

**Cadeby Parish Council Meeting
Friday 23rd August at 7pm**

Present: Councillor Winterbottom (Chair) Councillor Morgan
Councillor Lane Claire Evans (Clerk)
Councillor Freeman Councillor Smith
PC Chapman Councillor Ould
Members of the public: Mr and Mrs M Kenefeck
Janet Hicklin
Mr & Mrs T Mutlow

Apologies

None

Declarations of Interest

None

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.

Minutes from 10th May 2013 meeting

Approved and signed off as a true and accurate record.

Councillor Ivan Ould's Report

Local issue to Cadeby – Tree Application 2013/TPO/0246/LCC has been submitted to the County Council for The Rectory. This information was only received on the day of the parish council meeting and had not therefore been added to the agenda. Councillor Ould spoke to Andrew Shaw at County who confirmed the applicant's reason for the tree felling and reductions, were for safety reasons.

The proposal is to fell 3 holly trees T16, T18 and T27. County say these trees are in poor condition and should come down. There are 4 Beech trees to fell, T19, T20, T28 and T30. H&BBC believe 1 of these 4 could be felled and T20 is not supported by H&BBC because the applicant had given insufficient evidence. T17 Beech is for crown reduction, the amount of pruning to be agreed upon. Final proposal is to reduce the crown on T21 Lime.

Councillor Ould asked for the Parish Council's position on this application. It seems TPO 1968 covers some trees but not ALL. The Lime tree T21 reduction is the only TPO tree in this current application.

In Andrew Shaw's opinion, the Holly trees and two Beech are appropriate to fell but the other trees need more information supplied. The general opinion is that the report provided by the applicant's agent was incomplete.

Councillor Winterbottom clarified the tree 'application'. This is not a planning application with the exception of one tree covered by a TPO.

The Parish Council have 21 days to comment on this from date of receipt – 23 August.

Agreed: Council to advise Clerk after they have considered and Clerk to send comments to Councillor Ould for submission to LCC.

Councillor Ould explained about the cost cuttings that Leicestershire County Council (LCC) are having to make, cut back by 37%. Cadeby residents are encouraged to make comments/suggestions on cuts to LCC. Non-statutory services will definitely be hit.

Discussions around the 2-tier council system have been raised. It costs £20m to maintain this system of a Borough and County Council.

LCC are looking for new fostering and adoptive parents.

Councillor Ould gave an update on MIRA and A5 improvements. Works are planned to start in Autumn 2013.

Finally, many local Parish Councils (Dadlington, Sutton Cheney and Stoke Golding) are concerned about the increased volumes in traffic due to the proposed Sustainable Urban Extension of Barwell.

Financial Report

Business Manager Account £3856.31 less uncleared cheques (£500 Church Roof donation, £375 Clerk's salary post-dated end September and £24 Church Hall hire)

Community Account £45.00

Bank mandate updated following Jonathan Lane's appointment as Vice-Chairman.

Cheques approved

£24 Church Hall hire

£375 Clerk's salary (cheque post-dated to end September)

PC Chapman's Report

Prior to the Parish Council meeting, PC Chapman held a surgery in the Church Hall and confirmed with immediate effect there will be a beat meeting before each Parish Council meeting. The Response Team is now situated in Braunstone, not Hinckley. If a Grade 1 call (eg, house break in) is received, support will come from Braunstone. The Police are trying to cut costs, but Market Bosworth Police Station will not be closed. It remains open to the public on Wednesdays 10am – 12pm, but is open 24/7.

Councillor Smith raised concerns about the poor quality of street markings in the village. There had recently been an accident on the T-junction where Church Lane joins Rectory Lane. The road markings here are very faded.

Agreed: Clerk and PC Chapman to write to Leicestershire County Council (LCC) Highways for a site visit and repaint.

Concerns again raised by Councillors at the speed of traffic coming through the village. There is an increasing number of children now in the village and there are concerns for their safety.

