

Cubbington Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7:00pm, 24th February 2022 the meeting was held at Cubbington Village Hall

Present:

Councillor Ian Hodges (Chairman)	Councillor Paul Watkins (part)
Councillor Daniel Meggitt	Councillor Gary Willoughby
Councillor David Saul (Vice Chairman)	Councillor Pete Smith
Councillor Andrea Dean	
Councillor Esther McCarthy	

Warwick District Councillors: Councillor Pam Redford, Councillor Trevor Wright, Councillor Alan Boad, Councillor Daniel Russell

Warwickshire County Council: Councillor Wallace Redford, Councillor Sarah Boad

Residents: 6

In Attendance: Jane Chatterton, Clerk & RFO

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Chairman read out the following statement:

Before we start our February Parish Council meeting, I wish to make a statement.

This has been a difficult month for the Parish Council, but we wish to confirm the following in brief:

Under a Conveyance from 1959 Cubbington Parish Council purchased the Village Hall from the then Warwick District Rural Council. A Charity was formed in 1963. The Parish Council was made the sole Trustee of the Village Hall Charity in 2019.

On 1st February the Village Hall Committee were given notice to cease and asked to surrender all Village Hall Property. The Village Hall Manager is currently responsible for the day to day running of the Village Hall.

At no point, contrary to rumours being circulated has the Village Hall closed and is open for bookings. The Village Hall remains available to all Cubbington residents.

The actions taken by the Parish Council are in their capacity as Managing Trustee, not as the local authority, and matters relating to the Village Hall are not applicable nor should be discussed at a meeting of the local authority.

Since taking this action members of the Parish Council have been subjected to verbal abuse, slanderous and untrue comments trying to undermine and intimidate members. Unfortunately, this deteriorated on Tuesday resulting in this becoming a police matter.

The Parish Council are recording tonight's meeting. There are copies of the Protocol for Recording meetings available and on display.

As per the policy, the council requests that all recording is overt (i.e., clearly visible to anyone at the meeting).

I am now reinstating the Standing Orders so we can hold our Parish Council meeting. Subject to our Standing Orders disorderly conduct will not be tolerated. Sadly, we have also taken the measure of employing doormen.

399. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from WDC Councillor; Councillor Phil Kohler.

400. The Council Paid Tribute to Reverend Graham Coles

Tonight, we remember our colleague and friend, Graham. Graham was a dedicated member of our community, and he brought a sense of calm and wellbeing to the Parish Council.

Graham's funeral takes place tomorrow. For those who want to show support to Reverend Coles' family, the cortege is leaving the vicarage at approximately 1:45pm and travelling a route around the Village. Please come out and show Sam and the family how much Reverend Graham meant to the Village.

Limited spaces are available at the Pavilion to watch the service which takes place at 2:30pm. Refreshments have been generously supplied by Hollies. Thank you to Councillor Meggitt who has been at the centre of the arrangements.

The Parish Council are working with the family to create a memorial on the Recreation Ground.

Councillor Sara Boad

Councillor Sara Boad added, Graham had started his career in Leamington before moving to Cubbington. His loss is felt very deeply. Graham was a wonderful man and people have been praying for him every week during his illness.

Councillor Trevor Wright

Councillor Trevor Wright added that he had been a member of St Marys Church before he was elected as WDC Councillor. During this time, he had become very good friends with Graham, and they shared common interests. He praised his very calming influence. They had shared many conversations about the community and in those conversations, he always remained very calm. His faith in the community was strong. He went out of his way to do as much as he could.

He will personally miss him and will do so for quite some time to come. His commitment to the community was second to none.

Councillor Andrea Dean

Councillor Andrea Dean added that Graham had supported her through her own recent illness and recuperation, this was despite being so poorly and undergoing treatment himself. His messages were always caring and uplifting, a testament to the selfless man he was.

Councillor Esther McCarthy

Councillor Esther McCarthy mentioned a prayer that Graham had written and had been shared. Request to have the prayer printed and displayed.

Following a complaint by an attendee at the meeting, a member of the public was reminded that as per the policy, the council requests that all recording is overt (i.e., clearly visible to anyone at the meeting).

