

COSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Cossington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Cossington on Monday, 12th November 2018 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: - Councillor G. Terry (Chairman), Councillors M. Dare, E. Ingram, J. Stradling and Mrs L. Woodward with District Councillor Mrs A. Hamlin.

Apology for absence received from Councillors J. Clasby and N. Downing.

57. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th October 2018 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

58. Interests

Members had no interests to declare.

59. Reports of the County and District Councillors

District Councillor Mrs Hamlin reported upon disabled toilet facilities in community halls.

60. Report from Organisations

Councillor Dare had no report in respect of the Village Hall Committee. Councillor Clasby had indicated that a further reminder would be issued in respect of joining the E Watch scheme.

61. Maintenance Items

There were no new highway defects to report but it was agreed to report a flooding issue at the southern approach to Cossington Level near where land drainage work had been carried out by the local Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group. A number of fly-tipped items had recently been removed by the District Council and it was agreed to report a gas bottle which had been fly-tipped along Cossington Level. There was nothing new to report regarding the Flood Group, although the water course was currently running smoothly. Local landowners had arranged for vegetation obscuring the 30 mph signs on the approaches to the village to be cleared. The Avon and Somerset Police had been advised and hopefully they could now commence mobile speed camera monitoring of traffic in the village. Dog fouling was still occurring in certain locations and it was agreed to continue to monitor the matter. The District Council's Arboricultural Officer had been requested to check the health of a mountain ash tree in the Village Centre.

There had been no recent recurrence of sewerage discharging into the roadside ditch in Brent Road. The village nameplate at Brent Road had been damaged beyond repair and County Highways had been request to submit a quotation for its replacement. A damaged inspection cover at Park Crescent had been reported and County Highways had requested the owners, British Telecom, to replace it. Members considered a request from the Sustrans Volunteer Ranger for a grant towards tools and a hand cart for volunteers who undertook management of vegetation along the track between Brent Road and Bawdrip. The estimated cost was £190 and it was agreed to make a contribution of £50 towards this.

62. Financial Matters

The following payment was authorised: -

000940 Sustrans	grant	£50.00
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Preliminary consideration was also given to the Estimates for 2019/20.

Open Meeting 8.00 p.m.

Members of the public made reference to speeding vehicles in Brent Road.

Open Meeting ended 8.05 p.m.

63. Planning Applications

The following new planning applications were considered: -

010 – Erection of dwelling at Grange Cottage, Middle Road – P. Jasinski – clarification of possible issues required from Case officer regarding several factors before a “no objection” opinion can be confirmed. These include implementation status of the new Local Plan development boundary, possible overlooking, trees (particularly those covered by a protection order), parking provision for both the proposed dwelling and Grange Cottage and suitable access provision for service and emergency vehicles.

011 – Erection of dwelling and parking, Hayesbrook House, Millmoot Lane – P. Heyward – recommend refusal as the off-street parking provision proposed did not meet the requirements of the Somerset Parking Strategy.

The Chairman reported that the Sedgemoor Housing Development Officer had indicated that it had been established that no-one had stated Cossington as a preference on the district Homefinder register and consequently the official demand for affordable housing in Cossington currently stood at zero.

64. Playing Field

Deane DLO had recently gang mowed the field and promised another cut within the next few days. They had apologised for their poor performance but it was agreed to obtain quotations from alternative firms for 2019. It was understood that the Football Club had not yet used the pitch and that they had not used the top soil provided to fill in the surface cracks as intended. It was agreed to invoice the Club for use of the pitch during the 2018/19 season and to change the lock on the playing field hut whilst implementing a keyholder register for security reasons.

Councillor Stradling reported that the defective gate post near the playing field hut had not yet been repaired and it was agreed that he explore further the possibility of establishing a nature area in the south-eastern corner of the field using saplings provided by the Woodland Trust.

It was also noted that an enquiry had been received regarding possible use of the field for archery. No objection was raised.

65. Autumn Newsletter

The Chairman had circulated a draft newsletter for approval prior to printing. It was agreed that the draft be approved subject to minor updating following completion of recent work since the draft was published.

66. Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Meeting be held on Monday, 10th December 2018.

The Meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

Chairman