

Cotesbach Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 10th December 2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

1. Members Present

CLlr Ed Hunt, Chairman, (EH), Cllr Gavin Bennett, vice -chairman (GB), Cllr Margaret Wild (MW), Cllr Annie Newton (AN), Cllr Rob Morris (RM) and Patricia Nunn (PN), Parish Clerk
3 members of the public were in attendance.

2. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies from District Cllr J Bateman (JB) and County Cllr Blake Pain (BP) which were accepted.

3. To receive any Disclosures of Personal Interests

No disclosures were made.

4. Public Participation Session

- Report of a large hole at the top of Main Street and concern at the shrinking footpath on A426 between Cotesbach and Lutterworth. To be reported to LCC. **PN**
- Concern at the speed on the A426 is ongoing and a report has been made to the local MP.

5. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3rd September 2024

Proposed by EH, seconded by GB, to be accepted as true record. Unanimously agreed. **Resolved.** The minutes were signed by EH.

6. To consider matters arising from previous meeting's minutes on 3rd September 2024

- A letter was sent to HDC with concerns over an application for Orchard Farm.
- A visit to Magna Park will be arranged for the Spring. **MW**
- Signage on A426- LCC were asked and responded they will not be adding signage ongoing.
- Wildflower area has been tidied. Pond to be tidied before Christmas
- The website has had an accessibility check and is now compliant.
- The police did not recommended cameras for the village due to potential problems with ANPR. They will be asked to supply Neighbourhood Watch signs and asked whether dummy cameras could be considered. **RM.** A short report will be written to summarise the conclusions of the investigation into potential ANPR and the Parish Council's decision not to invest in it. **RM/EH**

7. To receive matters raised by District/County Councilor

JB did ask the PC to look out for further consultation on the Local Plan due in December /January.

JB provides regular email updates and information prior to the Parish Council meeting and all matters were noted.

8. Financial Matters

i) To approve payments and receipts up to December 2024:

Payment to P Nunn for expenses (printing Oct. Nov and Dec 3 x £2.99 = £8.97 ; travel to December meeting 45p x6= £2.70)	11.67
Payment to P Nunn for salary Jul-Sept	435.83
Payment to HMRC for tax Jul-Sept	109.00
Payment to Thompson and Morgan for 600 bulbs for village planting	30.96
Payment to Value Products ltd for replacement first aid kit	16.73
Payment to Festive Lights for village hall lights	631.89
Payment to P Nunn for salary Oct -Dec, including backpay	494.74
Payment to HMRC for tax Oct- Dec	123.80
Total Payments - £1854.62 (£592.52 paid in September; £631.89 in November)	

Receipts

9.9.24	Interest	£27.39
9.10.24	Interest	£26.51
9.11.24	Interest	£29.18
5.9.24	Refund from reserves	£30.96
3.12.24	Refund from reserves	£9.98
12.9.24	Half precept	£1955.50

Proposed by EH, and seconded by MW, that the payments be approved and receipts noted. Agreed unanimously. **Resolved.**

ii) To note bank reconciliation up to end of November 2024:

c/f 30.08.24			2964.59
September payments		14.66	2949.93
September receipts	1955.50		4905.43
Refund from reserves	40.94		4946.37
Additional September payments		592.52	4353.85
November payments		631.89	3721.96
December payments		630.21	3091.75
Reserves (Solar Park fund for projects to be determined)			
c/f 30.08.24			32251.30
Payment to current account for 400 bulbs	30.96		32220.34
Payment to current account for 200 bulbs	9.98		32210.36
Interest		83.08	32293.44

Proposed by EH and seconded by AN, that the bank reconciliation be noted. Agreed unanimously. **Resolved.**

iii) To approve clerk's salary increase 2024/2025

It was proposed by EH, seconded by RM, that the National pay award be applied to the clerks' salary with effect from 1st April 2024. Agreed unanimously. **Resolved.**

iv) To approve the budget for 2025/26

A copy of the draft budget was circulated to all members prior to the meeting. A 3% increase was included to cover estimated annual increases in costs. It was proposed by EH, seconded by GB, that the draft budget be accepted. Agreed unanimously. **Resolved.**

v) To approve the precept for 2025/26

It was proposed by EH, seconded by AN, that the precept for 2025/25 be set at £4028.00, in line with the budget representing an increase of 3%. Agreed unanimously. **Resolved.**

vi) To discuss proposed bank charges

The bank have written stating that a monthly charge of £4.25 will be imposed from January. Other accounts/Banks to be investigated. **PN**

9. Planning Matters

i) New planning applications

24/01103/FUL - Erection of gazebo over a hot tub (retrospective), Old Cottage House, Main Street – neutral – **refused 23.10.24**. New application now submitted **24/01103/FUL**

ii) Other/Ongoing Planning Matters

13/00317/FUL – Enforcement notice EN696 – on land adj to Elmdene. The owners have 6 months to cease storage and containers on the land, and 9 months to restore to original state. Appeal lodged 27.11.24 . HDC to be asked if notices will be posted. **PN**

24/00903/PDN – Orchard farm- asking if prior approval necessary to change use of agricultural building to flexible use – requested prior approval – objected. **Approved 6.9.24**

10. To receive a quarry liaison Update

At the recent meeting it was stated that a hydrology plan would be in place next year. New pipework has been installed. They expect to restore the A426 site to agricultural fields by end of 2025 and expect 3 hectares of active site.

11. To receive a Magna Park Update

Nothing to add since the last meeting.

12. To receive a village hall update

EH is now the treasurer of the village hall. An enjoyable Christmas dinner was held for residents.

13. To receive and discuss matters of the Eight Parishes CIC Fund and receive any applications

There is about £16,000 in the fund for Cotesbach. It was discussed at the last CIC meeting that funds of various parishes could be combined to facilitate joint projects. A proposal to amend the original application for the village hall lighting project was discussed. It was proposed by GB, seconded by RM, to support the increase to the original application by £794.29 to cover labour costs and additional equipment. Agreed unanimously. **Resolved.**

14. To discuss matters arising from the village pond area

The new sign is now erected. One bench in need of repair. It will be removed to ascertain its condition.

15. Councillor or Other Training

No training needs identified at this time.

16. To agree a date for the annual village inspection

To be arranged in the spring. PN

17. To receive any other correspondence and agree actions

No other correspondence was received.

18. Any Other Business

There will more bulb planting this Sunday -all welcome.

19. Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 11th March 2025 at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall. The meeting was closed by EH at 2030.

To resolve that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 10th December 2024 and circulated to all members, be signed as a correct record.

Signature:..... (Chairman)

Name:.....Ed Hunt.....

Date:.....11th March 2025.....

The Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Matters Arising Summary:

1. Report to LCC a large hole at the top of Main Street and the shrinking footpath on A426 between Cotesbach and Lutterworth. **PN**
2. A visit to Magna Park to be arranged. **MW**
3. Police to be contacted over supply of neighbourhood watch signs and dummy cameras. **RM**
4. Ask HDC if notices will be posted about appeal over Elmdene enforcement. **PN**
5. Other accounts/Banks to be investigated. **PN**
6. Arrange date for the annual inspection. **PN**
7. A short report will be written to summarise the conclusions of the investigation into potential ANPR and the Parish Council's decision not to invest in it. **RM/EH**