

Minutes of the Ordinary February 2024 meeting held on 22nd February 2024 at 7.30pm at Coddington Parish Rooms.

Present: Cllrs R. Sadler (Chair), S Johnson, M Leigh, P. Overmeer, P Roberts, Borough Cllr A Waddelove, 1 member of the public and the Clerk.

1. Apologies: Cllr P O'Leary, PCSO R McKevitt.

2. Declarations of Interest: None.

3. Public speaking time limited to 15 minutes.

A member of the public attended to raise concerns regarding speeding issues in Clutton. A very comprehensive and compelling report had been drafted and circulated to members prior to the meeting to inform the discussion, the purpose being to establish the case for a reduction in the speed limit to 30mph on that section of the A534 currently subject to a 40mph restriction as it passes the village of Clutton:

Much of the report/discussion was prompted by/in response to a CWAC road safety engineers report from a previous assessment, and particularly the criteria used in considering (and refusing) a reduction to 30mph. It was felt that there were sufficient anomalies regarding the number of houses calculated as clearly fronting the road to be able to challenge the road safety response. Statistics show the risk factor for death or serious injury to be 30% at 40mph reducing to 7% at 30mph (a 4 to 1 ratio). Most schools have a 20mph limit outside.

Some misconceptions were also addressed; street lights are not required in a 30mph zone just more repeater signs as is there no requirement for there to be houses on both sides of the road.

Discretion is there in the guidance for Councils to use and Road Safety / Traffic Advisory Leaflet 104 says there should be a 30mph limit for a rural village road. The guidance also says Local Authorities should review speed limits.

Resolved: Given the information in the report, the Parish Council ask CWAC to reassess the speed limit. Clerk to send a copy of the report to CWAC and ask for their opinion/comment to be followed up with an onsite visit to further discuss.

4. Community Safety. No police presence. Nothing to report.

5. Borough Councillors Report. Cllr Waddelove reported:

i) Speed limit signage schemes: Still waiting for a costing from CWAC for the scheme for the current national speed limit to be lowered to 40mph at Barton.

CWAC would only pay 50% and he would suggest that the Parish Council and his Members Budget fund the remainder 25% each if members were in agreement.

Resolved: Members agreed in principle that the Parish Council would fund 25% of the cost depending on the cost.

ii) Planter on corner of Holywell Lane. **Resolved:** Cllr Johnson to source a quote.

iii) Grit bin: Still waiting for CWAC to issue a licence. **Resolved:** Cllr Waddelove to fund an additional grit bin to be situated on Lower Hall Lane/School green. Cllr Waddelove to send exact location to Clerk and Clerk to make a further application for a licence.

iv) Road lines at junction of Beachin Lane: These were marked as priority to be remarked.

v) Stile on Aldersey Park Estate: The landowner had taken delivery of a new kissing gate and it was waiting to be installed.

vi) Council tax: Expected to rise by 4.99%. Less than 1% of the budget being spent on Highways.

vii) Green bin tax: Charge increasing by 25% for 24/25 to £50 per bin.

Resolved: Noted.

6. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 23 November 2023.

Proposed

Seconded

Cllr. R. Sadler

Cllr. M. Leigh

7. Matters Arising.

i) Vacancy for 1 Councillor for Clutton: The Clerk advised that the advertisement process had been triggered by the posting of a notice inviting the electorate to call an election if that was their will (within 14 days of the date of the notice not counting Saturdays, Sundays or Bank Holidays). The notice was dated 19 February 2024. The Parish Council could move to advertising to co-opt if CWAC advise that no election has been called at the end of this period. **Resolved:** Noted.

