

COTON IN THE ELMS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting held 6:00pm 21st February 2024

Coton in the Elms Community Centre

Present : Cllr K Bradford (chairman), Cllr M Leech, Cllr C Bradford, Cllr J Lang, Cllr J Antcliffe
(new member)

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and informed those in attendance that the meeting was being recorded for the purpose of the minutes.

1. Apologies – Cllr M Kinson, Cllr L Wolfe
2. Resolution re absence - Cllr C Bradford had been absent from recent Parish Council meetings and had given apologies for those absences. Members agreed that those apologies were accepted and that the 'clock' for absence could be reset. **RESOLVED**
3. Declarations of Interest – none
4. Parish Councillor vacancy – co-option - An expression of interest had been received from Jim Antcliffe which had been shared with all members. Members present unanimously agreed to invite Jim Antcliffe to join Parish Council with immediate effect. **RESOLVED**
5. Brook Management Plan – It was noted that following the last Parish Council meeting a reply had been received from SDDC dated 13/2/24 that they had answered any questions raised by PC as fully as possible and had nothing further to add. Cllr K Bradford read this reply to the meeting and pointed out that in the PC's November meeting a contribution was agreed of £500 towards the maintenance and £200pa (capped) towards planting of bulbs. SDDC needed a formal response from PC as they were now setting budgets. Concerns were raised that in part due to no meetings being held, PC did not have a lot of time to consider and raise questions, in particular around the question of mowing of flat areas of grass which it was felt did not impact on the watercourse and planting. This had been a cause of concern to residents last year. It was agreed PC needed definition on the precise areas to be mowed. Cllr Antcliffe said VIB would need clarification as soon as possible to ensure they could plan for this year's planting. Cllr Antcliffe asked if evidence could be produced to show what effect the works had had on flooding. It was agreed TRT be contacted with a set of questions and a site visit requested, preferably before the next PC meeting on 13th March, (w/c 4th March suggested). Cllr Leech was to prepare a list of questions to be sent to TRT which it was hoped would give guidance to PC going forwards. It would be helpful if this could be sorted before mowing commenced. **RESOLVED** Cllr K Bradford to contact SDDC, apologise for late response, confirming contribution of £500 as above previously agreed, advising members still have some concerns regarding delineation of boundaries and mowing and where PC responsibilities start, but notwithstanding that we are happy for SDDC to maintain the watercourse

MEETING ENDED 6:45PM