

CODICOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 28th November 2017
in the Peace Memorial Hall which commenced at 7:30pm

PRESENT:

Chairman: Councillor Colin Mackrill
Councillor David Connold
Councillor Helena Gregory
Councillor Ben Knapper
Councillor Felicity Moody
Councillor Caroline Tinner

IN ATTENDANCE: Lorraine Ellis (Clerk) and County Councillor Richard Thake

2017/101 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillors Mark Ireland (other commitments), Russell Green (illness), Steve Sanders (illness) and John Warwick (illness)

2017/102 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

County Councillor Thake reported that he had reviewed the September minutes in the village hall noticeboard. The Clerk reported that the draft October minutes were currently on display at the Parish Council office.

2017/103 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT:

None received.

2017/104 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 31st OCTOBER 2017:

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

2017/105 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES ON 31st OCTOBER 2017:

- **Neighbourhood Plan for Codicote:** Councillor Gregory reported that the NHP group have met and that a preliminary document was in an advanced state of draft. It was also reported that with Councillors Connold, Gregory and Ireland had met with Ashill regarding the proposed development at land south of Heath Lane. Ashill have agreed that CPC can use their housing assessment in the NHP and have volunteered further help if needed.
- **Save our Green Belt:** Councillor Connold reported that both he and Councillor Gregory had attended the first day at the NHDC Local Plan EiP and was pleased to report that the Solicitor engaged by the SOGB is very able. Hearing sessions will continue well into the New Year.
- **Southern Rural Area Committee meeting:** The Acting Chairman agreed to review his commitments and would attend the meeting if he was able to do so.
- **To receive Cllr Ben Knapper's resignation letter:** Cllr Knapper advised Council that he had emailed his resignation to the Clerk.

2017/106 TO AGREE THE 2018/19 BUDGET:

The Council considered the draft budget prepared by the Clerk . The Acting Chairman stated that following grants made to the John Clements Sports & Community Trust and the cost of the landscaping work undertaken at the Bury Lane

sports field it was important to replenish the Council's reserves, he also thanked the Clerk for the well managed accounts. Councillors **unanimously agreed** a budget of £107,530 for 2018/19. The Clerk to advise NHDC of Codicote Parish Council's precept requirements.

2017/0107

TO DISCUSS THE AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE YEAR 2017/18:

The Clerk reported that following the demise of the Audit Commission that auditor appointments were now the responsibility of Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments Ltd (SAAA), this organisation has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. For the next 5 years including the current audit year, PKF Littlejohn LLP has been appointed to undertake all smaller authority audits in Hertfordshire.

2017/108

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

The payments made for November for £7,536.41 were duly agreed.

2017/109

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Planning Committee Meeting – 7th November: 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 Knapper. The minutes were then duly signed by the Chair of the Planning Committee.

Councillor Moody asked for some clarification on the summerhouse built at The Lodge, Heath Lane. Councillor Tinner explained that we were advised by NHDC that the building did not require planning permission and NHDC had only consulted the Planning Committee on the retention of the balustrade. The Planning Committee have also been concerned at a similar development at Abbotshay Cottage; NHDC had agreed to apply a condition that the granny annex would be ancillary to the main house. The NHDC decision notice did not include that condition.

The Planning Committee are not in favour of structures being built in gardens that could potentially be sold off as separate dwellings in the future.

Environment Committee Meeting – 16th November: 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 deferred to the next Environment Committee meeting for approval and signature due to insufficient members being present.

Councillor Gregory stated that as previously reported the hearing sessions have commenced and the Inspector seems very able and that the SOGB Solicitor appears greatly admired on his work so far. It was noted that CPC have delegated SOGB to be our representatives on Green Belt and Infrastructure. Codicote is the only area in North Herts with G&Ts therefore a meeting has been set for Monday 4th December, 4pm at the PC office with District Councillor Jane Gray to prepare a written representation for the hearing which is scheduled to take place on 1st March 2018.

Councillor Mackrill requested an update on the Suspension Notice at Codicote Quarry. Councillor Connold stated that there were still lorry movements to and from the Quarry. County Councillor Thake reported that the Suspension Notice issued by the Environment Agency applied only to their waste business so they can continue with the other parts of their business.

Recreation Committee Meeting – 2nd November: 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 Connold. The minutes were then duly signed by the Chair of the Recreation Committee.

Policy & Resources Committee Meeting – 23rd November: 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 Mackrill. The minutes were then duly signed by Councillor Tinner.

Peace Memorial Hall update: Councillor Gregory reported that there had been no meetings and no news on finding any replacement Trustees.

2017/110 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**
Tuesday 30th January 2018.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting which then closed at 8:25pm.

Signed..... **Acting Chairman**

Date..... **2018**