Cllr Johnson gave forward notice that he would potentially be stepping down in the short term thus creating a further vacancy for Clutton. **Resolved:** The vacancy to be advertised as and when it occurred.

ii) Defibrillator provision: Cllr Overmeer had previously confirmed that the Manor Wood defibrillator was registered on The Circuit and was available to the public 24/7. Members had voted at the last meeting in favour of looking at

installing a defibrillator outside The Parish Room in Coddington. The Clerk had written to the trustees and they had granted their permission to it being sited on the side wall of the building. **Resolved:** As, on reflection, the side wall of the building would appear not to be capable of withstanding its siting the Clerk will ask M Trevor Barnston, as trustee alongside R Sadler, if he would be agreeable to the defibrillator being installed on the front external wall at a point agreed with an electrician to be the most viable. If agreeable the Clerk would then look to purchase a defibrillator and cabinet, the details of which would be circulated to members for approval to purchase and instruct an electrician to install. A custodian would need to be identified and Cllr Overmeer agreed to provide assistance/training.

8. Planning.

Applications still awaiting a decision:

22/03750/FUL Orchard House Barton Road Barton Erection of fence to the front boundary including (electrically operated) entrance gate.

23/00777/OUT Highfield Farm Highfield Lane Coddington Chester CH3 6NA Rural workers dwelling.

23/03444/S73 Mill House Mill House Lane Coddington Single storey rear extension, new access and erection of detached garage/workshop – Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission 23/01940/FUL.

22/03288/FUL Land to the North West of Carden Park Hotel Barton Road Clutton Chester Proposed siting of 67 lodges within the grounds of Carden Park Hotel together with associated landscaping and environmental improvements.

A **public meeting** had been held on site with the commercial director/agent who expressed regret that there had not been earlier engagement with the local community. Noted as interesting and accommodating.

23/03118/FUL Windmill House Carden Lane Carden Chester SY14 7HP Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of a replacement dwelling, detached garage and plant room, tennis court and associated, outbuilding and ground mounted solar array along with all associated works.

23/02961/FUL Huntsmans House Barton Road Clutton Chester Demolition of existing dwelling, garage and annexe, and the erection of a replacement dwelling, two garages and an annexe, along with associated landscaping works.

New applications: None received.

Decisions:Approved: **23/01532/FUL** Highfield Lodge Highfield Lane Coddington It is proposed to erect an agricultural building for a livestock gathering area and roofing of a feed passage.

Approved: 23/02941/FUL Land at Grid ref 343550 352317 Wetreins Lane Kings Marsh Chester Creation of one wildlife pond.

Appeal allowed: Condition 4 deleted. **APP/A0665/W/23/3323317** Millwood House Stretton SY14 7HS.

9. Finance Matters.

General: Balance £10090.97 at 31 January 2024. Cheques raised as agreed.
Proposed: Cllr R Sadler Seconded: Cllr P Overmeer

10. Clutton Play Area/MUGA Update:

i) Parish Council representation: **Noted:** Cllr Stuart Johnson continued, at present, to represent the Parish Council on the Play Area Committee. Other members were Emma Davidson (Chair), Adam Davidson (Treasurer) and Liz Willis (Health and Safety Officer).

ii) 3 Cheques were raised at the request of the Chair.

iii) Cllr Johnson raised the upcoming maintenance issue of needing to replace the small roof over the large slide and replacement of 4 boards on tower units to include 4 half round timber steps on one board. Quote for this work was £905.55 plus vat. The play area account could fund this work but the committee were conscious that there was also potentially a floor trip hazard that may be 'flagged' at the next inspection which could be quite costly. A request was made for the Parish Council to consider part funding the work due to be carried out in April on the small roof etc.

Resolved: The Parish Council agreed to pay £450 towards the invoice of £905.55 in addition to reclaiming the vat element.

11. Correspondence and Invitations.

i) Cllr Overmeer dealing with complaints received regarding dog fouling on bridle path. **Resolved:** Noted.

12. Standing Consideration of Highway Matters.

i) TR07793 Holywell Lane road closure notice received: 28 February 2024 for approximately one day to enable utility works to be carried out by Scottish Power Renewable Energy. **Resolved:** Noted.

13. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 15 May 2024 at 7.30pm in the Parish Room Coddington. This will be the Annual Parish Meetings followed by the Ordinary May meeting.

