# Cadeby Parish Council Meeting Friday 28th February 2014 at 7pm

Present:	Councillor Winterbottom (C Claire Evans (Clerk)	Chair) Councillor Morgan Councillor Smith
	Councillor Freeman	Councillor Ould
	Members of the public:	Mr J Shepherd, Miss R Parrish, Mr & Mrs Broadfield Mr & Mrs Mutlow

#### **Apologies**

Councillor Tina Chastney, Councillor Lane

#### **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Morgan noted his property is adjacent to the site of planning application reference 14/00100/FUL.

# To receive and approve requests for dispensations on matters in which members have a disclosable pecuniary interest

None received

#### **Public participation**

Public in attendance were advised that the Parish Council allows participation in discussion.

#### Minutes from 10th January 2014

Approved and signed off as a true and accurate record.

#### PC Mike Chapman's report

PC Chapman sent apologies. Nothing to report in the previous month.

## **Councillor Ivan Ould's Report**

The Clerk had previously informed Councillor Ould of PUSH Energy's planned proposal to submit a planning application for a solar panel farm on land between Bull in the Oak and Newbold Verdon. Councillor Ould contacted H&BBC Planning Officer – James Hicks who confirmed no application had been received. H&BBC renewable energy document is out for consultation so there is a lot of interest in this area. Councillor Winterbottom confirmed feed-in tariff changes for solar power will change on 1st April 2014 and this could be why so many companies are putting proposals in.

**Agreed**: Clerk also to email H&BBC to see if more information is now available. Clerk had emailed Newbold Verdon Parish Council Clerk and will forward information.

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For the fourth year in a row, the County budget will have a 0% increase in council tax. Adult Social Care remains to be over budget with issues such as hospital bed blocking, an aging population and cost of getting support to the clients.

# **Financial Report**

Cheques approved

£375	Clerk's expenses
£13.50	Ian Smith Christmas 2013 expenses
£350	Derek Whitfield for noticeboard
£5592	Cadeby Church for renovations

The H&BBC Parish and Community Initiative grant of £5767 had been received. This grant includes 50% (£175) of the cost of the new PC noticeboard. A grant from the Leicestershire County Council (LCC) Shire Hall Grant scheme has been approved for the remaining cost of £175; payment of this grant is expected shortly.

**Agreed**: Clerk to request PC is notified when grant aided works have been completed.

## 2014/15 Parish and Community Initiative Fund

Councillor Smith has submitted the application to LCC for a grant in 2014/15. The application seeks a contribution towards the Church renovations and a 50% contribution towards the cost of the installation of a community defibrillator.

With regards to the community defibrillator, Councillor Morgan said if it were placed within the Church, a faculty may be required from the Church Authorities for the siting of the equipment. The defibrillator would need to be placed externally on a building so it was accessible 24/7. The defibrillator could not be installed in the existing phone box because this is not decommissioned. If the grant is successful, further discussion will be required on possible suitable locations.

## **Planning Applications**

2013/1089/04/CON Sutton Ridge House, Sutton Lane

Change of use of land and buildings to form two dwellings. Revised plans show a change to the proposed vehicle access.

**Agreed:** Council decided that as the plans had not fundamentally changed, their original objection letter stood. Clerk to email H&BBC Planning Department.

13/01001/COU Bijou Stables This application has been withdrawn. The application is for retrospective permission for change of use to workshop and erection of log cabin.

**Agreed**: Clerk to ask H&BBC Planning why the applicant withdrew the plans, and ask what would happen with the retrospective element of this.

14/00100/FUL Cadeby Hall, Main Street Erection of one new dwelling

Plans were displayed for councillors and the general public to view. The proposed new dwelling house would be outside the village envelope, as such it is contrary to current Development Plan policy. The

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granting of planning permission for a new dwelling would offer a precedent and increase the risk of other development being proposed on land beyond the village envelope. The field opposite The Grange was mentioned in this respect. The application seeks to mitigate this by proposing a building of exceptional quality. The details submitted with the application are however limited; the elements of the scheme which provide the very special quality of the proposed building are not readily discernible.

Councillors felt that the proposal should only be permitted if it truly is considered to be of exceptional quality. This would reduce the risk of more mundane development being proposed on other sites outside the village envelope due to the nature of the precedent set.

**Agreed**: No objection to a new dwelling considered to be of exceptional quality. Councillor Winterbottom to respond to H&BBC Planning to note concern over new dwelling being outside the village envelope and the setting of a precedent which would encourage future inappropriate and unsustainable development, and the limited information submitted with application concerning the nature of the exceptional quality of the proposed dwelling.

# Proposed solar farm between Cadeby & Newbold

See Councillor Ould's report.

PUSH Energy wrote to the Parish Council to inform it was to hold a public meeting to present details of a proposed solar farm on land between Cadeby Quarry/Bull in the Oak and Botany Spinney on the edge of Newbold Verdon. This is part of the process of submitting a planning application to HBBC. Councillor Ould stated he was not aware of details of the proposal and had approached James Hicks, Principal Planning Officer at H&BBC for advice.

Councillor Winterbottom said that solar industry advice concerning the best position for solar panels is to site these on level land with appropriate existing boundary landscaping. This serves to reduce the visibility of the installation. Councillor Ould made reference to Stoke Golding's solar panel farm application where one of the problems was the security fence and the effect it would have on the surrounding environs. Schemes are being promoted now to secure installation quickly to take advantage of the current level of 'feed in tariffs' as these will reduce in April. The availability of existing capacity to connect new solar farms to the National Grid is a constraint, thus areas with existing capacity will be under pressure, even though sites may not be the most suitable.

**Agreed**: Councillor Ould was not aware of details of the proposal and had approached James Hicks, Principal Planning Officer at H&BBC for advice. The Clerk to contact H&BBC Planning and also Newbold Verdon Parish Council to request copies of any available details.

The following items, received after the agenda was published, were discussed at the discretion of the Chair.

## Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document

The pre-submission document was open for consultation from 17th February 2014 until 31st March. Councillor Chastney (HBBC) had advised there were no specific site allocations within Cadeby parish and no change was proposed to the village settlement boundary.

Agreed: No action.

## Assets of Community Value

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Councillor Freeman to email Clerk proforma to register the Church Hall as an asset of community value.

# Mr & Mrs N Straughan's letter re A447

The Clerk has received a copy of a letter sent by Mr & Mrs N Straughan to LCC Highways regarding dangerous driving maneourves around junctions at the top of Rectory Lane and Brascote Lane. A copy had been emailed to Councillors prior to the meeting.

**Agreed**: To consider at next Parish Council meeting. Clerk to send acknowledgement to Mr & Mrs Straughan.

## New Model Standing Orders

Draft Model Standing Orders had been circulated prior to the January 2014 meeting.

Agreed: PC to adopt Revised Draft Model Standing Orders.

#### Future Village Fund-raising

Councillor Smith asked if the Parish Council accounts could be used in support of village fund raising activities or other initiatives or to help distressed members of the community.

The activities of the Parish Council are bound by legislation and regulations. The Clerk explained this defined the areas on which the Council could spend the precept money. Section 137, of the Local Government Act allows the Council to spend monies on community activities but places a per capita limit on the amount. (capped at  $\pounds$  per elector).

Clerk reminded Councillors of advice given by the Council's Auditor, that any community fundraising should be organised under a "Friends of Cadeby Group" or similar, and not through the Parish Council accounts.