

Copdock & Washbrook Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting
held on Tuesday 7 June 2022 at Copdock village hall – 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr Keith Armes, DC Dave Busby (left 2007hrs), Cllr Louise Carman, Cllr Simon Downey (arrived 2018hrs), Cllr James Mellish (Chair), Cllr Mike Watling, 14x residents, Clerk - Angela Chapman.

2162/2223 Chairman's Welcome & Apologies: Chairman Mellish welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies: Cllr Laura Butters, Cllr Terry Corner, CC Christopher Hudson. Apologies accepted.

2163/2223 Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests: Cllr Mike Watling – C&W Tennis club; Cllr Louise Carman – Carman 4Seasons Ltd.

2164/2223 Requests for dispensations in respect of pecuniary interests: None.

2165/2223 Minutes: Minutes of the meeting held on 3 May 2022 were approved and signed as a true record.

2166/2223 Co-option

Consider co-option of application for Parish Councillor vacancy. Adrian Ward interviewed by Cllrs Keith Armes and James Mellish. Council voted unanimously to co-opt Adrian Ward. Chair welcomed Adrian Ward to the Parish Council.

2167/2223 Clerk's Report including Matters Arising

A busy month, including the internal audit which is now complete, with AGAR (Annual Governance & Accounting Return) on the agenda for approval, which will then go to external audit for completion.

The Local Government Association has issued a new Code of Conduct document which is much more detailed than the current Suffolk Code. To be reviewed and adopted at this meeting.

I have resurrected the Footpath 23 (PRoW) file which is on the agenda later, however, I will update you briefly now with the information I have. The Parish Council file dates back to 2009, with correspondence dated between 2009/11, and a note from SCC that the issue has been the subject of debate since 2004. In 2009 it was proposed to reroute the footpath but this never happened. SCC PRoW department are understaffed and under resourced and the issue is one of many in the County. Perhaps some strategically placed signs encouraging walkers to use the adjacent FP22 would be helpful.

A Facebook page has been set up to enable the Parish Council to post information, this will also provide a link to the village website.

2168/2223 Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 1935hrs

County Councillor Chris Hudson – not in attendance, no report.

District Councillor Dave Busby – reported a quiet month with no formal report.

Roadworks on A14 Junction 49 & 56 to be carried out, details requested, to be sent to Clerk after virtual meeting 15 June 2022.

A meeting with the PC was requested with DC Busby after the Sproughton planning decision is made, in relation to LA008.

DC Busby confirmed he went into BDC planning committees with an open mind at all times before decisions made. Advised Woman's Cycle Race came through the County and was very impressive.

Residents:

Refugees - it was confirmed refugees at the hotel are able to use the recreation field for football kickabouts. The PC talk to the staff at the hotel; however, staff members change on a regular basis which makes consistency difficult. A meeting with hotel staff was suggested and will be arranged.

Footpath 23 – after discussion it was agreed signs will be erected at the Wenham Rd end of the footpath advising walkers the path is temporarily closed and they can't get through the other end of the path due to an obstruction, giving an alternative route (FP22). Resident offered to pay for the sign, PC will arrange the sign and erection of same. PC to write to Public Rights of Way officer to advise of the signage being put up.

Bikes - it was reported refugees are riding bikes up and down the Old London Rd erratically putting themselves and others in danger. Chair to speak to hotel staff.

Bin near Taylors Farm has been vandalised and squashed, Clerk to order a new one.

Request to cut verge on Charlottes.

Dog waste not being picked up is becoming a problem. Agreed to purchase signs to put up.

Meeting reconvened 2007hrs.

2169/2223 Planning Applications:

Appendix A

DC/22/02409

Proposal: Householder Application - Erection of Extension.

Location: Brook Barn, The Street, Copdock And Washbrook, Ipswich Suffolk IP8 3HX

Deadline: 6th June 2022. Requested extension of time to Thurs 9th June

No objection. See full comments on Babergh planning portal <https://planning.baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk/online-applications/>

DC/22/02337

Proposal: Full Application - Change of use from an ancillary annexe for a family member to a dwellinghouse now known as the Stable Cottage (C3), at the Mane Riding Centre, Old London Road, Copdock IP8 3JF.

Location: The Mane Riding Centre, Old London Road, Copdock and Washbrook, Ipswich Suffolk IP8 3JF

Deadline: 26th May 2022 requested extension to Thurs 9th June

Objection. See full comments on Babergh planning portal <https://planning.baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk/online-applications/>

DC/22/02338

Proposal: Full Planning Application - Change of use from an ancillary annexe to a dwellinghouse now known as the Cherry Cottage (C3), at the Mane Riding Centre, Old London Road, Copdock IP8 3JF.