Agreed: PC Chapman agreed to contact Traffic Management Services to see if a survey could be conducted. Councillors requested this should include a Sunday morning where speeding cut-through traffic believed to be going to the Rugby Club is a particular problem.

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Finally, PC Chapman updated council on a new scheme set up by himself called Countryside Watch. Proving very popular amongst farmers who have a lot of different equipment on-site is a new type of padlock with a sensor alarm inside. This alarm can carry for about 2km and acts as a deterrent. They can be purchased from Market Bosworth Police Station for £12.

Clerk's Report

Following the Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils (LRALC) July newsletter (distributed) the Clerk asked all councillors to familiarize themselves with their responsibilities under the adopted Code of Conduct, to understand what a disclosable interest is, how they should be declared.

A common area of confusion lay with Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI), an example being given where all councillors may have a DPI if they own land or have property in a parish and where a new development is being planned which might impact the value of the land or property within the parish. All councillors must be clear on this, any questions to the clerk.

Agreed: The Clerk suggested both the Code of Conduct and declaration of interest forms be reviewed and re-signed annually, preferably at the AGM.

Clerk made council aware of the following grants Cadeby parish could benefit from: Community Rights to Bid, SHIRE Community Building Grant and Big Society Grant Fund. These grants were highlighted in the July LRALC newsletter. This information has been forwarded to Diana Morgan as part of the Church Roof Restoration fundraising activity.

Letter received from DVS Services which is a valuation service open for parish councils to use. No further action taken.

Church Hall Sale (including Leicester Diocesan Registry Letter and Parish Council's declared position on the future of the Church Hall)

Clerk explained a letter from Mr Kirkman, Diocesan Registrar had been received around 23 July 2013 giving various dates by which responses needed to be sent and received from the main parties involved namely the Parish Council (PC) and the Parochial Church Council (PCC.)

The first instructions was the PC and the PCC should appoint a representative to meet to discuss matters. Councillor Winterbottom and Diana Morgan (on behalf of the PCC) had met.

The second instruction was that by Friday 23rd August the petitioners (PCC) should send to the Diocesan Registrar and PC their evidence "setting out the grounds for the petition". Clerk confirmed this had been received and Councillor Winterbottom had sent scanned copies to all other councillors.

Thirdly, by Friday 20th September the PC should send their evidence to the PCC and Diocesan Registrar.

Councillor Winterbottom gave a brief outline of events since the Rev John Plant first advised the PC that Church Hall was going to be sold.

PCC put the Church Hall on the market. Prospective purchaser saw restrictive covenant. PCC trying to move forward the disposal.

Talked about sealed bid.

Initially offered to James Stanworth, Kenefecks then as a 3rd option the village.

New vicar has confirmed in an email that ALL proceeds from the Church Hall sale would come to All Saints Church. This is a change from that proposed by John Plant.

The Consistory Court will have the ultimate say on whether the covenant can be removed. They believe they have the power to remove. Is the Consistory Court the right body to deal with this? Should it go to the Lands Tribunal? The Clerk had provided information to the NALC Solicitor but The Consistory Court will only advocate the church's position. Does the Church actually have the legal powers to remove the covenant?

Questions and comments were received from the floor as part of public participation which included could the village support two community buildings - All Saints and Church Hall? Who would run with the project of acquiring the Church Hall if this was possible and be responsible for its renovation and ongoing management? Parishioners spoke of the many happy community gatherings which took place at the height of the Church Hall's career.

Councillor Smith believed the parish council should act on behalf of the parishioners to save the Church Hall if that's what the community wanted. A way forward would be to ask the parishioners via a questionnaire would they support the Church Hall, what could it be used for eg, history society, art exhibitions etc. It was felt that a 'need' must be demonstrated to support any case.

A lively debate amongst the councillors ensued with the main question being posed: does the Parish Council object to the sale of the Church Hall?