401. Declarations of Interest:

Declarations of Interest were received from:

Councillor Ian Hodges	-	Village Hall Committee
Councillor David Saul	-	Village Hall Committee & Pavilion Committee
Councillor Daniel Meggitt	-	Pavilion Committee
Councillor Esther McCarthy	-	Pavilion Committee

402. Councillor Co-option

The Chairman updated that 3 candidates had been interviewed for consideration for Co-option on to the Parish Council. Two candidates had been successful, and they would join the Parish Council at March's meeting.

RESOLVED THAT the update be noted.

403. Minutes of previous meeting:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27th January 2022 were received and discussed.

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 27th January 2022 were approved.

404. Matters Arising not listed on the agenda

There were no matters arising to discuss.

405. Public participation:

To adjourn to allow public participation.

Mr Ron Gillett had requested to speak to put forward possible sites on the edge of the Parish for the siting of a skate park. Two possible sites were discussed.

ACTION:

- (i) Councillor Alan Boad would contact the relevant department, but it was felt that the areas were too small and surrounded by residential dwellings.
- (ii) Councillor Mrs McCarthy to look into other sites within Cubbington Parish and report back at March's meeting.

406. Correspondence

Nothing further to add.

407. Chairman's Report

Noticeboards

I have installed two new Parish Council noticeboards in the Parish. These replaced the old broken noticeboards which were allocated for replacement over 2 years ago.

Recreation Ground and Sensory Garden

Due to the inclement weather and a lot of time spent working on the Village Hall not a lot of time has been spent on the Recreation Ground. There are signs that spring is on its way with the bulbs starting to come through. An overflow has been fitted to the Sensory Garden water tanks, just in time for the heavy rain fall over the past few days.

Sadly, I have to report that someone has pulled up several bulbs and discarded them on the Recreation Ground. It goes without saying that a lot of time and expense is spent working on the ground making it a pleasurable place for all. This type of vandalism is unnecessary and disappointing.

We also have to replace a lot of signage, which again has been unnecessarily destroyed.

The two apricot trees have finally been received at the suppliers and will be collected and planted shortly. This completes the orchard which now has a variety of apple, pear, plum, apricot and walnut trees.

Now the planting has finished the Clerk will be contacting WCC to draw down the WCC Greenshoots Grant.

Pavilion

The Clerk and the Chairman of the Pavilion have busy completing a grant application for funding to enable the reconfiguration of the Pavilion with the removal of the internal wall. It is expected to be ready for submission shortly.

Village Hall

The Village Hall is fully open, and bookings can be made by contacting Karren the Village Hall Manager.

Defibrillator

At January's meeting the Parish Council approved the purchase of a third defibrillator which will be sited in Kelvin Road. The defibrillator has arrived so work will continue with the installation.

Wildflower Planting

The Parish Council has been working with the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust to plant wildflowers on the banks in the Recreation Ground. This will add interest and also to help with pollination for the fruit trees.

Scarifying work has been completed and sowing was completed on 22nd February. Thank you to Councillor Esther McCarthy for taking on the project and working with the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust to alleviate the pressure on the Clerk's time.

Again, following a complaint by a member of the Parish Council, the same member of the public was reminded that as per the policy, the council requests that all recording is overt (i.e., clearly visible to anyone at the meeting). This polite request was ignored, and he continued to record the meeting on his mobile phone.

408. Councillors Reports in brief**Councillor Saul - Community services**

Councillor Saul updated that tomorrow was a day for Reverend Graham. A chance for reflection as they watched Reverend Graham Coles travelling around the Village on his final journey.

Councillor Meggitt – Pavilion Committee

Councillor Meggitt updated that the defibrillator would be fitted to the Pavilion on Saturday. A local electrician had been employed to carry out the work. The sensor light wasn't working properly, and this would be checked out at the same time.

Work had continued on completing the grant application to remove the internal wall at the Pavilion and it was expected that submission of the application would be next week.

A contractor had repaired the doors onto the veranda and a breakdown of issues and repairs would be provided.

With Sam Coles' blessing an evening event would be organised, ideas included a quiz night to raise funds for a charity of Graham's family's choice. Further updates at March's meeting.

Cllr Hodges – Village Hall

A Village Hall Manager had taken over the running of the Village Hall. The Village Hall was available for bookings as normal, the contact number was advertised. Many new hirers had come forward for information and many parishioners had contacted the Parish Council to say that they welcomed the change and new management.

409. District and County Councillors Reports for information**Councillor Sara Boad**

Parking - At a recent surgery within the community, issues were raised with parking. Currently work was being carried out to update a shop. The type of business in the shop could result in the parking being an issue.

