

Codford Parish Council

Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2016

Call to order

The Chairman called to order the regular meeting of the Parish Council at 7.35 pm on May 3, 2016 in the small village hall, Codford.

Present

The following persons were present: Cllr. C Beagley, Cllr. C Brayne, Cllr. S Mitchell, Cllr. A Rennie, Cllr. B Smith, Cllr. H Merchant and Cllr. T Thornton

In attendance: Mr.L.Hoareau, retiring Clerk and Ms K Grant, Clerk

1 Apologies

Cllr.D Bartlett and Cllr. E Longlands

2 Open Forum

No attendance to the open forum.

3 Approval of minutes from last meeting

The minutes were approved as correct and signed by The Chairman.

Open issues

Neighbourhood Watch and Tasking Group

Cllr. Mitchell informed the meeting that Ms Grant and herself had attended the Open Forum at Warminster Civic Centre on Saturday 30th April. She reported that the tasking group was due to restart and had the full backing of Wiltshire Police who attended the forum to put this message forward. They also promised to be more forth coming with local issues.

Wiltshire Messaging Service

Cllr. Mitchell reported that Wiltshire messaging was discussed at the forum. This is the neighbourhood watch messaging service that sends emails alerts to the public about policing and crime matters.

It was agreed that it is a good system and that information that is relevant to us as a community will be passed on through this media. So we should all endeavour to sign up.

To join or find out more visit: www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk

4 Matters Arising

1) Speeding High Street.

The PC is still waiting to hear what the full costs are going to be before a decision is made to take part in the scheme.

2) Sign Post New Road/Chitterne Road Junction

The Chairman reported this was in the pipeline. He presented the issue at the meeting he attended for the New Highway services. And was informed that since the PC are part funding it through CATG, it will be dealt with. Otherwise Local Highways have a tight budget with a list of more pressing issues to deal with, and will only deal with very important signs. PC acknowledged that they would have to fund any urgent sign posts around the Village, if any, for now.

3) Codford Milestone

Cllr. Rennie reported that this all cleaned up now and ready to put it. Awaiting more clement weather to install. Frost free weather is required because of the use of lime mortar.

4) Petitions for Allotment Gardens

The PC has not heard anything back from Selwood Housing. It was agreed that if the proposed development was not going ahead after all, to ask residents again if there was still interest for the allotments. Clerk to contact Selwood Housing.

5) Village Good Deed Award

Cllr Mitchell reported that this was on going and progressing

6) HM's Birthday Garden Party

The Chairman reported that he had spoken to Stephanie N-H, one of the organisers of the event. Everything was going to plan and funds from the area board had been received. They propose to have background music and everybody bring a plate of food with them. They also asked if the PC could help out on the day. Messy Church plan to have a stand with a few family activities.

7) Joint PC/VH Fund Raising Group

Cllr. Bartlett, Interim Chairman VHMC, was not present to comment but Cllr Brayne who is on the subcommittee reported that they had exchanged emails on the subject. The purpose being to raise major funds through grants and donations to finance substantial refurbishment of the village hall building to ensure the long term sustainability of the facility. Fund raising on a minor scale such a ploughman's lunches and similar events should continue as normal.

8) Planning Applications

None received.

5 Annual Audit Accounts 2015/2016

Mr Hoareau presented the audit report which had been signed off by John Gibbens.

Listed policies in the report were approved and signed. The accounts will be displayed on the various notice boards.

Mr Horeau also reported that Mr Gibbens wished to step back from doing the auditing of the PC accounts.

6 Planning Applications

No new planning applications have been received.

7 Items of correspondence

The Chairman reported that he had received a thank you card from Louis and Anne Hoareau for the present.

8 Area Board/Village Hall Reports

Cllr. Bartlett was not present to update the meeting on matters from the Village hall.

No meeting of the Area Board during the period.

The village hall had requested financial support for the July village fete. It was agreed to grant £200 towards advertising and floats. The Chairman will also look into supplying a tractor.

9 Matters to report

A36 COFORD TURN OFF

Cllr Smith reported that a member of the public had approached him with concerns regarding accidents on the junction, turning off New road onto the A36. (After another bad accident!) It was noted that the verdict for the inquest on the previous fatal accident was recorded as accidental death. It was decided that the PC should await further correspondence from Wiltshire Council regarding any recommendations.

