

CODICOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 26th May 2015 in the Peace Memorial Hall which commenced at 7:30pm

PRESENT:

Chairman: Councillor Mark Ireland
Councillor David Connold
Councillor Jacque Grant
Councillor Helena Gregory
Councillor Ben Knapper
Councillor Colin Mackrill
Councillor Steve Sanders
Councillor John Warwick

IN ATTENDANCE: Lorraine Ellis (Clerk) and 4 members of the public.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Gregory for her hard work as Chairman of the Council during a very tough year and for getting the Council through to the current position.

The Chairman stated that he wanted the Council to work together as a team showing respect to the public and amongst ourselves.

2015/059

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillors and Caroline Tinner (holiday) Felicity Moody (other commitments).

2015/060

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

The Chairman welcomed the public to the meeting and invited John Gardner to speak.

Mr Gardner stated that nothing had been done during the last year, especially the weeds in the High Street. Also, the seats and benches especially the seat at the Pump which has been broken for months, it could look nicer with a little money spent on it. The oak bench outside the Peace Memorial Hall was lovely when first installed but needs attention. Farriers Close is also an on-going problem, it is in a disgraceful state.

The Chairman reported that the Environment Committee have been looking at these items. It was noted that it is normal practice for questions to be provided 5 days prior to the meeting.

2015/061

TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT:

None.

2015/062

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 28th APRIL 2015:

To take the minutes as read and approve them as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Councillor Gregory and seconded by Councillor Warwick. The minutes were then duly signed by the Chairman.

2015/063

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12th MAY 2015:

To take the minutes as read and approve them as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Councillor Mackrill and seconded by Councillor Knapper.

2015/064

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 28th APRIL 2015:

2015/016 Financial contribution to the John Clements Sports Hall & Community Centre: The Clerk reported that this item would be discussed when considering the P&R Committee minutes.

2015/049 Website upgrade: The Clerk reported that following the meeting with the resident to upgrade the website it was not yet possible to resolve the issue with Google, further investigations are underway.

2015/065 TO REVIEW QUESTIONS RAISED AT THE INFORMAL RESIDENT & COUNCILLOR SESSION:

The Chairman reported that following the discussion with members of the Codicote Playground Support Group two consultation events will be held on Saturday 6th & 13th June from 10:00am – 12noon. It was agreed that the picnic tables would remain on the sketch provided by the Group for the consultation process. A final decision will be reached at the end of the consultation period. The Chairman reported that a letter had been received from a resident stating that he was a representative for residents in the area and that at the meeting held in March it was agreed that the picnic tables would be removed from any forthcoming plan.

2015/066 ELECTORAL REVIEW OF HERTFORDSHIRE – FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting to enable Councillors to fully review the final recommendations.

2015/067 NHDC STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY – PUBLIC CONSULTATION:

The Chairman reported that the Council no longer had responsibility for licensed premises however the new building was situated on Council owned land we need to consider whether or not to participate in the public consultation process.

It was noted that the new building has a new licence in place, Council therefore agreed that participation in the consultation was not required.

2015/068 TO APPROVE THE 2014/15 FINAL ACCOUNTS:

The Clerk reported that the P&R Committee had reviewed the year-end accounts at their meeting on 5th May and had agreed that they were in order. Councillor Mackrill reported that the high level of legal fees had caused the deficit. Council reviewed the 2014/15 year-end accounts and unanimously agreed that they should be signed by the Chairman and the Clerk accordingly.

2015/069 TO AGREE THE 2014/15 AUDIT STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE:

Council unanimously agreed that the statement should be signed. The Chairman and the Clerk then duly signed the statement of assurance.

2015/070 TO AGREE PAYMENTS IN LINE WITH THE PRESENTATION OF INVOICES FOR PAYMENT:

The payments for May for £12,346.04 were agreed by Council.

Councillor Connold requested that he would appreciate receiving documents earlier. The Chairman stated that this request would be considered to see what would be feasible.

2015/071 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Planning Committee Meeting – 14th May 2015: To present the minutes to Council and to take them as read and to approve them as a true and accurate record. The Clerk to amend the minutes to reflect the attendance of Councillor Grant.

The minutes were proposed by Councillor Gregory and seconded by Councillor Grant. The minutes were then duly signed by the Vice Chairman of the Planning Committee.

Environment Committee Meeting – 21st May 2015: To present the minutes to Council and to take them as read and to approve them as a true and accurate record. The minutes were proposed by Councillor Warwick and seconded by Councillor Sanders. The minutes were then duly signed by the Chairperson of the Environment Committee.

Recreation Committee Meeting – 19th May 2015: To present the minutes to Council and to take them as read and to approve them as a true and accurate record. The minutes were proposed by Councillor Gregory and seconded by Councillor Warwick. The minutes were then duly signed by the Vice Chairman of the Recreation Committee.

Policy & Resources Committee – 5th May: To present the minutes to Council and to take them as read and to approve them as a true and accurate record. The minutes were proposed by Councillor Sanders and seconded by Councillor Warwick. The minutes were then duly signed by the Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee.

It was noted that the Committee had agreed that due to the reduction in the Council's reserves it would be prudent to only release 50% of the donation agreed for the new centre and that a further review would be carried out in September.

Peace Memorial Hall Report: Nothing to report.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending, the meeting then closed at 8:40pm.

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....