



Report to the Coddenham Parish Council Meeting. March 18th 2022

This report is the latest in our voluntary submissions to coincide with Parish Council Meetings. We would appreciate acknowledgement and inclusion in the public record, for information.

A representative will be in attendance, should there be any questions.

Corrections.

While we prefer to look forward in all our work, a number of statements were made by Councillors publicly and in correspondence during January, which for the record, we would like to correct.

'CIO revenue was understated' – we were disappointed not to be consulted on this statement. Projections were demanded in October '21 on the cusp of Omicron; notwithstanding historical revenue forecast have been 100% accurate since CIO formation and we remain confident in our calculations. Should revenue be exceeded, its benefit will be carried forward to the 22/23 budget.

'A sum of £18K will be spent on football changing rooms in the current absence of a football team' – there is absolutely no plan to refurbish the football changing rooms, although we hope to welcome the Coddenham team back in August '22.

Activity.

After a difficult Christmas, activity has started to recover. New Yoga has been introduced, Tai Chi and we have re-established High Intensity Interval Training (HiiT). Commercial trainers continue to support the Centre, as does our organic meals supplier, Jess Cooks. Children's parties are returning, Toddler and Mother's group continues to be well supported and our Baby Sensory has added a second class. Nordic Walking initiated a second year of work with the NHS and Macmillan, new classes and four walks a week, working out of the Centre.

The tennis courts have been professionally cleaned in readiness for the better weather.

COVID now proves an occasional disruptor to suppliers, with occasional class cancellations. We remain diligent with our controls and are proud to have remained 'COVID free' for two years.

Events.

Following the cancellation of the New Year Brunch because of COVID concerns, we returned this month with a highly successful event, funds from which we felt appropriate to hand over to the Disasters Emergency Committee for the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

The CIO continue to prepare to provide the Jubilee 'Big Lunch' for the community and are working with CCRG members to support the celebrations in June, with the support of the Day Foundation. We have offered a test run of the 'menu' to our volunteers. We are preparing a commemorative mug for Coddenham's children, to celebrate the event. Options for a Jubilee logo were also recently prepared, and a choice agreed with community representatives.

We facilitated the first meeting of volunteers for the Coddendam Fete in September, which we will be supporting.

The Environment

Our Air Source Heat Pump system was fully commissioned in January, with the establishment of full controls. We expect to annually offset the carbon of up to fifty homes. Given the significant increase in oil prices, fuel cost savings are already apparent. However, the increase in electrical use and cost, will need to be addressed by April of next year and we intend to adopt solar energy as soon as possible.

We added to our work on the Queens 'Green Canopy' with a further 150 mixed trees and hedging, adding to the 450 specimens started last year.

Swift Boxes will be added to the building, working with Suffolk Wildlife Trust and monitors provided by Haysell House residents.

Governance.

We welcomed a new Trustee, Dave Wythe, a local resident, who has been supporting the Centre. David's business insight and estate management skills are already proving a great asset.

Accounts

We are in the process of preparing our end of year accounts for the Charities Commission and as usual, once available, we will advise CPC. We were pleased to brief CPC's newest Councillor and welcomed an informed discussion.

As there will be a shortfall in Parish precept contribution next year, from April we would like to apply the meeting fee to Parish Council meetings of £20 for use of foyer or £40 for use of the main hall (subject to availability), with the Annual Parish Meeting f.o.c.'

Looking Ahead

The introduction of greater flexibility for the Centre remains a focus, with options for new storage to release the dry changing rooms being considered with architect Paul Weston through the Suffolk Pro-Help scheme. Longer term development and re-purposing of the bowling green remains under consideration within a five-year plan. We plan to draw upon the Community SWOT and Survey, which we have been working on since last year. We welcome CPC latest support and the prospect of new engagement.

Andrew MacPherson – Chair – on behalf of the Coddendam Centre CIO.
13th March 2022