



# COGGESHALL PARISH COUNCIL

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To Councillors

## MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL held on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 8.22 pm

Agenda /Minute Number	Agenda Item	Appendix Number
2021/112	<p><b>Present:</b> Cllr J Astley (Chairman), Cllr J Alston, Cllr N Barnes, Cllr I Hagger, Cllr G Heaton, Cllr M Holt, Cllr G Keig, Cllr T Plumb, Cllr I Ross, Cllr M Staines, Cllr N Unsworth and Cllr T Walsh</p> <p><b>Also Present:</b> Miss T Devine, Clerk, and 41 members of the public.</p>	
2021/113	<b>Welcome and Acceptance of Office</b>	
2021/114	<p><b>Councillors Declarations</b></p> <p>A declaration was received from Cllr N Unsworth for transparency as, if the Skate Ramp was approved then Cllr Unsworth would use some of his BDC Councillor grant towards the purchase, within the rules of BDC. No vote was taken on this matter as Cllr Unsworth had fulfilled any obligation required by CPC by making the declaration.</p>	
2021/115	<p><b>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b></p> <p><b>Proposed:</b> Cllr I Hagger                      <b>Seconded:</b> Cllr M Staines <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the Minutes of the Meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021 be accepted as a true and correct record.</p> <p>Two abstentions: Cllr J Astley and Cllr G Keig – not present at the Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> June.</p>	
2021/116	<p><b>Public Participation Session</b></p> <p>Deferred until after the presentation on the Skate Ramp Consultation.</p>	
2021/117	<p><b>Skate Ramp Consultation Presentation</b></p> <p><b>A)</b> Alex Jullien from the Skate Ramp Working Party gave a recap on the background of the Skate Ramp project. A visual presentation followed including details of a possible location for the proposed Skate Ramp.</p> <p><b>i) Location:</b> Of those who had responded to the consultation the Recreation Ground was the most popular site.</p> <p><b>ii) Installation:</b> The ramp would be approximately 30 ft long by 10 ft wide. The presentation showed how the ramp would be built, possibly taking up to 3 days to complete depending on final specification and fitting in with ROSPA regulations.</p>	

**iii) Behaviour (noise, anti-social etc):** Cllr Unsworth had received notification from the police stating that skate ramps do not attract more anti-social behaviour. The argument was made that, if placed on the Recreation Ground this would provide 'natural surveillance'. Cllr Unsworth also reported that Skate Boarding is now an Olympic sport which has a profile in the public eye.

**iv) Results and Consultation:** There had been 349 responses of which 295 people supported a skate ramp for Coggeshall and 230 people supported it being on the Recreation Ground. The SR could be constructed with enhancements to reduce noise. The SR would provide more sporting facilities in the village.

**v) Funding and Costs:** The SK would cost £6,800 and maintenance cost may be included int the first year. Only the insurance would need to be provided from the Precept. Both Cllr Unsworth and Cllr Walsh were willing to donate towards the cost of the SR from their BDC Grant in accordance with the rules set by BDC.

### **Public Participation**

A large number of the public aired their views concerning the installation and location of the proposed Skate Ramp. An email form a Parishioner was also read out to the assembly by the Chairman (as requested). Support for the installation of a Skate Ramp was prevalent but the matter of location was controversial.

**Suggestion** was made to put the Skate Ramp on the Recreation Ground as a trial and move it elsewhere, if necessary, at a later date.

**Suggestion** also made to invite a consultant to ascertain the best location. A lengthy debate amongst Councillors followed the public participation session reflecting similar concerns within the Council in terms of location and mixed views about the benefits of a Skate Ramp in the village.

### **B) To agree that Coggeshall Parish Council support a Skate Ramp Following detailed debate:**

**Proposed:** Cllr G Keig

**Seconded:** Cllr M Staines

**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:** That Coggeshall Parish Council supports a Skate Ramp.

### **C) To Consider the Location for a Skate Ramp**

Following detailed debate, the following points for and against locating the Skate Ramp on the Recreation Ground were made: arguments for and against locating the Skate Ramp on the Recreation Ground followed.

#### **Points Against:**

. There were different opinions expressed as to whether Planning Permission would be needed to put the Skate Ramp on the Recreation Ground. A decision made by Kettering Borough Council on planning enforcement that concluded that a Skate Ramp should be considered as development in planning terms was reported.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Little open space in Coggeshall for the size of the community. Issue of utilising open space needed to be considered in a wider context.</li> <li>. Deep concern about noise produced, particularly affecting those using the benches, having a picnic or generally relaxing.</li> <li>. Several Councillors expressed concern that they were expected to make a decision, particularly in respect of a location, without having more detailed information. The visual impact of the Skate Ramp being placed on the Recreation Ground was an example of this and the suggestion to call in an independent Consultant to consider these matters was suggested as an option.</li> </ul> <p><b>Points For:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Recreation Ground considered prime spot with natural surveillance.</li> <li>. Noise levels not considered overly a cause for anxiety.</li> <li>. Plenty of room on the Recreation Ground. The Skate Ramp Working Party advised that the SR would occupy approximately 0.1% of the Recreation Area and could be placed at a reasonable distance from houses.</li> <li>. Close to local amenities.</li> </ul> <p><b>D) Actions</b> Deferred to next Meeting of the Council.</p>	
	<p><b>Standing Orders Suspended at 10.22 pm</b>  <b>Proposed:</b> Cllr J Astley                      <b>Seconded:</b> Cllr I Hagger  <b>RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY</b></p>	
2021/118	<p><b>Insurance</b> Item deferred owing to time constraint.  <b>Proposed:</b> Cllr N Unsworth                      <b>Seconded:</b> Cllr I Hagger  <b>UNANIMOUS</b></p>	
2021/119	<p><b>Management of the Cemetery</b> Item deferred owing to time constraint.  <b>Proposed:</b> Cllr J Astley                      <b>Seconded:</b> Cllr I Hagger  <b>UNANIMOUS</b></p>	
2021/120	<p><b>Purchase of New Laptop</b>  <b>Proposed:</b> Cllr J Astley                      <b>Seconded:</b> Cllr T Plumb  <b>RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:</b> That a new laptop be purchased for the Assistant Clerk as a matter of urgency. Type – Model with Intel i5 processor costing £510 (excluding VAT) from Sarala (who will also arrange for Shared Drive and copying over of files at a cost of £72 per hour).  (Three quotes had been received).</p>	
2021/121	<p><b>Date and Time of Next Meeting</b> Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 8.10 pm.  (Please note, the time change is to accommodate setting up in the main hall owing to COVID restrictions on numbers and space).</p>	

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and the Meeting ended at 10.42 pm

