items for information and the next agenda.

- Cllr Ayers reported on the latest proposals for the warehouse development and construction of a new access roundabout on the A17 and proposed setting up a meeting with the developers to see what mitigation they would offer such as screening, footpaths, leisure areas and support for village projects.
- The Parish Council's printer needed to be replaced. The **Clerk** would obtain prices for a suitable printer/scanner and a laminator.
- It was confirmed that Cllr Allen and Cllr Hudson were booked on a NALC new Cllr training session on 17th January via Zoom.
- Cllrs were advised that The Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill had received Royal Assent from 26th December 2023, clarifying that parish councils can provide financial assistance to churches or other religious bodies' buildings to fund works.

CPC 24-10

Date and time of the next meeting:

Thursday 1st February 2024 at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm