

COTON-IN-THE-ELMS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on 20th November 2017, at the Community Centre, Coton-in-the-Elms.

Present

Councillors Mrs K Bradford [Chairman], Mrs C Bradford, M Kinson, A Lees [Vice-Chairman], A Leese and MJ Mason.

District Councillor P Murray was also in attendance.

Mr PG Davies, the Parish Clerk, was also present.

1. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 9th October 2017, be approved and signed as a correct record.

2. PAYMENTS

RESOLVED

That the payments included on the Agenda, together with the following additional payment, be authorised:-

Payee	Item	£
The Clerk	➤ Postage [Reimbursement]	8.82

3. NEW AGREEMENT/LEASE FOR RECREATION GROUND

The Clerk circulated a copy of a letter received from the District Council in respect of the above.

Members again considered the following three options in respect of the future of the site:-

- Renew agreement on same terms
- Renew the agreement on new terms
- Not to renew the agreement and vacate the site

In order to assist the Parish Council in its deliberations, it was:-

RESOLVED

That the Clerk ascertain the following information:-

- The cost of the annual safety check by Zurich of the play equipment.
- The cost from Trelawn Services of maintaining the Recreation Ground.
- Clarification from the District Council as to whether they would allow the Parish Council to appoint its own contractor to maintain the land or whether they would insist the work was done by the District Council's Ground Maintenance Team, with the cost being recharged to the Parish Council.
- Any financial implications for the Parish Council if it was decided not to enter into a new agreement.

4. DOG WASTE/LITTER BINS AND BENCH

The Clerk reported that Trelawn Services had agreed to properly reinstate these dog waste bins which were not properly secured in position.

The Parish Council was pleased to note that Trelawn Services were in the process of repairing the bench on the Village Green.

5. PARISH COUNCIL'S WEBSITE

The Website Manager had sent to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and the Clerk the following list of items that would further enhance the site:-

- Big images for page headers
- New articles
- Upcoming events in the Parish
- Parish logo or crest
- More history text to provide background information on the parish
- Photographs to be used in a gallery

The Vice-Chairman and Councillor Mrs C Bradford kindly agreed to feedback and liaise with the Website Manager on introducing these and other improvements to further enhance the site.

6. 14 ELMS ROAD – OVERGROWN BUSH

The County Council had advised that they were satisfied that the bush was not in need of further maintenance. The Authority had undertaken to monitor the situation and take any action as necessary.

7. STEPS – CHURCH STREET TO GLEBE CLOSE

The Parish Council noted that the County Council had carried out a site inspection and had raised a works order for the handrail on these steps to be properly secured.

8. DOCUMENTATION

The Clerk circulated the following documents for the information of Members:-

- Clerks and Councils Direct
- 'What's On' – South Derbyshire and the National Forest
- Area 6 Neighbourhood Meeting and Linton Area Forum 25.10.17. – Agenda and supporting papers

9. RIGHTS OF WAY MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

Councillor A Leese itemised the following work that could be undertaken as part of this Maintenance Agreement:-

1. Catton Lane – clear foliage – brambles around footbridge leading from the lane into the field.
2. Ladsgrave – clear nettles and brambles around the stile.
3. Church Street, towards Walton – First footpath direction Rosliston – overhanging brambles and hedge need cutting back.
4. Little Liverpool footpath at the side of brook – fingerpost covered in brambles and clear around gate.

5. Lullington Crossroads – entrance to Grangewood overgrown – needs clearing.
6. Coalpit Lane on second bend stile – direction of Church Flatts Farm – nettles to be cleared.
7. Coalpit Lane, near footpath – direction Botany Bay – entrance hedge needs cutting back.
8. Coalpit Lane, near Coton – nettles need clearing.
9. Footbridge in Deacons Wood overgrown.
10. Footpath – Mill Green Close – stile needs to be cleared.

RESOLVED

That authority be given to Mr J Thompson to carry out the works.

10. FINANCE REPORT

The Report of the Clerk showing income and expenditure of the Parish Council as at 31st October 2017, was submitted for information and noted.

11. PRECEPT 2018 – 2019

The Clerk reported that he would be presenting a report to the next meeting on the Precept for the 2018 – 2019 financial year.

Members acknowledged that the update to the next meeting on the Recreation Ground was important as it would enable the Parish Council to assess the likely impact on the budget for future years.

12. COTON-IN-THE-ELMS WIDOWS/WIDOWERS AND OLD FOLKS ASSOCIATION

The Clerk had circulated a letter from this Association in which they invited the Parish Council to consider making a donation to the charity.

RESOLVED

That a donation of £50.00 be authorised but the Association be informed that due to financial constraints, it was unlikely that a similar donation would be made in future years.

[The Chairman declared a personal interest in this item and did not speak or vote thereon.]

13. REPORT BACK ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Vice-Chairman reported on the meeting of the Area 6 Neighbourhood Meeting and Linton Area Forum held on 25th October 2017.

The minutes from the meeting would be circulated in due course.

Information on a free security check for elderly residents would be posted on the Parish Council's notice boards and on the website.

14. REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Councillor P Murray reported as follows:-

- Part II of the Local Plan had been approved by the District Council.
- The new depot would be formally opened within the course of the next few weeks.

The Parish Council was sad to learn of the death of Councillor Bill Dunn, a longstanding member of South Derbyshire District Council.

15. REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Councillor P Murray itemised the various functions of the County Council. He hoped to be able to circulate to Members at the next meeting a leaflet giving more information on the work of the Authority.

Councillor Murray noted that light 2-12-47 at the junction of Elms Road/Church Street [situated on a telegraph pole] required attention as its correct position had been compromised by a passing high-sided vehicle.

16. PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public were present at this juncture in the meeting.

17. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no planning applications to report to this meeting.

18. CUTTING BACK OF HEDGEROWS – RECREATION GROUND

The Chairman reported that Mr A Hill had kindly undertaken the work to cut back hedgerows on the Recreation Ground.

19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED

That the dates of meetings in 2018 be as indicated below, with all meetings commencing at 7.00 p.m. [unless otherwise stated] and held in the Community Centre:-

15th January
19th February
26th March [followed by Annual Parish Meeting]
14th May [Annual Parish Council Meeting]
16th July
3rd September
8th October
12th November
17th December

[Chairman]