

**Minutes of the Meeting of Caldecott Parish Council held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.**

**Present 2023/15** Cllr MacDermott (Chair), Cllr McCole, Bennett, Hook, Kendrick, Parker and Wood and Mrs Medwell (Clerk).

**Apologies 2023/16** County Cllr Andrew Brown

**Declarations 2023/17** Cllr McCole declared an interest in item 2023/22 (b)  
There were no changes to the Member's Register of Interests.

**Open Forum and Exchange of Information 2023/18** Cllr McCole advised that a local resident had offered a sleeper to put behind the recently installed bench to prevent subsidence of the soil bank. The Chair undertook to liaise with Andrew Brown with regards to fitting this and will put the plaque back on.

AM

Meeting closed to the public.

**Minutes 2023/19** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023 were approved as a true record of the meeting and duly signed by the Chair.

Proposed Cllr McCole      Seconded Cllr Bennett

**Matters Arising 2023/20** There were no matters arising from the previous minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

**Highways 2023/21** **(a) Community Speedwatch Programme** – The Council was pleased to note that 11 volunteers had come forward to take part in the Community Speed Watch Scheme which will take place in June. Cllr McCole who is leading on this advised that the site visit with police had been postponed until 16<sup>th</sup> March – both she and Cllr Bennett will attend this. Training of volunteers will take place on 1<sup>st</sup> June. A further push for volunteers will be undertaken before then.

LM/MB

**(b) Zebra Crossings** – A response had been received from RCC following a member's query from County Council Brown, requesting clarification on why the proposed zebra crossings had been refused. This stated that a formal crossing in Caldecott was not recommended for construction due to highway safety; main points being limited scope within the highway to position a zebra crossing and limited pedestrian movements.

The Council expressed its disappointment with this response and **agreed** to refer this on to Alicia Kearns MP. The Chair will draft a letter stating the Council's frustration and that her support would be appreciated in exploring bypass and other traffic safety options in the village.

AM

**Children's Play Park 2023/22** **(a) Routine Inspection** – The Chair advised that he had removed the damaged zip wire seat and was waiting to hear back from the supplier regarding options for the mechanism. He also pointed out some damaged tree stakes. Cllr Parker was thanked for organising and erecting the fundraising and information signs. It was **agreed** to increase the frequency of dog bin emptying from April.

**(b) To agree Tender for Mowing Contract** – The Council considered the one tender received which had come in over budget. The Council **agreed** to go back to the contractor to request the possibility of reducing the number of cuts over the year to keep within budget.

Proposed Cllr MacDermott      Seconded Kendrick      All in favour

**Village  
Maintenance  
2023/23**

A discussion took place on how often the parish assets needed to be reviewed in terms of safety any maintenance required. It was **agreed** that this should be done before every meeting and to rotate the responsibility amongst the Councillors. Cllrs Kendrick and Hook will commence the cycle and report back at the next meeting. The Clerk will circulate a list of assets. The Chair thanked Cllr Hook for looking at the faulty bollards and undertook to report the recently damaged one to RCC.

**JM  
AM**

Residents were urged to report any issues around the village to RCC via Fix My Street. Correspondence from RCC was noted regarding the roadside parking area outside the play park. This was in design stage, the cost calculated, and the scheme will go to RCC Cabinet to be added to the capital programme.

**Specific Items  
2023/24**

**(a) Review of Risk Assessment**

The Risk Assessment had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. A clause was added regarding the loss or absence of clerk and the asset list amended to add defibrillator and remove the football posts. The Risk Assessment was then duly approved.

Proposed Cllr MacDemott      Seconded Cllr McCole      All in favour.

**Planning  
2023/25**

**2022/0952/FUL 41 Main Street Alterations to the property (for information)**

It was noted that this application had since been granted by RCC.

**Finance  
2023/26**

**a) The following payments were presented for approval and unanimously agreed.**

A Parker – Signs - £25.06  
J S Oakley – Hedge cutting - £115.20

**b) Bank Reconciliation**

Lloyds Account	£4,400.77
Total Balance of Reserves	£4,400.77

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](http://www.caldecott-pc.gov.uk)

**Correspondence  
2023/27**

May 2023 Parish Council Elections – Councillors were reminded to contact RCC for their nomination packs. It was noted that residents now needed to provide photo ID to vote at a polling station.

Noticeboard – Permission had been given to site a Council noticeboard on the Village Hall once the external decoration had been done. The noticeboard on the bus stop will be removed and re-sited on the hall.

Local resident – Purchase of Parish Council owned garden plot, to be put on next agenda following a site visit and further research on the process of disposing of Council owned land.

**Next Meeting  
2023/28**

The next meeting of Caldecott Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

**The meeting closed at 9.05 pm**