

Minutes of the Meeting of Caldecott Parish Council held on Thursday 9th November 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Present 2023/72 Cllrs MacDermott (Chair), McCole, Bennett, Kendrick and Hook (arrived 8.10 pm), Mrs Medwell (Clerk), County Cllr Andrew Brown and 2 members of the public.

Apologies 2023/73 Cllr Parker – approved.

Declarations 2023/74 Cllr Bennett declared an interest in item 2023/80(a).
There were no changes to the Member's Register of Interests.

Open Forum and Exchange of Information 2023/75 It was noted that the footpath opposite the Plough had been re-tarmacked. It was felt that the kerb would benefit from being raised further to improve the safety of pedestrians.

Minutes 2023/76 The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14th September 2023 were approved as a true record of the meeting and duly signed by the Chair.

Proposed Cllr McCole Seconded Cllr Bennett

Matters Arising 2023/77 It was noted that the public footpath from Mill Lane to Burgess Row which had been very overgrown and impassable, had now been cut.

Highways and Rights of Way 2023/78 **Update from MP Site Visit**

The following response had been received from Alicia Kearns MP in relation to her recent visit to the village.

"As you know our Local transport plan recognises there is a long and well documented history of a demand for a relief road for Caldecott. Whilst the previous scheme was shelved as a consequence of the 2007/8 financial crisis, we acknowledge the situation needs to be reviewed in the face of factors such as further increases in average annual daily volumes and planned expansion of Corby, Uppingham and the surrounding area. We have therefore decided to commission an independent highways expert to look at the issues for us, this would not be a feasibility study at this stage but would assess previous work on this matter, the road and its classification, the current usage and the impact of proposed growth in the surrounding area".

Ms Kearns MP had written to all residents to inform them of this intention. The expected timeline for this work was six months.

The Council also noted regular police speed enforcement in the village.

Sharing of information

In the absence of Cllr Parker this item was deferred to the next meeting.

Parish Assets 2023/79 **Routine Inspection of Play Park** – Cllr MacDermott raised the recurrent problem of dog fouling once again with the darker evenings. Cllr Bennett will endeavour to obtain some pink highlighter spray and dog fouling signs from RCC.

MB

Cllr MacDermott also reported that the seesaw bearing had been inspected by the playpark provider and was found to be in order.

The Clerk will book the annual inspection which is due in December.

JM

Safety Review of Assets – Cllr Hook had carried out a thorough asset check following the last meeting. He had identified a plaque at the pinfold wall as being obscured by overgrown vegetation. The Council thanked Cllr Hook for re-siting the noticeboard on the village hall. Cllr MacDermott will undertake the next asset review and will report back at the next meeting.

AM

**Specific Items
2023/80**

a) Sale of Garden Plot – The Parish Council has now visited the site, reviewed the archives, established ownership of the plot and gained an understanding of the legal implications of selling parish council owned land. It was noted that the title deed of the garden plot also included the land on which the garages on Mill Lane are sited. After much discussion the Council **agreed** that there would be limited value in splitting the land and title deed and **agreed** not to sell the garden plot at this current time. The Council **agreed** to continue leasing the land to the current tenant and will review the lease before it terminates next autumn.

Proposed Cllr MacDermott. Seconded Cllr McCole All in favour

The Clerk will draft a letter to Mr Bennett.

JM

Cllr Hook arrived at this point.

b) Consideration of 2024/25 Budget – Preliminary discussions took place on the budget for next year. The quotes received from the two mowing contractors to mow both the playing field and the areas previously cut by RCC were considered. It was **agreed** to refer back to the contractors to improve on the quotes in order to keep within a reasonable budget. The final draft budget will be presented to the Council for approval at the next meeting.

JM

c) Review of Allotment Tenancy – The Council considered the draft updated tenancy agreement which had been circulated by Cllr Parker prior to the meeting. The Council **agreed** the new tenancy in principle but had concerns on a couple of terms including the keeping of animals. The Clerk will make the necessary amendments, Cllr MacDermott will liaise with Cllr Parker and the final draft will be circulated for approval.

JM/AM

d) Review of Garage Tenancy – The Council considered the current arrangements regarding the lease of the land on which the Mill Lane garages are sited and noted that the paperwork was very out of date. The Council stated the importance of understanding the current agreement in terms of liability, sub-letting and progression and **agreed** to review the current lease. The Clerk will notify the current tenants that this will be taking place.

JM

**Planning
2023/81**

2023/0905/LBA 5 The Green Single Storey Side Extension and Various Works

The Parish Council had considered this application and whilst it had no objection to the development, it noted that it had not been consulted on other work carried out on the house both internally and externally which RCC may or may not have been aware of.

The Conservation Area Officer and Enforcement Officer have since visited the site and have requested that no further works were undertaken.

2023/1159/FUL 5 Uppingham Road Rear Single and Two Storey Extension

The Council had no objection to this application.

**Finance
2023/82**

a) Payments

J Medwell (Amazon and Rymans) – Office Supplies £38.78

b) Bank Reconciliation

Lloyds Account £8,440.48

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

**Correspondence
2023/83**

Information on Rutland Climate Action meeting – 20th November

Rutland Local Plan consultation

Copy of letter to the Council in relation to village letter from Alicia Kearns MP expressing concerns over the proposed assessment of a bypass in the village.

**Business and
Date for Next
Meeting
2023/84**

Obstructed plaque – Pinfold Wall

Approval of 2024/25 Budget and Set Precept

The next meeting of Caldecott Parish Council will be held on Thursday 4th January 2024 in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.31 pm.