

**MINUTES OF THE CODFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY
14th JANUARY 2008 AT 7.00.p.m IN THE VILLAGE HALL.**

Present: Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Beagley, Mrs Edmonds, Mrs Johnstone, Mr. Peters, Mr. Thornton, Mr Woollard and Mrs Wyeth.

In Attendance: Cllr. Davis (from 7.55p.m.), and Mr. L. Hoareau, Clerk.

1. Apologies. Mr Brayne.

2. Declarations of Interest. None.

3. Open Forum. None.

4. Minutes of Meeting of 10th December 2007. The minutes were agreed to be a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting.

1) Unauthorised Barn, Chitterne Road.

PC notified that the applicant had given notice of appeal to the High Court.

2) Road Safety Measures Green Lane/New Road.

This item comprises 1) Speed Limit Green Lane, 2) Resiting 30m.p.h signs High Street, 3) Resiting 30m.p.h signs Chitterne Road, 4) Speed Restriction, New Road. Following a reminder to WCC Traffic Section they have allocated the following job numbers respectively. 284177, 284159, 284175, and 284179.

3) Quinton Place AA Signs.

Job no. 254423 refers. Informed by CLARENCE that the developer had been instructed to remove them.

4) Obstructed View A36/Stockton Junction.

Overhanging tree branches have been trimmed.

5) Slow Sign Punch Bowl Farm. The job has been accepted and added to the list of work for the line painting section who will attend to it in due course.

6) Playful Ideas. Progressing.

7) Weeds/Grass, High Street/The Grove. On the list of work for Unimog machine to attend when available.

8) Planning Correspondence. Meeting arranged at District Council's Office, Trowbridge on 24th January 2008. Chairman and Clerk to attend.

9) Private Road Sign, Green Lane. CLARENCE informed and attending.

10) Public Path Sign Green Lane. Pathways Officer to arrange for concreting in the sign.

11) Closure of Computer Centre. Awaiting further information from Tidworth Development Trust.

12) Church Acre. PC has received invitation to the official opening on 30th January 2008.

13) Fenced Access to A36. Highways Partnership has informed PC that this is private land.

14) Anzac Grave Sign. Highways Partnership has ordered a new sign.

6. Budget/Precepts 2008/2009

Following a long discussion regarding the PC's planned expenditure for the next financial year it was resolved

that the annual budget be set at £5480.00. This equates to a precept of £15.50 per household, compared to

£18.37 for the current financial year.

A detailed budget allocation is attached to these minutes.

7. Planning Applications

8, Quinton Place. Demolish conservatory and build new garden room.....Refusal
8, Quinton Place. Extension to residential curtilage. Objections.....Refusal
Willow Farm, New Road. New driveway.....Permission
East Farm House. Vehicle garage/workshop.....Application withdrawn.
105 Green Lane. Detached dwelling. Revised drawings..... Previous objections
apply.
LPG Filling Station. Hillside Cafe car park.....No objections, some concerns re safety.

8. Parish Council Policy, Climate Change.

Mrs Edmonds reported that she had liaised with the Wylve Valley Primary School who are currently starting a project on this topic and she would attend a meeting at the school before reporting back to the PC.
Bulk buying of oil was discussed and it was noted that a previous attempt to develop a scheme for the village had not met with any great enthusiasm. Transport sharing was also mentioned. Mrs Edmonds to research further.

9. Standards Committee.

Mrs Wyeth informed the meeting that the new format of the Standards Committee had to include a representative of the Town and Parish Council and whenever it met either the Parish or the Town Councillor is required to be present. This could cause problems if neither were available. A consultation paper suggested three models for the proposed complement of the Committees. PC favoured a committee of 15 members, with additional Town and Parish Councillors