It was noted that Kelvin Road is very narrow. Councillor Mrs Boad has asked Mrs Ryan Machin, the Highway's Engineer to visit the site and see what can be done.

Roundabout at Comptons Garage – a meeting will take place to have a look and the problems reported in relation to the roundabout. The possibility of averaging speed cameras on the Kenilworth and Leicester Lane could be discussed.

Councillor Wallace Redford

Covid – over the past 24 hours there have been 4 deaths in Warwickshire who had tested positive for Covid in the past 28 days. The infection rate is down and has been down for at least a week all across the board. The number of people is lower than 3 or 4 weeks ago. Still have the usual suspects, Lillington, Whitnash and Brunswick. Hasn't change since the start of the pandemic.

The local hospitals were at 90% capacity but due to mainly elective surgery.

Windmill Hill footpath – the Chairman raised the issue with holes and damaged/missing tarmac on Windmill Hill footpath.

ACTION: Councillor Redford to look into.

Councillor Pam Redford

Severn Trent – notification had been received from Severn Trent that work would be carried out to improve the river quality in Leamington. Work would cause disruption on the Cubbington Road beginning on Monday 28th February. Work was expected to take 3 weeks to complete. Traffic lights would be placed to safely manage traffic past the works.

Council tax – WDC had set the Council tax rate yesterday. There would be no increase. The green waste bin would now be chargeable.

Councillor Trevor Wright

Various scams – there were various scams taking place and people needed to be vigilant.

Green waste bin – the new charges were for each bin. The charges were £20 for this year and £44 thereafter. Stickers could be purchased via the website. If residents preferred there was an option to purchase a composting bin at a reduced rate.

Councillor Saul added that he was not happy with the District Council for passing this proposal and residents would now be paying twice.

The question should be asked of Stratford of the service they provided on the green bins. Was there evidence of an increase in clearing up of fly tipping after they started to charge for the green bin.

Councillor Watkins joined the meeting

Councillor Pam Redford stated that fly tipping is on the increase at the moment. A lot was occurring on private land and WDC do not clear this up and it is the responsibility of the landowner to clear this away.

410. Highways and Police

PSCO Sharron Underwood had provided an update report.

- 01/01/22 - Burglary - Offchurch Lane, Radford Semele
- 03/01/22 - Theft from vehicle - Rugby Road, Cubbington
- 03/01/22 - Damage to vehicle - Stonehouse Close, Cubbington
- 04/01/22 - Theft of vape oils - Lewis Road, Radford Semele
- 06/01/22 - Theft of scrap metal - Leicester Lane, Leamington
- 17/01/22 - Theft of fuel - Comptons garage, Cubbington
- 18/01/22 - Theft of pushbike - North Leamington School
- 19/01/22 - Theft from vehicle - Stoneleigh Park
- 19/01/22 - Attempted theft of used veg oil - Red Lion, Hunningham
- 19/01/22 - Theft of vehicle - Walkers Foods, Siskin Parkway
- 20/01/22 - Theft from vehicle - Pepsico Ltd, Siskin Parkway
- 21/01/22 - Theft of work bag - Sports Pavilion, Warwick University
- 24/01/22 - Theft of laptops/phones/cash - Sports Pavilion, Warwick Uni

26/01/22 - Theft of used vegetable oil - Red Lion, Hunningham
 28/01/22 - Car key burglary - Walkers Orchard, Stoneleigh
 30/01/22 - Theft - Sainsburys, Cubbington
 30/01/22 - Theft of fuel - Comptons Garage, Cubbington
 31/01/22 - Theft of spare wheel - Leicester Lane, Leamington
 31/01/22 - Theft of Wii and speakers - Gibbet Hill Road
 31/01/22 - Attempted Burglary - Church Road, Bubbenhall
 01/02/22 - Theft of Wii console - Gibbet Hill Road
 04/02/22 - Theft of vehicle - Stoneleigh Hill, Stoneleigh
 04/02/22 - Theft of spare wheel - Hunningham Road, Offchurch
 16/02/22 - Burglary - Power tools - Bellway Homes, Rugby Road, Cubbington
 21/02/22 - Attempted Burglary - new build empty house, Bellway Homes, Cubbington

411. Warwickshire Local Plan identified sites in and around Cubbington

A letter of objection had been sent in relation to the proposed sites identified in Cubbington.

