

Coddenham

Parish Council



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CODDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES Thursday 24th May 2018

In Attendance: Cllr. D Burton, (Chair), Cllr. Burgess, Cllr. Fowler, Cllr. C. Hardy, Cllr. J. Keeble, Cllr. M. Lock, Cllr. J. Peacock, Cllr. M. West, Cllr Passmore, (MSDC) and Mr Whitehouse, (Clerk).

1. To **RECEIVE** and **APPROVE** apologies for absence. Apologies were received and approved from Cllr. A. Darell-Brown, Cllr. J. Fawdry and Cllr. J. Soanes.
2. To **RECEIVE** any Requests for Dispensation on Declarations of Interest. None received.
3. To **CONSIDER** comments from Parishioners on current agenda items. None received.
4. To **RECEIVE** reports from Cllr Hicks, (SCC) and Cllr Passmore, (MSDC). Cllr Hicks' report was **Received** in the course of the preceding Annual Parish Council meeting. In his report, Cllr Passmore referred to the merger with Babergh District Council which he felt had not yet achieved 'critical mass'. There were still outstanding matters such as car parking as the new joint HQ with Fire and Police may require an extension to the multi storey car park. A report on Boundary Changes is not expected before the end of August. Suffolk policing has the highest work rate and lowest funding per capita from central government. Problems such as gangs, violent crime and sexual exploitation need a joint approach from all agencies. Cllr Passmore's report was **Received**. Cllr Passmore responded to a number of questions from Councillors before taking his leave at 8.45pm.
5. To **RECEIVE** and **APPROVE** the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting, 19th April 2018. The Minutes were **APPROVED**.
6. To **RECEIVE** progress reports on matters arising from previous meetings. None considered.
7. To **RECEIVE** the Minutes of the Hall Committee Meeting held on 2nd May 2018. The Draft Minutes were Received. Cllr Fowler asked that the financial reports for the Hall should show budget comparisons. The Clerk advised that transactions are now being tracked against the budget and will be available for the first quarter reports.
8. To **CONSIDER** a proposal from Cllr Fowler to Fund Training of All Councillors in Financial Matters. Council **Agreed** to fund a training programme on Financial Matters to the cost of £220 with a virement of funds from general reserves.
9. To **CONSIDER** consultation requests on current Planning Applications. Council noted the current planning application and considered that it did not require comment in line with the Council's planning policy. Council noted the planning decisions reported by the Clerk.
10. To **RECEIVE** the Clerk's report and correspondence received. A number of items of correspondence, previously circulated to Council, were considered. Cllr Burton asked for a letter of thanks from the Council to Mrs Palmer, for her many years of maintaining the

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boundary hedge on the recreation ground. He also recommended that groundworks contractors be asked to include the hedge in the schedule of works. **Agreed**. The Clerk reported that the grant funding had been received from the Day Foundation for the Speed Indicator Device which can now be placed on order. Council **Agreed** that a third site for the SID should be considered. Cllrs Hardy and Keeble agreed to prepare an application form for submission by the Clerk. Cllr West asked whether a second SID would be required. Council considered that it would be expedient to work with one device initially, and to monitor whether a second would be required. The Clerk advised Council on recent discussions with representative of Anglian Water and the Highways Authority regarding the flooding on Lower Road and Spring Lane. The prioritisation of available resources means that, as the flooding is solely causing a nuisance to the public highway and not causing flooding to properties or gardens, the report to the floods management agency would be listed as a priority 3 requiring no further action on their part. The Flood team suggests that the problem be referred to the Highways Team who have the ability to contact the landowner and request the removal of blockages and maintenance of watercourses if it is deemed to be causing damage to their asset. Council considered that the necessary works might be funded directly by the Parish Council. Cllr Burton agreed to discuss the matter further with the Maintenance Design Manager of the Drainage Team at Suffolk Highways. A letter from a resident regarding matters related to staffing resources was deferred for consideration under item 15. The Clerk's report was **Received**. Cllr Peacock left the meeting at 9.10pm.

11. To **RECEIVE** questions from Councillors and **NOTE** agenda items for the next meeting. None received.
12. To **CONFIRM** the date of the next meeting.
The next meeting of the Parish Council was **Confirmed** as Tuesday 26th June 2018.
13. To **RESOLVE** that, pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and the press be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items. **Agreed**. The Clerk left the meeting at 9.20pm
14. To **CONSIDER** a report and recommendations on Salaries and Related matters. This Report was deferred to the next meeting.
15. To **CONSIDER** matters relating to Councillor's Code of Conduct. A discussion was held to ensure all councillors were fully aware of the contents of the Code of Conduct for councillors and the role of all staff. The HR working group were asked to consider a review of the job descriptions of all the council's employment posts.

Meeting closed at 9.45pm