

Copdock & Washbrook Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 5 February 2019 at the Sports Pavilion, Copdock, 7.30pm

Present: Chairman Terry Corner, Vice Chair Mike Watling, Cllr Keith Armes, Cllr Tina Sutters, Cllr Laura Butters, Cllr Louise Carman, County Cllr Christopher Hudson, District Cllr Nick Ridley, District Cllr Barry Gasper, 4x residents, Clerk - Angela Chapman.

1608/1819 Chairman's Welcome & Apologies for Absence - none.

1609/1819 Declaration of Interests - Mike Watling - Tennis Club; Louise Carman - Carman 4Seasons Ltd.

1610/1819 Minutes. Minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2019 were signed as a true record.

1611/1819 Clerk's Report including Matters Arising

A hearing loop has been received and will be used at every meeting, it is hoped this will help everyone participate in Parish Council meetings. The £46 from the Neighbourhood Watch account was put towards the cost.

Play area signs at all sites have been installed. Maintenance works arising from the inspection last summer have been carried out.

Isobel Strickland, long time resident of Copdock, kindly left an amount of money in her will to C&W PC to be used for the benefit of the village, it has been suggested by members of the ramblers group maybe some information signs along some of the footpaths, although it was pointed out this may be a little over budget, or a bench on one of the footpaths that Isobel maintained for so many years.

Website - emailed resident who is happy to have a look at setting up new site when the NP one is up and running.

Operation London Bridge - distribute by email report to all Cllrs. Everything is in place.

I have heard nothing from the resident in Oakfield Rd despite Babergh DC asking them to contact the Parish Council direct regarding litter and a possible new litter bin.

Env Man - central reservation has had first cut of year due to the grass and vegetation being up to 2 feet high in places. SCC are unlikely to carry out their first cut until May/June. It was decided to do this to keep the grass and weeds under control and for safety at junctions. Tree work has also been carried out as agreed.

Thank you to be sent to Anne Kell for being the allotment representative to the PC for all plot holders for many years. Anne worked hard to ensure the allotments ran smoothly and the PC are very grateful to her for the time and effort she put into the allotment site.

Still one Casual Vacancy.

1612/1819 Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 19.40hrs.

CC Christopher Hudson: Babergh DC developer-led planning, not good. Knows of Persimmon development where all 95 houses are not in the correct place.

James Cartlidge MP working on A14 for £150m of improvements.

CAB, not enough funds to go to court, very necessary. Central Government not sent money through.

Real issues with young people's mental health, needs concentrating on, adult social care, not enough funding.

Gave £1,000 to Copdock Primary School for games equipment from Locality budget.

Housing pressure - need houses of real worth and a good build quality.

DC Nick Ridley: budget getting final examination, shows balance using various reserves, will be a very testing next year.

Copdock Interchange is a vital issue for Copdock & Washbrook and Babergh DC. Needs sorting out before any other road layouts changed.

Meeting Tithe Barn, Sproughton regarding development of 100 houses, moving allotments half mile away from current site, will make Burstall Lane a rat run.

DC Barry Gasper: BDC finances depleted, £3m deficit, highly significant. CEO looked at each dept.

Cash flow situation for 2019/20 will be looked at after election.

BDC wanted to borrow £25m for investment, Scrutiny Committee wanted a stress test on Council, which it passed.

Contract for waste renewed.

Constitution final draft put together, will then go to leader, then consultation.

Meeting reconvened 20.15hrs.

1613/1819 Planning Applications:

DC/19/00293 Submission of details under Outline Planning Permission DC/17/06054 - Access, appearance, landscaping, layout & scale. | Land To The East Of Lane Farm Folly Lane Copdock.

Comment: Last opportunity to widen Folly Lane at the narrowest point, to future proof the road, by aligning the dwellings further back to allow the ditch to be moved back.

DC/19/00249 Full Planning Permission - Change of use of land from agricultural to residential gardens for approved residential development. Land east of Lane Farm, Folly Lane, Copdock.

Comment: No objection.

