



## Coughton Parish Council

### **Minutes of the Coughton Parish Council Meeting held in Coughton Primary School, Coughton on Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> of January 2016 commencing at 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Councillor John Gittins (in the Chair)  
Councillors Sophie Bayliss, Len Carter and Maureen McTavish

Clerk: Karen Parnell

In attendance:

District Councillor Mike Gittus

Plus five members of the public

Apologies: Cllrs Roy Piddington and Clive Rickhards and Adam Walsh

#### **Public participation (10 minutes)**

SDC Core Strategy was discussed. This should be completed by May 2016.

There has been a problem with indiscriminate developments due to the lack of a five year land supply but this has now been put in place.

Concern was expressed about potential cuts to flooding and highways services at WCC and the way these services are implemented.

#### **1) Apologies for acceptance**

Cllrs Roy Piddington and Clive Rickhards and Adam Walsh

- 2) **Disclosure of Interests** Councillors are asked to declare personal interests in any items on the agenda. Councillors are reminded that the code of conduct that took effect from September 2012 provides that should they have a prejudicial interest in any matter under discussion, they should withdraw from the room and not seek to influence a decision about the matter.

There were no disclosures of interests.

- 3) **Minutes** of the Council Meeting held in November 2015.

The minutes of the November meeting were agreed to be a true record and were duly signed by the Chairman as such.

- 4) **Matters arising** from those minutes:

#### **Flooding**

A vehicle had to be rescued out of the ford.

Drains have held up well during the recent wet weather.

There are still some blocked drains which Highways are aware of and will clear.

Vehicles parking in Sambourne and Coughton Lanes are causing debris to be dislodged from the verges.

#### **Village Maintenance**

The Chairman and school continue to liaise regarding this issue.

The dog warden will be requested to visit Coughton.

Cllr McTavish continues to liaise with Richard Barnard WCC regarding footpaths,

signage thereof and a stile.

5) **County Councillor's report**

Cllr Rickhards was not present so Cllr Gittus reported:

WCC Budget cuts are being looked into: The Council is in year 2 of a 4 year organisational plan to save £ 23 Million. The Council must now save a further £ 10 Million over the next 4 years. The budget will be set in February and it is possible services will be cut or reserves used to accommodate these savings.

**District Councillor's report**

Cllr Gittus: Has attended many church related functions across the district in his role as SDC Chairman.

Budget discussions are taking place but it is unlikely that council tax will increase. A Conservative Group meeting has taken place to consider the implications surrounding the Government grant. It was noted SDC is a prudent non-lending Council and both staffing and resources are good.

SDC must save £ 250,000 over the next 4 years. £ 1 Million needs to be saved by 2019/20. Shared services are being looked into as it discontinuing some senior positions.

Free car parking and facilities at the Greig Centre in Alcester are likely to be preserved.

SDC is one of 51 lowest spending Councils in the country.

Joining the West Midlands Combined Authority will be reconsidered by SDC

6) **School Report**

Adam Walsh was not present No report

7) **Planning**

**Housing Needs Survey**

Sarah Brooke-Taylor from Warwickshire Rural Communities Council:

A Housing Needs Survey should be undertaken by the PC every three years. WRCC is a charity set up to enable community projects. Sarah specialises in affordable housing. One property has been identified as 'Local Market' to date. Once completed the Housing Needs Survey can be used as Supplementary Planning Guidance by SDC

A landowner has come forward with a possible 'Rural Exception Site' in Coughton. Properties are defined by need and local connection.

Information was circulated including a draft survey form and timetable.

The PC agreed to proceed with the project, distribute surveys and to promote the scheme at the Parish Assembly.

Applications:

**Application(s) reference: 15/04512/COUQ**

Proposed: Prior approval notification for the proposed change of use of agricultural building to 2 no. dwellinghouses, associated curtilage and building operations (Class Qa and b)

At: Coughton Lodge Farm, Sambourne Lane, Coughton, Alcester B49 5HT

For: Mr Olly Stiley Clarification will be sought as to how permission is granted.

**Application(s) reference: 15/04511/FUL**

Proposed: Demolition of existing garage building and erection of proposed open fronted garage

At:Coughton Lodge Farm , Sambourne Lane, Coughton, Warwickshire B49 5HT  
For:Mr & Mrs O Stiley

Stackyard Development: Refused

38 Coughton Lane: Refused Progress will be sought on activity.

#### 8) **Action Plan Updates**

Review of action plan/review update

The updated action plan will be reviewed and updated at the March Parish

Assembly – Residents will be asked for input. This will then been circulated to all Villagers.

Village Group reports:

##### Friends of the ford

A meeting will take place at the end of this month.

The water gauge by the ford has been run over and needs replacing with a more substantial rubber one by WCC.

##### Flood group

Covered earlier.

##### Community group

Mince pies at Coughton Court were well received.

A festive feast involving over 50 people has taken place.

The Throckmorton Arms have been involved with events.

A cemetery clean up and meeting will take place in the near future.

Neighbourhood Watch: Crimes involving stolen sheep and drugs have been reported, as well as a car getting stuck

##### Transport and traffic group

The Chairman continues to liaise with WCC and a report is expected by the end of the week.

#### 9) **Finance**

##### **Accounts for payment**

Cheque No 300 Clerks Salary/Expenses £ 285.00

Cheque No 301 Coughton with Sambourne PCC (Cemetery) £ 230.00

Cheque No 302 Coughton with Sambourne PCC (Link) £ 100.00

Signed Cllr McTavish – Cllr Gittins

#### 10) **Correspondence**

None

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm

Date of next meeting: 7<sup>th</sup> March 2016 6.30pm: Parish Assembly – Straight after: PC meeting

.....Chairman 7<sup>th</sup> March 2016