

Coddenham Community Response Group
Notes of Meeting 6:30pm Wednesday 30th November 2022 at
The Coddenham Centre

Present: Rod Stanley-Bell (RSB) - Community Shop, (Chair), David McDonnell (DaM) – Gardemau Trusts, Andrew MacPherson (AM) – Coddenham Centre, Debbie McDonnell (DeM) – Church/PCC, Nick Mills (NM) – Coddenham PC, Tim Thomas (TT) – Day Foundation

Apologies: Theresa Harden (Country Club), Helen Norris (Church/PCC)

Notes of Previous Meeting: 6th Sept 2022. Agreed.

Matters Arising/Actions: None, other than substantive agenda items.

Chairman/Secretary Duties: RSB's last meeting as Chair. NM takes over from now, until May 2023. DaM Sec until then, then Chair for 3 months.

Frequency of Meetings: Rostered meetings to remain at approx 3-month intervals, but ad-hoc additional meetings possibly needed due to major events in 2023. Between meetings, all members to ensure colleagues are aware of initiatives/developments where they may affect them. **Action: NM to circulate provisional meeting dates for first half of 2023.**

CCRG Activity Table: DaM updating. Requested submissions from member orgs. Various initiatives and events identified.

Coddenham Calendars: Using winning photos from Jubilee competition. Selling well. All proceeds to Ray Collins to administer initially, then 'profits' to CCRG funds.

Warm Spaces: TCC has funds from MSDC to host gatherings on Fridays, with soup, until 31/3/23. Haysel Hse open 9-5 Mon to Fri, providing free coffee, tea, newspapers. Request for funding from MSDC had been turned down. Limited take-up so far, but may increase as economic situation worsens and weather gets colder. Some concerns from MDC residents being addressed. There is some limited funding, utilising monies donated by village residents, to assist those in need, but difficult to publicise and to identify potential recipients.

Covid Update: NM circulated last week. Attached.

SWT Nature Audit Report: Welcomed by all and positive engagement by 'new' PC noted. Also funded by Gardemau and Day Fndn. A very useful base line and action plan for all publicly/charitably owned 'wildlife' areas in village. AM and Cllr Jane Soanes (PC Lead) meeting on Fri 2/12 to discuss best way to take forward. Report will be published on Community Website. DaM suggested asking SWT to do a presentation on audit in Spring in church or TCC, to maximise community knowledge/engagement. Noted John Woodcock doing artwork gratis for new Nature Trail signs. CCRG expressed appreciation for his support.

Future Events:

(i) Coronation. Sat 6th May 2023. Low key due to economic situation. In Coddenham, many key potential organisers away in lead-up, so village events also likely to be low-key. Wine/drinks Reception at TCC at tea time on 6/5, with toast to 'The King'. DeM trying to

obtain Morris dancers for about 5:00pm. Free event, but donations to be sought on day from those attending.

(ii) Fete. 17th June 2023. Although overall a success, lessons to be learned from this year's Fete. NM suggested a debrief. Alan West had generously made the profit from Fete 2022 available to help fund 2023's; about £1300. Suggestion is that individuals/organisations take on specific 'work packages'. Eg church to provide teas, marquee team already established, bar, entertainments, commercial stalls, bric a brac, raffle etc. However, someone needed to lead/co-ordinate activity. Suggested that someone with events organisation skills/background could take this on, rather than 'the usual suspects' who are all very busy. Some responses to village survey had expressed willingness to get involved. Approaches to be made (by whom and to whom?).

(iii) Centenary of Gudgin's Shop 22nd and 23rd July 2023. Planning begun by team including RSB, DaM, AM, Sylvia Bickers, and Roy and Ann Gudgin. **Action: DaM to arrange next meeting for Jan 2023.** Intention is Afternoon Tea at TCC 2:00-4:30pm for all villagers, funded by Gudgins and with organisation facilitated by TCC, then Party at TCC in evening for shop volunteers and supporters, organised by CCSL and Gudgins. Also, exhibition on history of Shop and other shops in Coddendam, organised by History Club. Members agreed Look East and other media could be interested and are to be contacted nearer the time. Possibly Tim Moffett, who covered establishment of Community Shop in 2019 for national BBC News? Another possibility is a video featuring shop. Two or three villagers had experience in this and should be approached by event planning team.

