

Minutes of the Meeting of Caldecott Parish Council held on Thursday 16th September 2021 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Present
2021/62 Cllrs Bennett (Chair), MacDermott, McCole and Parker, Mrs Medwell (Clerk), County Cllr Andrew Brown and two members of the public.

Apologies
approved
2021/63 Cllrs Richmond, Kendrick and White.

Declarations
2021/64 There were no declarations of interest or changes to the member's register of interests.

Open Forum
2021/65 The Chair was pleased to welcome the visitors.

The need for a footpath from Rockingham to Caldecott was raised once again. The Council noted that whilst this was under the jurisdiction of Leicestershire County Council it would pursue this again with Leicestershire as well as the adjoining Rutland and Northamptonshire County Councils in the hope that there may be some kind of collaborative thinking. County Cllr Brown will pose the question to the Rutland Countryside Access forum. **JM**

It was noted that the 'free bus' which was offered recently to residents of Rutland did not include those living in Caldecott. It was thought that this was due to the LE16 postcode.

A discussion took place on the recent re-surfacing of Church Lane and the resulting road closure on the A6003 which caused havoc with vehicles, particularly large and heavy vehicles turning round in residents driveways. It was felt that the diversion sign at the top of Rockingham Hill, the position of the barricade on the bend in the village and the communication of the works had not been satisfactory. County Cllr Brown will feed this back to County Highways.

Meeting closed to the public.

Minutes
2021/66 The minutes of the meeting held on 15th July 2021 were **approved** as a true record and duly signed by the Clerk on behalf of the Chair.

Proposed Cllr Parker Seconded Cllr Bennett

Matters Arising
2021/67 Cllr Parker raised the phone box and asked what was happening in terms of the recent displayed piece of artwork. The Council re-iterated that anyone wishing to create a display in the box to contact the Council in the first instance.

Finance
2021/68

a) Payments

The following payments were presented for signature and unanimously agreed. Those payments not paid by cheque were made by bank transfer:

000052	Clerk August Salary and Expenses	285.72
	NEST – Clerk Juy Employer and Employee Pension	17.92
	NFG Play – Fencing	363.96
	Curtis Website Design – Maintenance and Hosting	135.00
	BIFFA – Dog Bin Emptying	39.00
	J Medwell – Clerk September Salary and Expenses	255.81
	NEST – Clerk August Employer and Employee Pension	17.92

NGF Play – Zipwire Seat	51.00
DesignaSign – Phonebox sign	17.98

b) Bank Reconciliation

Lloyds Account	7,697.67
Less Ringfenced CRAG	281.54

Total Balance of Reserves £7,416.13

The Bank Reconciliation was unanimously approved and then duly signed by the Chair.

All matters pertaining to finance are displayed on the website on www.caldecott-pc.gov.uk

**Highways
2021/69**

The recent speed reduction works at the north entrance to the village was discussed. It was noted that residents nearest to the bend had noticed a significant decrease in speeds but that the noise created by heavy vehicles over the speed bumps had increased. The Council **agreed** to feed this back to Rutland County Council via Cllr Brown and to request information on its success following the bedding in period.

The Council also **agreed** to find out the position regarding the proposed zebra crossings.

JM

It was noted that the Rutland Local Plan 2018-2036 had been withdrawn.

**Children's
Playpark
2021/70**

The damaged zip wire seat, which the Council suspected was an act of vandalism, had been replaced. Cllr MacDermott thanked Stuart Graveson for his help with this. Similar damage to the swing post was identified too. The Council discussed ways in which further such acts could be deterred and will continue to monitor.

Hedge cutting was raised. Cllr MacDermott will contact the contractor to arrange the routine cut.

AM

Regarding the Pinfold Wall, Cllr MacDermott advised that there was a potential for a small grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund to repair the wall. He advised that community involvement in terms of signage and research as well as the capital works would be required from the Heritage Fund as part of the funding process. Cllr MacDermott will refer back to the contractor who had previously provided a quote for the repair and ask for this to be updated.

AM

The Council discussed fundraising ideas for the three new trees in the playpark which were necessary to replace those that had died, as per the original FCC funding agreement. It **agreed** to place some laminated signs in the park to ask the community whether anyone would be interested in donating a tree. Cllr Macdermott will obtain some quotes for the supply and planting of the trees

AP

AM

Cllr MacDermott advised that he had placed a water bag on one of the existing cherry trees to aid watering and suggested purchasing a few more of the bags in the future to ensure that the new trees survive.

**Specific Items
2021/71**

Queens' Platinum Jubilee 2022 - The Chair advised that she will contact June Gower for an update from the Village Hall Committee on the proposed street party to commemorate the Queens Diamond Jubilee next year.

MB

Rutland Flag – There was nothing further to report on this item.

5 The Green Garden Wall – The Chair informed the Council that the agent for the property had arranged for the worst part of the wall to be repaired and that he had suggested that due to its age the whole wall needed rebuilding. The Council will continue to monitor for further deterioration.

The wall belonging to a property on Main Street was brought to the Council's attention. This had started to deteriorate too and stones were falling onto the pavement. The Chair will endeavour to find out the owner and inform them as necessary.

MB

Overgrown Hedging, Caldecott Sign – The Council was pleased to note that the overgrown vegetation at the village sign on the Rockingham entrance to the village had been cut back.

Community Flower Planting – The Council discussed bulb planting as a community activity to enhance the village for the jubilee celebrations and **agreed** to donate £60 toward the purchasing some bulbs. Cllr Parker will liaise with Mr McCole and will coordinate this ready for planting in the autumn.

AP

Cllr Parker raised the village sign which the Council had discussed previously as a proposal to commemorate the Jubilee event next year. She had circulated prices for a wooden carved sign, prices of which started at £2,000 and presented the process involved. The Council concluded it was not possible to fundraise for, commission, obtain planning permission and install a sign in time for the Jubilee therefore **agreed** to revisit this at a later date.

Village Footpaths –The Council referred to the gate on the main road to the footpath leading down to Mill Lane which was now accessible. It was noted that a decision had been made by RCC not to install a kissing gate next to the gate. Regarding the grazing of cows and calves on public footpaths, the Council reiterated that farmers have a duty of care and should take reasonable steps to protect the public walking along the footpaths. County Cllr Brown referred to an upcoming Rutland Countryside Access forum which would possibly address both the issue of livestock and accessibility of footpaths. The Council **agreed** it would welcome some guidance from this forum which it could then refer on to local farmers.

Distribution of Lateral Flow Tests - The Chair informed the Council that there were a number of lateral flow test kits available for residents. This had been advertised on the Nextdoor app. It was **agreed** to keep a number in the village hall for residents to help themselves to.

**Planning
2021/72**

There were no applications to discuss.

**Correspondence
2021/73** The Chair referred to emailed correspondence from RCC Highways regarding the request to improve the surface of the lay-by outside the play park. The Council was pleased to note that the works had been recommended by the Engineering Officer.

**Next Meeting
2021/74** The next meeting of Caldecott Parish Council will be held on Thursday 18th November in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm