

COTON IN THE ELM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting
held on Wednesday 8th May 2024

Present: Cllr K Bradford (Chairman), Cllr Lang, Cllr Leech, Cllr Kinson, Cllr C Bradford
District Cllr's Wheelton and Jones.

Clerk Sue Hughes. Members of the public – 2

1. Election of Chairman

Cllr K Bradford was nominated, proposed by Cllr C Bradford and seconded by Cllr Kinson.
No other candidates were nominated. Cllr K Bradford signed the acceptance form which was witnessed by the Clerk.

2. Apologies – Cllr A Wolfe, Cllr J Antcliff, County Cllr S Swann

3. Declarations of interest- None

4. Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr M Leech was nominated, proposed by Cllr Lang and seconded by Cllr Kinson.
No other candidates were nominated and Cllr Leech signed acceptance form witnessed by the Chairman.

5. Members of the public –

Concerns were raised that signs in Chapel Street are not dissuading HGV's. Additional HGV signage has again been suggested at Rosliston Island, Grangewood and Cadley Hill roundabout.

The give way sign on Chapel Street requires attention.

Members agreed for the Clerk to contact Highways and invite Richard Hanbury to visit the area and also copy in Cllr Swann into the email.

Fly tipping is happening and a resident asked if more Police patrols could be made in the area. The resident was informed that a Police representative was attending the next PC meeting and that the Clerk would email local officers with this issue.

6. District Councillors

- a. Cllr Jones sent in a report before the meeting but spoke briefly on this to members.
Cllr Jones is continuing to work with NHS to understand the lack of GP surgeries in the Seales ward. Local District Council office elected are looking into putting more money into centre of Swadlincote and also wider areas to be used for surgery rooms.
A444 – there will be a working group set up and Cllr Jones will play an active role in this.
Working with RBL and supporting them.
- b. Cllr Wheelton thanked members for producing and distributing the leaflets for NSIP Oaklands Plan. There will be a meeting on this in June and Cllr Wheelton has set up a group included Coton PC so she can update on developments and made a suggestion to delegate someone to reply/comment on behalf of PC in case the Clerk is on holiday.
A discussion was had regarding the cornflower planting and ideas for next year are required. A test patch was going to be done but this has not been, this was the understanding of members of the PC after the meeting with the SDDC representative.
Amy suggested to the PC to think of a plan going forward and offered to meet the PC's ground maintenance contractor if required to discuss what and where needs cutting. The Chairman will be contacting the contractor.

Members of the public were invited to stay for the remainder of the meeting but informed that they could not participate whilst members discussed Parish Council business.

7. Approval of minutes from meeting 10th April 2024

- a. These were circulated with members, read as a true copy and approved. The minutes were signed by the chair and will be posted on the website
- b. **Matters arising** , Item 5, Item 7. Clerk to contact Cllr Antcliffe regarding the storage of the sandbags.

8. AGAR/AUDIT 2023/2024

All the relevant AGAR documentation was completed and signed by the internal auditor, Chairman and Clerk. Approval was given for to display the Exercise of public rights. Completed AGAR forms will be posted on the website

9. Finance

All documents were circulated before the meeting and the statement was signed by Chairman
Balance of the accounts @ 12.4.2024 were £8906.02 current a/c, £10147.63 savings a/c.

Receipts - £4690 precept from SDDC on 5.4.2024

Approval of payments:

- a. £50 donation to Cancer Research in memory of Mark Horton
- b. £24.70 Clerks Expense
- c. £67.62 Karen Bradford – to Instaprint for Oaklands leaflets
- d. £28.80 D Day commemorative flag
- e. £120 Village Gardeners – Ground Maintenance
- f. £5 towards cost of Contract for a mobile phone for Clerk – to be shared with Clifton PC.
- g. £450 village furniture restoration for notice boards and bench – 2 further quotes were considered.
- h. £1000 maximum spend for repairs to SIDs, awaiting quotes, Clerk to look in insurance to cover this, if necessary.
- i. £289.80 Diamond Accountancy for internal audit 2023.2024

10. Standing Order adopted for 2024/25

11. Planning

a. DMPA/2022/1472

Change of Use from Authorised Use of Land for the Keeping of Horses, to a mixed use for domestic curtilage and the keeping of horses for private recreational use and the erection of a building for the garaging of a horse box, the storage of ground maintenance equipment a and horse management equipment ancillary to the domestic use of the house, stabling and paddocks 28 Burton Road, Coton-in-the-elms, Swadlincote, DE12 8HJ - **NO COMMENTS MADE**

- b. NSIP Oaklands - The Chairman thanked members for their work on producing leaflets for residents and for the distributing them. Awaiting further updates on this planning application.

12. Village report

Overgrowth on pavement and also causing obstruction to street light in Chapmans Croft has been reported to Cllr Swann who has informed the PC he will look into this.

13. **It was agreed for members to serve on outside bodies as below:**
- a. CVS – Cllr K Bradford
 - b. Village maintenance/VIN – Cllrs Wolfe, Antcliffe and Lang
 - c. Community Centre – Cllr C Bradford
 - d. Flood equipment maintenance – Cllr Kinson
 - e. Community Speed Watch – Cllr Leech
14. Communication/Correspondence
- a. Parish Council business to be shared amongst members only unless stated.
Using emails to contact the Clerk where possible or call if needed.
Be aware of Confidential matters and until items are ratified, keep amongst members.
 - b. It was agreed that there are to be several ways for the public/residents to contact the PC.
These are: In writing (letters can be given to a member or posted to a member/Clerk), by email **or** in person at a meeting. Only via these communications will correspondence be acknowledged by the Parish Council.
15. **AOB – Portrait of The King**
An official portrait was given to the PC and this is to displayed in the Community Centre
Where all PC meetings are held.

Meeting concluded at 7:20pm

Next meeting is Wednesday 12th June 2024 @ 6pm