For info: expiry date 28/1/19

DC/18/05484 - Application for the Modification of a Section 106 Planning Obligation - Discharge S106 occupancy related to planning applications B/92/00345 and B/10/00088. The Mane Riding Centre, Old London Rd, Copdock IP8 3JF. Report from Planning Group and update.

Referred to Babergh DC.

1614/1819 Financial Matters & RFO Report:

- a) payments recommended - KA & LC approved
- b) request for consideration of donation to C&W Pre-School - deferred after item 8 on agenda.
- c) consider spending of donation from resident of Copdock. It was decided to re-issue the footpaths maps & guide, making the maps more attractive including information and pictures on buildings and points of interest. To include a dedication to Isobel Strickland. Cllr Ann Hurst and Clerk to put together with help and support from Cllr Tina Sutters.

RFO Report

The Parish Council's budget position is in order, with all spending within the current financial years budget. Budget figures have been altered - Training reduced from £500 to £100, the resulting £400 added to admin costs. Allotment budget increased to £3,500, an increase of £1,500, 127 budget increased to £5,500, £500 increase. The £2,000 will be taken from reserves.

The Council last month agreed a donation to the Tennis Club of £3,500 which if the Council pay from this years finances puts the 127 budget £4,000 over for this financial year, which as I've just reported has had to be increased by £500. I suggest this payment is deferred until after the end of this financial year.

Approval needed. This proves the need for item 8 on the agenda. Also to keep a closer look at our budgets before agreeing payments and donations. After payments this month several budgets have gone over, I think the FWG should have a look at this before the start of the next financial year.

Village hall and bowls club ground rent and leases to be considered for review later on the agenda.

Isobel Strickland, a long time resident of Copdock, kindly left an amount of money, £318, in her will to C&W PC to be used for the benefit of the village. All Cllrs have been informed of this and asked to think about where they think the money could be spent. See Clerk's report.

Allotment rents coming in, three plots vacant, total rent for year £616.

Council approved deferral of Tennis Club donation to next financial year, 2019/20.

Payments approved:

Spreadsheets updated. Bank reconciliation sheets approved and signed by Cllr Louise Carman.

Minuted and approved.

1615/1819 Process for Grant/Donation funding

It was agreed after discussion an application form will be drawn up for all organisations wanting to make an application to the PC for funding. Cllr LB/Cllr AH.

Copdock Primary School sent a letter to Chairman Terry Corner requested a donation for a conservatory for extra learning space. Council discussed and agreed to turn down due to insufficient funds.

1616/1819 Memorial/Commemoration for Peter Jones

Cllr Laura Butters reported the Village Hall Committee are happy for the main hall in the complex to be renamed The Peter Jones Hall and a plaque erected. A dedication reception will be held later in the year due to the recent death of Jennifer Jones. Also discussed was the possibility of a plaque on the village sign in memory and dedication of both Peter and Jennifer Jones. It was suggested by Chairman Terry Corner to hold these events on the 1 year anniversary of their passing.

1617/1819 Village Hall

- a) Cllr Laura Butters attended the last meeting, advising the committee the Constitution is out of date and therefore needs to be revised. Also advised the VH committee it should be paying any employees the living wage. Cllr LB offered help with both and will attend the next meeting
- b) lease update - Clerk to contact Birketts solicitors

1618/1819 C&W Bowls Club

Clerk to contact Birketts solicitors.

1619/1819 Risk Assessment

Cllr Ann Hurst carrying out weekly/monthly/half yearly reviews/inspections and updating register. Then sending updated register to Clerk.

1620/1819 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Laura Butters reported all progressing well, funds to cover the consultant fees applied for. Village character assessment to be carried out. Cllr Louise Carman to keep finances for NP.

1621/1819 Parish Council website

See Clerk's report.

1622/1819 Casual Vacancy

Dave Marsh was co-opted onto the Council. Dave is also on the NP group.

1623/1819 Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council:

MW - quiz night on 12 March in village hall - PC to send a team.

TC - Operation London Bridge - another Union flag purchased.

TC - a piece to be submitted to In Touch for the death of Jennifer Jones.

Items for next agenda:

None.

Meeting closed at 21.15hrs.