

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on
Tuesday 1st October 2024
at the John Clements Sports & Social Club, Codicote**

PRESENT: Cllr Mike Kane (Chair), Cllr Georgia Gilbert, Cllr Pete Bexton, Cllr Jim Bundy and Cllr Caroline Mayger

OFFICER IN ATTENDANCE: Simon Crosier

IN ATTENDANCE: No members of the public.

2024/25/095 CHAIRS REMARKS

The chair explained the reason for the additional meeting. The clerk clarified the reason for the meeting, stating that the advice given on item 16 of agenda in respect of the meeting held on Tuesday 24th September, although factually correct, was incomplete. As a result, with new information to hand the clerk requested that the item be considered by Councillors with a view to revisiting the item for a more informed discussion. The clerk had received the 7 written requests from Councillors to revisit the item and this meeting was called as a result.

2024/25/096 TO APPROVE APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Colin Argent, Cllr Arthur South, Cllr Robert Walker and Cllr Russell Green, the reasons for which were **approved** by Council.

2024/25/097 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public had registered to speak.

2024/25/098 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT

Cllr Bundy stated that he would abstain from discussions and resolutions for agenda item 5.

2024/25/099 TO CONSIDER THE CODICOTE FOOTBALL CLUB GRANT APPLICATION AND APPROVE ANY ACTIONS

5.1. To approve a virement to move funds from reserves to the grant budget in respect of the Codicote Football Club grant application and approve any actions.

Council unanimously **resolved** that the funds should be transferred from reserves to fund the grant request.

5.2. To approve the grant request and approve any actions.

Councillors had a number of questions for Cllr Bundy concerning the application as follows: -

Q. Cllr Bexton asked whether the £26k grant from the Football Foundation is guaranteed.

A. Cllr Bundy confirmed this to be the case.

Q. Cllr Mayger asked how the new machinery would make Codicote better.

A. Cllr Kane that the supporters of the football club are almost exclusively Codicote people. With the team having been promoted recently more people are being attracted to the club, which is bringing more revenue to the sports and social club.

Q. Cllr Mayger would like to know if the new machinery will lead to a reduction in pitch maintenance costs.

A. Cllr Bundy said yes it would. The machine will be used for all the sports that use the grass playing area, not just the football club. The machine is used to spike the pitches, cut, slice and brush the surface (removing worm casts), improve drainage (leading to less fixture cancellations) and spray insecticides. The football club has volunteers that are trained in the use of the equipment. It is estimated that maintenance costs will reduce by a £1,000 per annum.

Q. Cllr Kane asked what the security arrangements for the machinery will be.

A. Cllr Bundy confirmed that the machine will be stored under lock and key in the metal storage container.

Cllr Bundy stepped out of the meeting.

Council considered the application and unanimously **resolved** to grant the money requested to Codicote Football Club on the basis that the £1,000 saving per annum will see a comparable reduction in the budget for grounds maintenance from the Parish Council. **Action:** - The clerk will arrange for the grant money to be paid.

Meeting closed at 19.58pm

The date of the next full council meeting is Tuesday 29th October 2024

Signed.......... Date: 1st October 2024