BEACON FOR HM BIRTHDAY

Cllr Rennie reported that he had received a query about the lighting of the beacon for HM's birthday and asked what the protocol was. Cllrs expressed that they were not notified about it. Previously, notification would have been made well before the date.

FOUL SMELLS

Cllr Merchant reported that a resident had asked him to raise the issue of the stench that took place a month ago. They believe the smell was from the bio digester.

Cllr Merchant reported that the resident asked if Mr Stratton would be invited to the open forum to offer information and respond to queries from the residents about the periods when the digester will be in use. This, he emphasised, was NOT a complaint.

Cllr Thornton responded that it would always be same time of the year. Roughly about February. A big determinant on whether it will be a nuisance to the residents will be the wind direction. The prevailing wind is westerly and normally we wouldn't notice it because it goes on to the plain, this time we had a north easterly wind when the fertiliser was being spread.

It was also agreed that the PC would invite Mr Stratton to the open forum at the annual village meeting.

FUNDRAISING VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Merchant also responded to Cllr Bartlett's request for PC members to join the subcommittee for fundraising for the VH development. He offered to be available for events planning.

Cllr. Brayne added that there is an online crowd sourcing platform specifically designed for raising money for civic development. Profiles of other successful projects are available on this site for ideas. The subcommittee hope to use this platform.

ATTEMPTED BURGLARY

Cllr Thornton reported that there had been an attempted burglary on his garage. His neighbour said she saw three men in a 'rough' estate car driving away. The matter was reported to the police who are dealing with it. Plus, earlier in the day someone helped themselves to hay from one of Cllr Thornton's neighbours.

FLOODING ISSUE 16 HIGH STREET

The Chairman reported that he met up with Mr Robert Cole at his request. He believes that a previous PC document on the Wiltshire council website was giving the wrong impression and getting in the way of him selling the property.

It was agreed that the document in question is a matter of public record, which was submitted by the PC,

backed by witness statements (Application 13/06384) And it would be against policy for the PC to alter any aspect of it. The Chairman will report back to Mr. Cole.

NEW HIGHWAY CONTRACT

The Chairman reported that the New highways meeting held in April revealed they had taken on 3 new contractors. Landscape group (TLG), Tarmac and Ringway; with a budget of £3 million.

- Landscape group are going to do the play areas inspection, urban grass cutting and litter bins
 - Tarmac will tackle big road schemes, galley emptying once a year, prior to the autumn.
 - Ringway will do the street cleaning, port holes, weeding, galley emptying and highways litter. This would happen mostly in the towns. Round here it will mainly be road sweeping maybe once a year. Parish Stewards, however, are coming back. The scheme starts in October and 3 new vehicles have been acquired for them. They will also be qualified to do spraying of weeds, repair portholes, etc
- Grass cutting will be once a month in towns, verge cutting once a year unless it's on the junctions. Litter on laybys is down to them. If seen, report it through the My Wiltshire App.
- Any matters to be reported have to be done via the My Wiltshire App.

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

Mr Hoareau reminded the PC about the email he circulated from Community Infrastructure Levy. He highlighted the fact that the PC needed to identify potential projects to spend the levy on. And perhaps have it as an agenda item for future meetings to decide on a wish list.

Visit www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityinfrastructurelevy for more information.

IN HOUSE TRAINING

Cllrs were made aware of in house training on core skills training covering roles and responsibilities, law and procedures (also covering code of conduct) It was noted that the code of conduct booklet had been circulated to all Cllrs. It was suggested that documentation on policies be collected/sourced by the clerk and adopted by the PC.

As for the training, to hold on till next year. And in the meantime discuss what particular training the Cllrs need. Proposed agenda item for future meetings.

BROKEN RAILING

Mr Frank West has expressed concern about the broken railing between the Doctors surgery and the School. It does pose a slight concern because of the sharp broken edge. The school, doctor's surgery and Selwood housing will be approached to determine whose responsibility it is.

Adjournment

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 9.03pm

The Annual Village meeting will be held at 7.30 pm Monday 16th May 2016 at the village hall.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30 pm MONDAY 6th June 2016 at the Village Hall

MATTERS OUTSTANDING

Tree Planting High Street

