

# COSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual Meeting of Cossington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Cossington on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- Councillors J. Clasby, M. Dare, N. Downing, J. Stradling, G. Terry and Mrs L. Woodward with District Councillor Mrs A. Hamlin.

Apology for absence received from Councillor E. Ingram.

## **1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman**

Proposed Councillor Dare, seconded Councillor Clasby and agreed that Councillor G. Terry be elected Chairman for 2018/19. The Chairman signed a declaration of acceptance of office. Proposed Councillor Clasby, seconded Councillor Dare and agreed that Councillor J. Stradling be elected Vice-Chairman for 2018/19.

## **2. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meetings held on 12<sup>th</sup> March and 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as correct records.

## **3. Interests**

Members had no interests to declare.

## **4. Village Agent**

Kirsten Rushby, Village Agent, Community Council for Somerset made a presentation on her role which principally involved signposting elderly or vulnerable people to relevant services. Kirsten also answered questions raised by members and she was thanked for attending the meeting.

## **5. Reports of the County and District Councillors**

District Councillor Hamlin reported upon a Meeting of the District Council's Standards Committee at which a number of governance policies were reviewed.

## **6. Report from Organisations**

Councillor Dare reported that the Village Hall Committee were to investigate the possibility of some of the Polden Project community activities being run in the Hall. Councillor Clasby reported that 72 local residents had now signed up to the Polden e-Watch Scheme.

## **7. Maintenance Items**

It was agreed to report a pothole at Cossington Level and fly-tipping at Cossington Level and Cossington Lane. Damaged nameplates at Mowground Lane, Park Close and Walnut Lane had not yet been replaced/repared. There was nothing new to report regarding the Flood Group. Information was still awaited from the County Council regarding completion of the new Traffic Regulation Order required to enable Avon and Somerset Police to commence mobile speed camera monitoring of traffic in Middle Road and also regarding completion of work being carried out by appropriate agencies to resolve an issue of blocked ditches at the southern approach to Cossington Level. Dog fouling was still occurring in certain locations and it was agreed to continue to monitor the matter. The County Council had failed to finalise the positioning of, and arrangements for the installation of, a third new village nameplate at a suitable location in Middle Road by the dates previously indicated and it was therefore agreed to withhold payment for the two replacement nameplates already erected at Brent Road and Manor Road pending satisfactory resolution.

## **8. 2017/18 Accounting Statements**

The Financial Statement for 2017/18 and 2017/18 Accounting Statements required by the external auditors were formally approved. It was also agreed to declare that Cossington Parish Council was an exempt authority within the definition contained in the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015.

## **9. Review of Insurance Cover**

The Council reviewed their insurance cover for 2018/19. No amendments to the existing cover were deemed to be necessary.

## **10. Authorisation for Payment**

The following payments were authorised: -

000930 SALC	affiliation fee (part)	£138.78
000931 SCC	village nameplates	£250.00 (subject to confirmation of third sign details)

000932	GWB Services	grass cutting	£370.00
000933	Zurich Municipal	premium	£642.63

Open Meeting 8.10 p.m.

Members of the public made observations on planning applications 003 and 004 (see minute 11)

Open Meeting ended 8.13 p.m.

## **11. Planning Applications**

The following new planning applications were considered.

003 – Erection of extension to north elevation, garage and porch and demolition of outbuilding, The Bungalow, Brent Road – Mr Preston – no objection;

004 Erection of extensions, The Woollands, Brent Road – Polden Hills Veterinary Centre – recommend permission subject to a condition regarding satisfactory surface water drainage facilities, taking into account historic long-standing issues of this nature in the surrounding area which the authorities have failed to address.

It was agreed to advise the District Council of work recently carried out to the Grade II Listed Building at Cossington Park, apparently without an application for Listed Building Consent having been submitted.

With regard to application 22/17/00006 relating to land at Henshirl Paddock. the Chairman reported that District Council had indicated that work to comply with the landscaping condition was due to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> May but it was still outstanding. The District Council were still awaiting satisfactory plans for the land surface water condition and implementation of the plans approved under the sewerage condition. They were reportedly in contact with the applicant's agent to chase the above items. It was agreed to consider the position further at the next Meeting.

## **12. Playing Field**

Councillors Clasby and Stradling had carried out further adjustments to the safer surfacing under the roundabout to achieve greater ground clearance under the platform and had removed the suspected defective climbing wall from the trim trail, prior to the annual safety inspection in June.

## **13. Former Co-op Premises, Windmill Crescent, Woolavington**

The Chairman reported that the District Council had now agreed to grant a lease of the former Co-op premises at Windmill Crescent, Woolavington to Magna Healthcare to operate a pharmacy rejecting the community-led proposal for a Community Hub. Following notification of this decision, a letter had been submitted to the District Council's Head of Legal and Democratic Services raising detailed questions regarding the way the community proposal had been handled. The letter was submitted in conjunction with Bawdrip and Woolavington Parish Councils and the Patients Participation Group. A response from the District Council was promised by 18<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

## **14. Cossington in Bloom**

Councillor Clasby agreed to compile a shortlist for each of the 2018 Gardens Competition categories, with Councillor Ingram by 30<sup>th</sup> June.

## **15. Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next Meeting be held on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> June 2018

The Meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.

Chairman