

# CALDECOTE PARISH COUNCIL

(South Cambridgeshire District)

## MINUTES

**A meeting of this Council was held in the Pavilion, Caldecote**

**On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023.**

*Members of the public are reminded that copies of reports and supporting documentation for agenda items can be obtained from the Parish Council website, <http://caldecote.gov.uk> or upon request to the Parish Clerk.*

**Present:** Cllr Polly Field (PF, Chairman), Cllr Helen Cartwright, Cllr Sharon Pedley (SP) and Cllr Barker (JB), Cllr. Nair (PN), Councillor Nicola Pritchard (NP)

**In Attendance:** Alan Melton (Parish Clerk and RFO).

**1. Public open forum.** No Comments.

**2. Reports from District and County Councillors.**

Councillors Hawkins SCDC and Atkins CCC had circulated their reports. Councillor Hawkins reported that a £40,000 fund was available from CCC for Community Projects. The Clerk reported that he had applied for a grant towards the new Portakabin. Following a request from councillors, the Clerk was asked to check the legality and guidance regarding agenda item 2. The Clerk reported that it was not a legal requirement to invite District or County Councillors. Guidance stated that anyone who is not elected member of the Parish Council, are guests, whatever office they hold and should be treated as any member of the public. Comments can be made during the public open question time. Members unanimously agreed to remove the agenda item, "Reports from SCDC District Councillors and CCC County Councillors."

**3. Apologies for absence.** Councillor Mary-Ann Claridge

**4. Members' declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.** Councillor John Barker declared his pecuniary interest in 23/03054/LBC.

**6. Chairman's Announcements** – The Chairman reported that Caldecote Football Club had returned £1000 from an original grant of £2000 following the cessation of the club.

**7. Minutes of the last Meeting** – The minutes of the Council meeting 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023 were approved as a correct record, It was noted that Councillor Nicola Pritchard had apologised for not attending the meeting. The minutes were duly signed by Cllr Polly Field, (Chairman).

**8. Actions and updates:**

- **Community Hub:** The Chairman reported that the Community Hub will resume on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023. Funding has been agreed for the Community Hub and will be extended to March 2025.
- **Traffic and Speed Reduction.** Cllr. John Barker asked for the 20mph speed limit be extended from Highfields to the Church end. The Clerk reported that no reply has been received from Cambridgeshire Highways. However, he reported that the council had been invited to apply for a Local Highway Improvement Grant from CCC. The Clerk would seek to get the 20mph limit as part of the application. It was agreed to formally ask our local County Councillor to attend a future meeting.
- **EWR.** Cllr Nicola Pritchard gave a report. There had been no further replies, however, Councillor Pritchard revealed that an embankment was still “on the table”. Councillor Pritchard proposed a community working group to discuss the issue and reach a unified presentation to the public enquiry. It was also agreed to hold a village survey to gauge public opinion, it was also agreed that the Parish Council will fund the survey and consultation.
- **Telecoms:** The Clerk reported that the contract to supply broadband had been awarded to British Telecom.

## 9. Planning Applications:

- **23/02503/S73:** Reserved matters at, 87, Highfields Road, Caldecote (**No Objection**)
- **23/02614/HFUL:** Single storey extension at, 63, Highfields Road, Caldecote (**No Objection**)
- **23/03054/LBC:** Replace boiler at, The Old Rectory, Main Street, Caldecote (**No Objection**)
- **23/03096/S73:** Footpath Scheme at, Land East of Highfields Road, Caldecote. (**Object**).

From the northern site entrance up to the junction with West Drive:

1 - On the eastern side of Highfields Road, could the new pavement be extended to the track to Highfields Farm, to prevent walkers having to step into the road to get between the 2 paths.

2 - The cycleway appears to be directed onto the pavement exactly where the pavement narrows. This looks very dangerous.

3 - Could the crossing across Highfields Road be made into a full pedestrian crossing. This is exactly where traffic accelerates out of the village.

From the southern site entrance to the junction with Clare Drive

4 - This crossing is similar to the one at the northern entrance - are any safety measures possible? The exit from Clare Drive is already dangerous, and virtually blind - pedestrians crossing here need safeguards.

5 - Pavement and kerb levels. The properties to the west of Highfields Road are lower than the road. They are currently protected from low levels of surface water running down the road by the height of the kerb. Please ensure that either there is a kerb 'lip', or the pavement is raised enough to prevent road runoff being funnelled into the property

- **23/03111/s106A:** Modification of s106 agreement, Land East of Highfields Road, Caldecote, (**Deferred for further discussion**).

## **10. Financial Reports –**

- **Summary of receipts and payments.** Was received.
- **Bank Reconciliation.** The bank reconciliation dated 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023 was received and approved.
- **Accounts for payment.** The schedule of payments was received. It was RESOLVED that the RFO be authorised to make payment of all the accounts.
- **Annual Governance and Accountability Report.** The RFO reported that the internal audit was successful, and the AGAR sent to the external auditor. The auditor has now commented on the level of the reserves. The RFO would explain the council's capital programme.

## **11. Pavilion/Portakabin/Fencing.**

- The fencing was complete.
- The Clerk reported that SCDC did not require a planning application for the Portakabin.

**12. Luton Airspace.** It was agreed to form a community working party to monitor and submit reports to NATs.

**13. Councillors questions.** There were none as all items had been discussed as part of the agenda.

**14. Date and time of the next meeting –** Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm in the pavilion

## **The Meeting Closed at 8.15pm**

**Confidential Item: The future of the Cricket Field.** Councillors Field and Cartwright revealed that during the last few months they and the Clerk had held a series of meetings from Cricket organisations regarding the use of the cricket field. This action was prompted by the retirement of Chris Fuller as caretaker and co-ordinator of cricket matches and events on the cricket field. It was also reported that the current arrangements were costing the council approximately £4000 per annum, which members agreed was unacceptable.

There had been discussions with Kam Kamilia, Cambridge Old Monks and Cambridge St. Giles Cricket Club.

Councillors reported that the best and acceptable offer was from Cambridge St. Giles Cricket Club. They offered full maintenance of the cricket square up to the boundary rope.

They would play every Wednesday and Saturday during the cricket season.

The formal offer was for an annual rent of £4500 per annum, paid to the council at the beginning of the cricket season annually, for 10 years. There would be a regular rent review and

a “break clause” The council would retain the freehold of the field but would allow use of the new portacabin, a review of the pavilion use would take place.

Our offer of acceptance would be subject to contract, with members approving the final draft, the Clerk would instruct solicitors to finalise the contract.

**Signed.....Chairman**

**Date:.....**