

COTON IN THE ELM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING Held on Wednesday 22nd October 2025

Present: Cllr K Bradford (Chairman), Cllr Lang, Cllr Oliver Cllr C Bradford and Cllr Antcliffe.
Cllr Wheelton (SDDC/DC). Clerk: Sue Hughes. Members of the public – 5

1. **Apologies** - Cllr Leech (Vice Chairman)
2. **Declarations of interest** - None
3. **Members of the public –**
 - a. Graham Wood introduced himself as an independent candidate for local Council election.
 - b. A resident asked about Pessall Brook work and commented that the brook looks untidy. The PC advised that the work that has been carried out as per recommendations from TRT and that work and maintenance is ongoing.
 - c. Resident raised bad Lighting in village at night on Mill St/New Rd/Church St – Cllr Wheelton responded that this had been raised previously but she was unsure of outcome. The Clerk will raise this issue with Cllr Wheelton via email for this to be raised with DCC.
4. **County/District Councillors – Amy Wheelton**
 - a. Reported that a new sign was on the recreational ground regarding to use of football nets.
 - b. Elms Road sign. The location is on a resident property and the replacement has been refused. Suggestions for another location to be sent to Cllr Wheelton.
 - c. Work on the culvert commenced but the jetting was difficult. There was a lot of silt. Further investigations and possibilities are being discussed to rectify this. Cllr Wheelton will keep the PC informed.
 - d. PC were asked to confirm name of playing field as there was some confusion at SDDC. PC advised there was existing signage confirming the name as “Coton in the Elms Recreational Ground.

Meeting closed to the public

5. **Culvert update** - As per 4b, Cllr Wheelton will keep the PC posted. Clerk to write to homeowner with an update and include a report received from Cllr Wheelton. The PC also wants to advise owners that they have certain rights and responsibilities which they should be aware of, which may include maintenance of the culvert.
6. **Approval of minutes from previous meetings**

These were circulated before the meeting, taken as read, and signed by the Chairman

 - a. 10th September 2025 – Resolved and **approved** by all present
 - b. Matters arising - None
7. **Pessall Brook update** -

The work ongoing. Autumn cut back completed. Maintenance to be reviewed in the Spring. To be covered in the February meeting.
8. **War Memorial** -

For the refurbishment, photographs, diagram and dimensions to be agreed and sent to War. Memorial Trust.
9. **Remembrance service –**

A wreath will be laid at the war memorial on 11am on 11th November on behalf of the PC. A wreath will also be given to the church on Remembrance Sunday on behalf of the PC.

10. Planning

a. DMPA/2025/0683 The creation of a new dropped kerb and works to driveway at 67 Burton Road, Coton-in-the-Elms, Swadlincote, DE12 8HL –

The PC would like to send comment to the Planning Officers to suggest they ask Highways to visit the location for the purpose of assessing of this application from a road safety position. Clerk to action.

b. DMPA/2025/1137 The siting of a caravan and woodland shed (retrospective) for use ancillary to uses for the purposes of forestry on Land at SK 26067 14535 Coton Wood, north of Coalpit Lane, Grangewood, DE12 8DZ – Objection to be made, questioning the need of a caravan and the purpose of it. Cllr Bradford to formulate a response and share with member. Clerk to action.

11. Finance - Documents and bank statements shared before and during the meeting.

Statements signed by Chairman

Balance of accounts are: **£10429.10** Savings account @1.9.2025

£12375.34 Current account @ 12.10.2025

Payments resolved and **approved** by all members present:

- a. £24.70 Clerks expense
- b. £340 Craig Miller. Ground maintenance
- c. £75 RBL – for 2 poppy wreaths
- d. £1060.80 SDDC Summer playscheme payments made by direct debit: **Acknowledged** by all members present

e. £10.64 Tesco mobile - 22.9.2025

f. £121.85 HMRC – 22.10.2025

Receipts **Acknowledged** by all members present

g. £5 from Clifton Campville PC for mobile phone contribution

Bank Reconciliation	RECEIPTS	PAYMENTS	BALANCE	STATEMENT DATE
Previous Balance			12969.54	12.9.2025
13.9.25-12.10.25	5.00	599.20	12375.34	12.10.2025

- 12. Auditor –.** Clerk reported that half year interim audit was completed by Internal Auditor K. Squires. No issues were found.

13. Procedures

Cllr Lang shared her thoughts on Transparency of information/Misinformation/Public Opinion There was a heated debate regarding procedures, but no action was agreed by members

Cllr Lang left the meeting.

14. Reports for next meeting

- a. Budgets & Precept request to SDDC for 2026/27 to be shared with members for approval.
- b. Dates for meetings to be agreed.
- c. Quotes for gov.uk email changeover to be shared for approval.
- d. Street Lighting and light up timings update.

Meeting concluded @ 19:30

Next Parish Council meetings on Wed 12th November 2025 @ 6pm