10. Allocation of Houses, Church Acre.

Mrs Johnstone reported that she had received complaints that the ten houses had been allocated to single mothers from Swindon. This is factually not the case. It was also noted that the Codford website also contained inaccuracies regarding the allocation of the houses. The impression seems to exist that the site is run by the PC. After a lengthy debate it was resolved that the PC should clarify its position as follows.
"Any comments or opinions expressed on the site, ww.codfordvillage.co.uk, are those of the webmaster or named individuals. The only Parish Council involvement is to provide agenda and minutes of Council meetings which are uploaded by the webmaster onto the folder labelled Parish Council. Contact details of Councillors and Parish Clerk are also listed in this section.
The item regarding the local homes contains inaccuracies and does not reflect the opinion of any Councillor.
The size of the houses, built by Wiltshire Rural Housing Association, was in response to a housing needs survey commissioned at the start of the process. The houses are intended for local individuals, couples, single parents and families. The allocations meet this criteria and the homes have not been allocated to any "at risk groups".
The PC worked closely with the WRHA and was kept informed throughout the build and selection process. It was made clear from the beginning that the Council had no influence regarding tenancies. It would be

improper and unfair for councillors to decide which local people were allocated homes and could lead to allegations of bias or favouritism. With regard to the traffic congestion item, the Parish Council neither approve nor support the photographing of individuals for a name and shame page on the website."

11. Decriminalisation of Car Parking.

Mr. Woollard queried the enforcement of parking offences in the village in view of the change of policy by the District Council to remove the responsibility from the police, so that dealing with any offences will become a civil, rather than a criminal, matter. It was noted that the change will mean, in effect, that the situation currently in force in publicly owned car parks will be extended to the roads. Cllr. Davis pointed out that the police will continue to have jurisdiction for offences of causing an obstruction of the highway, such as parking near junctions etc, but offences such as parking on yellow lines will now be the responsibility of "Parking Ambassadors", employed by the District Council and they will be visiting the West Wiltshire area, including the villages.

12. Complaints ref. Community Charge

Mrs Johnstone reported that she had received information that a number of villagers were considering forming a protest group to campaign against paying the community charge in that some members of the electorate were of the view that the village was not getting value for money i.e. hospital closures, inadequate public transport facilities, poor cleansing/waste collection service. Cllr. Davis advised that the PC should discourage everyone from going down the route of not paying the Council Tax as the Council would prosecute as a matter of policy and it is an offence. Cllr. Davis noted that the fortnightly collection of waste bins had halved the cost to the District Council for the use of land fill sites.

13. Items of Correspondence.

Wiltshire Strategy Core Issues Paper.
The PC is invited to attend a seminar at the Athenaeum Centre on Tuesday 5th February 2008 for further consultation on this matter. This particularly concerns government housing provisions for the area for the next twenty years and may impinge upon future village policy limits.

Date of Future Elections.
The proposed date for elections for the unitary council is May 2009. Government does not intend holding local elections for Parish Councils at that time. Instead it wishes those elections to take place in 2013. This will mean that starting from that date Parish Council elections will coincide with unitary council elections, thus reducing costs and provide a co-ordinated cycle of elections at the earliest opportunity.

Request for Additional Skip.

Request received from a member of the electorate for another skip for the collection of cardboard as the existing facilities were inadequate. Clerk to write.

14.Matters to Report.

Garden Shed, High Street.

Mrs Wyeth has received a complaint of a large shed recently erected in the garden of a listed building in the High Street. Clerk has written and the Enforcement Officer will visit the site and ascertain if planning permission is required.

Grips, Chitterne Road.

Mr. Beagley reported that not all the grips in Chitterne Road had been cleared, as part of the autumn clearing programme. Clerk to attend.

Wiltshire Police Authority Public Meeting.

Mr. Peters had received an invitation to attend a consultation meeting on 31st January 2008 at Chippenham Town Hall for the benefit of the community safety partners. Due to his personal commitments Mr. Peters was unavailable to attend. It was suggested that the Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinator might be able to attend on behalf of the PC.

Revised Bus Services.

revised Cllr Davis and Mr. Beagley reported that the new bus service schedules are now in operation and the time tables are on display at the Post Office and the village notice board.

Salisbury Direction Sign.

junction, Mrs Wyeth reported that the direction sign for Salisbury, situated at the High Street/Chitterne Road has gone missing again. Clerk to report.

Mileage Sign Opposite New Road Garage.

Mr. Peters reported that this sign was in need of attention. Clerk to attend.

15.Agenda for Next Meeting.

None

The meeting closed at 8.55.p.m.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30.p.m.Monday 15th February 2008 at the small hall of the Village Hall.