The Parish Council have never formally objected or voted to oppose the Church Hall sale. Their objections had been for the loss of the only community facility. Three main objections were sent to the Diocesan Registrar:

1. That removal of the restrictive covenant would facilitate the sale and therefore loss to Cadeby of its only community meeting place
2. The PC objects to the Church Hall being used for anything other than a parish Church meeting room
3. The PC felt the valuation and sale process had not been conducted in a fair, transparent and equitable way with some interested parties feeling disadvantaged by the process

The position with regards to where will the proceeds of the Church Hall sale go has been confirmed that all proceeds will go to All Saints.

Does the parish council wish to engage in this process?

Mr and Mrs Mike Kenefeck who are an interested party confirmed the position remained very unclear still. As they understood it, the Church Hall could not be used for business purposes, the Church Hall could only be used to become part of the adjoining house ie, The Stables.

Councillor Smith and Councillor Freeman object in principle to the selling of the Church Hall to private ownership with the loss of the only community facility to the village.

Councillor Morgan regarding All Saints. If all the roof money is not found, the roof will be partially repaired. As the Church Hall is not the sole village space, there could be issues with finding funding for the Church renovations.

Proposal by Simon Freeman and seconded by Jonathan Lane and Ian Smith, to put a motion forward to ascertain the PC's adopted position on the matter of the sale of the Church Hall and proposed change in covenant. The motion being:

"The PC objects to the presently proposed sale of the Church Hall into private hands. The Parish Council will enter into negotiations with the PCC to secure time to develop a business plan to take on the running of the hall while still enabling the church to realize equity in the facility.

Vote for the motion 3 for
 1 against
 1 abstain

DW to go back to the PCC with the motion.
JL/SF/IS pulling evidence together in time for 20th September

Parish and Community Initiative Fund

Councillor Smith confirmed the Parish Council's bid for the above grant had been successful. The amount was £5767, £5000 of which was a contribution towards the Church Roof Fund, £350 towards a new noticeboard. Part of the remainder was earmarked for any possible increase in clerical workload due to various grant applications for the Church Roof Appeal that the clerk may become involved in.

Clerk confirmed the noticeboard had been commissioned for £350 with Derek Whitfield, Carpenter from Earl Shilton.

Councillor Smith confirmed the grant must by the end of March. Post-meeting – this date should be by end of February.

The following two agenda items to be discussed together

Parish Council policy on refunding expenses from community events Summer Garden Party photocopy expenses for Mr Ian Smith

Mr Ian Smith asked what the procedure was for claiming back expenses incurred for community-based events. Councillor Winterbottom said that any request for expenses should be agreed by council prior to the event taking place, as is standard business practice.

Agreed: expenses can be paid for under Section 137. Expenses to be paid post-event on this occasion.

Grit Bins

Due to the late running of the meeting, this item was not fully discussed. Clerk continues to seek information from LCC Highways and will report back to council.

Letter from Cardiac Rhythm Management Team

Council received a letter from Glenfield Hospital about the placement of a public-access automated external defibrillator.

Agreed: Parish Council would like to register their interest. Clerk to contact Glenfield for further information. This item was not debated at any great length due to meeting time constraints.

Planning Applications

Received since last meeting

13/00423/FUL Sutton Ridge, Sutton Lane. Excavation of lake. No objections

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13/00502/FUL 163 The Park. Erection of one dwelling and one garage. Application subsequently withdrawn. The Parish Council had drafted an objection letter but prior to the letter being sent, the applicant had withdrawn the application. Clerk asked Councillor Winterbottom if the objection letter should still be sent to be held 'on file'. Councillor Winterbottom advised to hold on parish council file only.

Current planning applications:

13/00681/TPOCA works to trees in Beech Court, Rectory Lane

Agreed: No objections

13/00580/CONDIT The Old Rectory, variation of condition 2 to planning permission 13/00262/HOU to allow for larger front lawn

Agreed: No objections

13/00574/TREES The Old Rectory, works to trees Application withdrawn

13/00574/TPOCA The Old Rectory, works to trees Application withdrawn

Meeting closed at 9.44pm 23rd August 2013