ACTION: The letter would need to be resent if Cubbington was then highlighted for approval. Situation to be monitored.

412. Green Bin waste collection

Covered earlier in the meeting.

413. Finance

413.1 payments PAID since the last meeting:-

2021-22

DATE	REF	DETAILS	EXPENDITURE
19.01.22	E233	Mr Gary Willoughby 00041 Playground inspection	£111.40
25.01.22	E234	J Chatterton Salary January	DPA
25.01.22	E235	HMRC tax & NI employee and employer	DPA
25.01.22	E236	Earth Anchors 2 Noticeboards x 2	£2,016.00
25.01.22	E237	NS Booth Christmas Lights	£1,898.40
25.01.22	E238	Mr A Deptford Defib and cabinet (Pavilion)	£1,740.00
25.01.22	E239	WCC Pension Nov Employee & Employer Contribution	DPA
08.02.22	E240	Metcalfe 923007	£24.00
08.02.22	E241	Mr A Deptford Defib and cabinet (Kelvin Road)	£1,740.00
08.02.22	E242	PSL Queen's Platinum Jubilee bunting	£432.00
08.02.22	E243	SPS Payroll January	£12.00
08.02.22	E244	Metcalfe 922822	£198.07
08.02.22	E245	Mr M R Hodges Noticeboards installation	£80.00
08.02.22	E246	Mr G Willoughby inv 00042 Playground inspection	£135.00
08.02.22	E247	Local Council Update Annual Subscription	£75.00
08.02.22	E248	Flowers	£32.98
08.02.22	E249	Mr Ian Hodges Noticeboards installation	£80.00

RESOLVED THAT the payments be approved.

414. Planning Matters**414.1 Application No: W/22/0072**

Description: Temporary change of use to use an adjoining field for temporary car parking and as a construction compound for the duration of the construction period and for no more than 24 months. A new access is proposed from Welsh Road, which routes through the south-eastern corner of the site boundary of application ref. W/21/1250 providing access to the proposed site on the eastern end of the northern boundary, as shown on the accompanying site location plan and site plan.

Address: Thwaites Ltd, Welsh Road, Cubbington

RESOLVED THAT: No comment.

415. Village Hall Working Party

A working party would be established to look at the plans started in September 2021 in relation to the improvements that were needed for the Village Hall. The building required insulating, and the heating system upgrading. Currently the only source of heating was electric heaters.

In light of the expected increase in fuel costs (heating and lighting) for the building more cost-effective ways of energy supply would need to be looked at.

Contract surveyors had attended a meeting at the Village Hall and discussed the options for the improvements. It was noted that the Village Hall building, most of which dated back to pre-1950 now needed to evolve to create the useful and financially viable space for the ever-increasing number of parishioners (circa 5,000 including adults and children) who lived in Cubbington.

Funding Grants were available to create a Village Hall /Community Centre offering multiple opportunities for everyone.

ACTION: Village Hall Working Party members to include the Clerk, Chairman, Councillor Watkins and the Village Hall Manager.

416. Neighbourhood Plan

Councillor Watkins updated the Neighbourhood Plan survey was on the website and needed to be advertised more. Flyers would be displayed in the parish council noticeboards. 140 responses had been received so far. This would increase once the NHP had been promoted.

Two quotations from the NHP consultants had been circulated to members and a review had taken place.

Approved to continue with Kirkwells.

RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) Kirkwells would be engaged as NHP consultants.
- (ii) Flyers be printed for circulation and displayed on the noticeboards.

417. Queens Platinum Jubilee

Event to take place on Sunday 5th in the afternoon.

Recreation Ground – including entertainment.

Councillor Meggitt to create the posters promoting the event.

ACTION: apply to the WDC for funding.

418. Governance

The following polices had been reviewed:

Asset Register 2021-22 (agenda item for March's meeting)

CPC Internal Financial Control Feb 2022 (*no updates*)

Grievance & Disciplinary Policy Feb 2022 (*no updates*)

ACTION:

- (i) Councillor Willoughby to cross reference against the Play equipment inspection list.
- (ii) Agenda item for March's meeting.
- (iii) CPC Internal Financial Control Feb 2022 and Grievance & Disciplinary Policy Feb 2022 be approved.

419. HS2 Update

Nothing to update.

420. Councillor's reports and items for future Agenda:

Nothing to discuss.

421. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 24th March 2022 at 7:00pm.

Meeting closed at 8:00pm