Location: The Mane Riding Centre, Old London Road, Copdock and Washbrook, Ipswich Suffolk IP8 3JF

Deadline: 26th May 2022 requested extension to Thurs 9th June

Objection. See full comments on Babergh planning portal <https://planning.baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk/online-applications/>

Appendix B

Planning Applications determined by Babergh DC

DC/22/00998

Proposal: Full Planning Application - Erection of a three-storey warehouse/office building and erection of a single-storey storage unit (following demolition of existing building)

Location: Little Copdock House, Old London Road, Copdock And Washbrook, Suffolk IP8 3JW
Withdrawn.

2170/2223 Financial Matters & RFO Report

- a) payments for approval - approved as per payments list in accounting reports, Cllrs Mellish & Watling to approve.
- b) Cllr Louise Carman checked Scribe reports, approved by Council, Chair signed reports off.
- c) approve of Annual Governance Statement 2021/22 - approved and signed
- d) approval of Accounting Statement 2021/22 – approved and signed.
- e) review and note the Internal Audit report – noted
- f) Fixed Asset Register – reviewed update and approved
- g) Review and adopt the new LGA Code of Conduct – adopted
- h) Quiet Lanes funding request - £150 admin cost for volunteer admin – approved. Works in Wave 4 which is likely to be another 6 months.
- i) Ratify SALC subscription – approved.
- j) Risk Assessment Register – quarterly review and approved. Small works to be carried out. No safety issues.
- k) costs for recreation field for refugee football - should be no more than £1,000. Suggestion by resident of donations to help with cost.

Scribe accounting reports for the month distributed – payments list, cash book, bank reconciliation, copy of bank statements to month end, see 2170/2223 b) above.

2171/2223 Fen View Play Area review

No further update.

2172/2223 Queens's Platinum Jubilee celebrations

- a. Update on the day's celebrations – pleasantly surprised with the turnout, the Brook PH were very helpful throughout, there was a great atmosphere, and lots of positive messages. Congratulations were given to the group for organising.

2173/2223 Quiet Lanes

- a. Update – see 2170/2223 h) above

2174/2223 Mill Lane signage

- a. agree signage and correspondence – PC to purchase signs for 'dogs on leads', same for Fen View. Gates in 5 properties lead onto Mill Lane play area.

2175/2223 Footpath 23

- a. SCC current position – see 2167/2223 & 2168/2223 above.

2176/2223 Digital Communications

- a. Facebook – Chair James Mellish & the Clerk have set up a village Facebook page, giving the PC the opportunity to improve communications between the community & the PC. The draft page is ready to go, it was suggested that an opening para for page to be approved by email before the next meeting. However, it was agreed that all text to be submitted to the PC FB page will be approved by the PC at a meeting before posting. Time critical items that could be agreed by email to be discussed at the next meeting.
Communication & Social Media policy to be drafted, then approved at the next meeting before any postings on FB page.
Next agenda – Communication & Social Media policy; time critical items postings.

2177/2223 Training

- a. Review Councillor training. Clerk to send dates to Councillors for SALC training workshops.

2178/2223 Village Hall & Community Building Awards

- a. It was suggested to nominate Copdock Village Hall. Cllr Laura Butters to put together the nomination. Approved.

2179/2223 Infrastructure Developments

- a. Neighbourhood Plan – newly formed group have met; it was noted that Cllrs James Mellish and Adrian Ward have joined the group. Locality emailed some questions after receiving the request for further grant funding. Clerk to send Locality email to consultant Ian Poole for his advice and reply. It was noted the NP website needs updating and could be joined into the village website. Cllr Laura Butters has asked that this is held back (in her absence from the meeting), she will review with Cllr Adrian Ward. The next NP meeting is the 20 June 2022, this will be added to the agenda. The subscription for the NP website is due for renewal at the end of the year.
- b. Infrastructure Business Plan & Pye Road cycleway. No update. Cllr Adrian Ward requested a copy of the plan. Clerk to send.
- c. Old London Rd – Clerk arranging a meeting with SCC, Corporate Property.

2180/2223 East Anglia GREEN

- a. Consider response to proposed pylon scheme. DC Dave Busby advised BDC trying for a below ground scheme. PC will respond, and object. Deadline 16th June, Chair James Mellish to draft letter for both schemes. Clerk to speak to DC Dave Busby first to see what BDC objecting, then send to JM.

2181/2223 Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council

Asbestos water pipes on the Old London Road being repaired.
Open Gardens in Copdock – 18th June.

Items for next agenda:

Meeting with DC Dave Busby re Sproughton planning decision & LA008
Communication & Social Media Policy.
Facebook – time critical postings agreement

Meeting closed at 2108hrs.

Next meeting – Tuesday 5 July 2022.

Village website - <https://copdockandwashbrook.org/>