

COTON IN THE ELM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8th February at 6PM
Held in Coton in the Elms Community Centre

Present: Cllr K Bradford (Chairman), Cllr M Kinson, Cllr A Wolfe, Cllr M Leech, Cllr J Heaven

Clerk: Susan Hughes

Others present: Cllr A Wheelton, John Taylor (Netherseal PC) James Adams/Tina Taylor (DCC), Stephanie Marbrow/Paul Marbrow (Rosiliston PC), Emma McHugh (SDDC), Rachel Greenfield/Adam Gregory (Bloodstock), James Dean (James Dean events), Sam Joynes/Bob Bark (Bearded Theory)

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr J Lang, Cllr C Bradford, Cllr S Swann

2. **Declaration on interest** – None

3/4. **District/County Cllrs, Event Management/Members of the public**

Cllr Swann shared a report with members before the meeting and no comments were made. Cllr Wheelton reported that she had been in touch with Trent Rivers Trust regarding the planting of bulbs in March and the school has also been contacted and asked to be involved. The PC will be informed of anything further in due course.

The Chairman addressed the Events Management Team for Catton Events to say that the PC Would like to support local events but asked how would the village be impacted, especially with the closure of Chetwynd Bridge and lack of a new bridge at Drakelow.

James Dean explained that a Traffic Management Plan had been put together (this was issued to PC members at start of the meeting) and they were combining forces as collective events this year. James Adams (DCC) explained that meetings had taken place last year and that timing of traffic and the use of a traffic system (red/amber green) was discussed for best times when HGV could come through on the suggested routes they have got in the plan. The best time being during the day i.e. green. Attendees will use Chetwynd bridge route and via A38.

The Chairman explained that concerns with HGV's continuing to come through the village and events traffic would make this far worse. Events Team explained that all the company they were using are given a contract stating their vehicles have to use the route given to them and whilst they cannot control 'other HGV' traffic coming through but they can control those contractors being used and contractors will be fined if they do not use the route they have been directed to use and also, they risk losing the contract in the future. The team would be relying on residents to report on any vehicles not adhering to these rules and a 24-hour resident line (open during events) will be shared, there will also be office number and email address in a letter to be supplied to the Parish Council.

Emma McHugh (SDDC Licensing) explained that conditions are attached for that all events that they will have a traffic plan submitted to them, Police and Highways. From an enforcement point of view action can be taken if this is not in place. There will be no staff from SDDC on traffic duty but employees from events will be there to direct vehicles. Road signs will be in place before and during the event.

Cllr Leech asked about the egress route shown on a plan in the booklet. James Adams explained it was currently a work in progress and in fact, they are unhappy with that route and in the next month a confirmed route should be finalised and this will be shared with the PC.

Cllr Heaven suggested that once the route is finalised that more signage could be displayed for the HGV vehicles travelling to the site. Highways and the Events team said it could be done and would be looked into.

Cllr J Taylor commented on traffic in general, HGV traffic increasing over the years and with more Drakelow development there will be even lot more traffic. HGV are causing damage driving through Coton. Highways were asked what they are planning to do with this increase of traffic and stated enforcement of traffic was with the Police and that technology had moved on beyond what Highways are capable of dealing with and discussions are ongoing with sat nav companies, talking to local MPs about legislation requiring HGV satellite systems. DCC are working with Drakelow and that business's taking ownership of how their vehicles get to them and leave them and also, to encourage people to report to the Police.

Cllr S Marbrow wanted to reinforce comments previously made on routes to Drakelow and that their PC is concerned with traffic off the A444 and the number of accidents that has happened at the crossroads and it will increase and even though there have assurance from DCC that more signage/alterations, it will take time for this to happen and action is required now. The Chairman asked if concerns over Drakelow could be taken back to DCC regarding the accidents happening and the fact that it is getting worse.

Cllr Wheelton raised the matter that in the Walton PC minutes it stated their members were Pleased that lorries would be spread through the other villages and ask Highways if this was now not the case? The Events team said they were still working on it and would be going back to Walton and to other PC's.

Cllr Wheelton discussed the waste left last year that wasn't cleared after numerous requests and the Chairman asked SDDC for their comments on removal and whether there were penalties for left rubbish. Emma McHugh replied by saying there were several options with the breach of licensing which could lead to prosecution or cause a review. If litter is found it should be reported to SDDC and they will deal with it and contact the organisers with any complaints After the Events Team, DCC, SDDC, PC's left the meeting members asked the Clerk to contact the relevant department to ask it CTM, who produced the report, to attend the next meeting.

5. **Warm Hub/Community Café**

The Chairman shared with members that a local Community Café, taking place in the Community Centre from February until April to see if any interest is shown. It is being Organised by local Volunteers and some funding has been sourced from 'The Isolation Scheme' from SDDC. If successful future funding may be applied for from 'The Warm Hub' from DCC.

6. **Litter Pick**

Members agreed for the Clerk to contact the Village in Bloom group to see if village litter picks were still taking place by their members and if so, to continue with arrangement.

7. **Minutes** of the previous meeting on 11th Jan 2023 were circulated prior to the meeting, taken as read and signed as a true copy. A copy will be shared on the website and notice boards.
No Matters arising.

8. **Finance – All documentation shared with members**

Balance of the accounts on bank statement @ 12.1.2023 was £20,752.11

Approval of payment made for:

- a. £24.70 Clerks expense
- b. £90.00 Community Centre - hall hire

Approval made for a new HSBC savings bank account with the amount of £10,000.00

This is to make interest to offset the monthly charges from the current account.

9. **Acknowledgement** to be sent to Mr B Wolfe for putting up lights at Christmas.
10. **AOB** - Display and advertise posters showing the need to have ID to be allowed to vote.

The meeting was concluded at 19:22
Next meeting is 8th March 2023