

Coton-in-the-Elms Parish Council
Minutes of Meeting November 13th, 2024

Present: Cllr J Antcliffe, Cllr K Bradford (Chair), Cllr M Kinson, Cllr M Leech (Vice Chair), District Cllr A Wheelton, County Cllr S Swann

Members of the public: 0

1. Apologies

Apologies received from Cllr C Bradford, Cllr J Lang and Cllr A Wolfe

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Members of the public - 10 minutes

No members of the public attended

4. District/County Councillors - 10 minutes

Queries raised to Cllr Swann

- Concern raised about recurrent flooding of Burton Road, Rosliston near to entrance to Broudein Stud

- Subsequent to email received from DCC about HGV signage some new signage has been seen on Gorse Lane, Acresford. The sign should be sited on the triangle at the junction with the A444 rather than on Gorse Lane, ie where the HGV driver still has an opportunity to follow the sign's instructions

- Request made for confirmation of whether or not the culvert under Chapel St and the culvert between the Old Band Room and Burton Road will be inspected

5. Approval of minutes from meetings on:

a. 11th September 2024 - approved

b. Matters arising - Jim still looking to get further resident representation on the Brook Liaison/ Working Party in order to move forward with this

6. Finance

Bank statements: Savings account £10,247.03 @ 1/11/2024
 Current account £11,761.49 @ 12/10/2024

Query if Lengthsman Scheme payment has been received yet?

a. £26 approved for Clerk's expenses

b. £60 approved for The Village Gardener for Ground Maintenance September

c. RBL poppy wreaths - approved donation £75

d. Young Farmers Tractor Run - approved donation for £75. Need to get details for payment

e. £1,140 approved for SDDC summer play scheme

7. Internal Audit

The Clerk has identified an Auditor with maximum fee of £200 + travel expenses - Approved

8. Local Items

a. Memorial Green Update

Foundations checked - suitable for building upon

Prior to Remembrance Day the stones were cleaned and reinstated

In order to move forward with a refurbishment we need to:

- agree a design
- gain approval from SDDC
- seek quotes
- ensure that Bryan is involved in this project

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Proposed design, based on latest drawing circulated by Cllr Kinson on 14/10:

- Approx. 1m high plinth on the existing footprint with existing stone on top.
- Plinth edged in blue bricks
- Couple of small hooks/rings on front face (for attaching wreath to)
- Brick pathway, herringbone design? Should be on firm foundation, pointed up using weed suppressant resin base.

Sufficient old bricks are available to construct the proposed memorial plus the path up to it from the footpath. Blue bricks for edging would need to be purchased.

The Council thanks Cllr Kinson for the investigation work he has carried out to date.

b. Sand Storage Relocation

All agreed that the quote received was very high, and that further quotes should be sought.

Specification for new quotes:

- Create hardcore base for slabs (*Need to measure bins/confirm size of base*)
- Supply and install slabs
- Empty sand from existing bins, relocate and refill
- Supply and install combination locks onto existing bins

In addition to the builder's quote we need to budget for some natural screening - Jim to suggest suitable planting

c. Parent Parking outside School

Being actioned by School

9. Ground Maintenance

Still looking for a new contractor

Can we contact neighbouring Parish Councils to see who they use?

Who do the Community Centre use? - Cllr Antcliffe will contact

10. Brook

Some additional seeding has been carried out by SDDC

11. Meeting Dates 2025

Agreed same format as 2024, i.e. 2nd Wednesday of each month except August and December at 6pm

12. Any other business

- a. Approved £259.20 payment for website for 3 years
- b. Planning application for 2 Church Croft - no objections
- c. Play scheme for 2025
 - How to get better attendance? Attendance in 2024 was:
 - 15 on 31/7 for the Adventure Mobile
 - 8 on 5/8 for the Play Mobile,
 - 2 on 12/8 for the Adventure Mobile. NB it was raining on 12/8 but the alternate venue (the Community Centre) was not used, we do not know why
 - How to get feedback from villagers? Can we ask School to help get feedback on this?
 - What do other villages do which we could learn from?

13. Clerk's Salary

Approved as per Local Government service pay agreement, back dated to April 2024