Organisation Updates:

(i) TCC – agreed financial support with PC at same level, in cash terms, as last year. Subsidy to TCC now 67% less than original funding. Due to inflation, funding actually 11% less than last year in real terms. TCC has won Suffolk Community Centre of the Year 2022 and also Suffolk Active Community of the Year. TCC continues to work with NHS on Active Suffolk scheme. Thanks to all for hard work in achieving these accolades. Warm Space initiative noted above. New Meeting Room nearly finished and available for use, hearing loop reinstated after not working for 8 years, new PA system acquired with financial assistance from Gardemau Trust.

(ii) PCC/Church – mindful of financial squeeze and environmental issues, rather than sponsored Christmas trees in churchyard, large yew by church door being decorated instead, and villagers invited to post prayers and Christmas wishes on it. Co-Op band Xmas concert, now a village tradition, Sunday 4/12, Xmas Coffee Morning Sat 10/12, Carol Service Sun 18/12, Village Carol Singing Weds 21/12, Crib and Christingle Service 4:00 24/12, Midnight Mass 11:30 24/12. No service at Coddendam on Christmas Day; services in other benefice churches instead.

(iii) Day Foundation – Haysel Hse slowly returning to 'normal' operation after pandemic. Warm Rooms scheme noted above. Knit and Natter continues, but for residents only at present. Vouchers for Community Shop being provided to residents as Christmas presents.

(iv) Gardemau Trusts – funding provided for a range of village facilities (see Activity Table). Trust applying for outline planning permission for plot of land in School Road, behind old Lock-Up, for small house. Intended that land then be sold to release capital for Trust, with covenant that any dwelling built be for primary residence, not second home or holiday let, to help address shortage of affordable housing in village, identified as key issue in Village Survey. NM requested Trust engage with Cllr Denning, lead on planning matters, on behalf of PC. **Action: DaM to contact Rob Denning.**

(v) Shop – HM Lord Lieutenant had visited 1/10/22 for afternoon tea with staff and customers, to recognise service provided to community by shop during pandemic. Also planted commemorative tree on Rec and praised role of CCRG in supporting village in recent difficult years. Volunteer numbers increasing, particularly young people doing voluntary service as part of D of E Award. More still needed. Pre-Christmas sales going well.

(vi) Parish Council – Surgeries will continue, hopefully in Shop on some Saturdays and at Church Coffee Mornings. Traffic continues to be the major village issue and PC seeking funding for ANPR camera. Expensive, at £12-15k, but grants available. Next PC election May 2023. CCRG would help publicise to maximise turnout and democratic mandate. PC had gained use of a Thermal Imaging Camera for period 23/2/23 - 21/3/23. Scans outside of properties to identify key areas of heat (ie energy) loss. Additional people required to help do the survey. **Action: All members to support initiative.**

SWOT, Survey and Village Plan. NM asked all members to submit examples of actions their organisations are taking in response to Survey. **Action: all to submit examples to NM asap.** Some respondents had asked for personal feedback on matters they had raised. Need to identify best CCRG members to do this. **Action: DaM and DeM to sort and allocate responses to other members.**

Website Update. Nov saw 1123 visits to website – slightly down on Oct but still good. Shop pages top, then Country Club, Church and Nordic Walking. AM requested members encourage suppliers and organisations to advertise on website. **Action: All to publicise website to suitable contacts.**

Environmental Updates.

(i) Suffolk Wildlife Trust survey of natural areas around village, funded by various CCRG members, provided both an excellent base line and an Action/Management Plan. Welcomed very constructive engagement by new PC. First volunteer work day for several years had been held on Mill Hill and was well-supported. Broom Hill work party would be held in February.

(ii) PC – ANPR traffic management initiative and loan of thermal camera noted above.

(iii) Church – discontinuing use of Oasis for flower arrangements as environmentally damaging. Training arranged on alternatives. Fair Trade products had been on sale at Nov Coffee Morning.

(iv) TCC – pursuing Carbon Audit, but difficult due to conflicting methodologies and practical measuring issues.

(v) Shop – had considered Carbon Audit but impractical due to number of different suppliers and impossibility of assessing what % of their carbon footprint attributable to shop, plus fact that shop only rents its premises and is only part of a larger complex. Considering Bronze Carbon Charter as more realistic. **Action: DaM, DeM and RSB.**

A.O.B. Neil Baillie suggests planting copse of 4 trees to commemorate Platinum Jubilee and reign of HM Queen near main entrance to Manor Fm. Would replace one which existed previously. Landowner willing to consider. **Action: AM to continue liaison.**

Date and Time of Next Meeting. NM will circulate suggested dates.