

COSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Cossington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Cossington on Monday, 11th February 2019 at 7.30 p.m.

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

Apology for absence received from Councillor N. Downing.

77. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th December 2018 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

78. Interests

Members had no interests to declare.

79. Reports of the County and District Councillors

District Councillor Mrs Hamlin reported upon an issue with a security light on the western approach to Cossington. It was agreed that the matter be investigated.

80. Report from Organisations

There was no report on behalf of the Village Hall Committee. Councillor Clasby reported that there was likely to be increased presence by PCSOs in the area under the new Neighbourhood Policing arrangements.

81. Maintenance Items

There were no new highway defects to report in Cossington. A number of fly-tipped items had been removed since the last Meeting and it was agreed to request removal of two buckets containing rubbish along Hurst Lane. There was nothing new to report regarding the Flood Group and the main water course was currently running smoothly. The Avon and Somerset Police would commence mobile speed camera monitoring of traffic in the village when an officer returned to work following sick leave. Dog fouling was still occurring in certain locations and it was agreed to give special attention to monitoring areas of Bell Lane and Ditch Furlong Lane where bagged deposits were being thrown into roadside ditches. The District Council's Arboricultural Officer had advised that a mountain ash tree in the Village Centre should be removed in the near future. It was agreed to request a quotation from Sedgemoor Clean Surroundings for this work. Councillor Dare had also planted flowering cherry and red chestnut saplings in the Village Centre.

A replacement village nameplate for Brent Road had been obtained from Arien Designs as the County Council were unable to submit a quotation for the work until April. It was noted that British Telecom had replaced a damaged inspection cover at Park Crescent. A detailed report of evidence, including photographs, of a long-standing blocked drainage pipe under the carriageway near the business units at Brent Road had been collated and forwarded to County Highways with a request for remedial action to be carried out. A response was awaited and it was agreed to send a reminder. It was noted that a gully emptier had recently been seen in Brent Road.

A complaint had been received from a resident regarding excessive mud in Bell Lane, but the road had since been cleaned

82. Financial Matters

The following payment had been released since the last Meeting following clarification of the Wessex Water leakage policy:

000944 Water2Business	water account	£247.06
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The following payments were authorised: -

000947 Arien Designs	village nameplate	£225.60
000948 GWB Services	maintenance work	£625.50

Open Meeting 7.55 p.m.

A member of the public raised issues regarding consideration of planning applications and planning policy.

Open Meeting ended 8.05 p.m.

83. Risk Management Report and Statement of Internal Control 2018/19

The Council considered and approved a Risk Management Report and a Statement of Internal Control for 2018/19.

84. Planning Applications

The following new planning application was considered: -

003 Demolition of garage and erection of single storey extension, 11 Park Close – Mrs M. Powell – recommend permission;

It was agreed to seek clarification regarding how the County Parking Standards are applied in District Planning Policy by the Local Authority after puzzling comments on the Parish Council's observations in a recent planning application by the Local Authority Case Officer in his Delegated Report.

Outstanding enforcement issues were discussed, and it was agreed to remind the District Council that issues regarding sewage and surface water disposal were still outstanding at Henshirl Paddocks. It was also noted that the emerging Local Plan was now the prime document for planning decisions, the comments of the Planning Inspector having been agreed by the District Council.

85. Playing Field

The Council considered two quotations received for gang mowing during the 2019 season. It was agreed to accept a quotation in the sum of £48.00 per cut plus VAT received from Sedgemoor Clean Surroundings. Mr Bickers had repaired the playing field fence and a defective gate post near the playing field hut.

The Football Club had now paid their invoice for use of the pitch during the 2018/19 season. It was agreed to request the Club to ensure that metal net hooks are removed after games. It was noted that the lock still needed to be changed on the playing field hut and a keyholder register implemented for security purposes.

It was agreed to allow Sustrans to place a storage container in the car park subject to it being of a suitable standard and agreement to its precise location. There was no update on possible use of the field for archery. Councillor Stradling also reported that the Woodland Trust had agreed to supply 30 saplings for planting in the southern corner of the field and it was agreed to arrange a community planting/spring clean event in March.

86. Pharmacy Arrangements Update

The Chairman reported that Bawdrip Parish Council were considering if a challenge to the new pharmacy arrangements was warranted and if other affected Parish councils would support any such challenge if it were feasible. A summary of 27 comments received from the public regarding the revised arrangements for prescriptions, which had come into operation on 20th January, was also discussed. It was generally recognised that some "teething" problems were inevitable with such a major change and was felt that the matter should be monitored over a longer period before any conclusions could be reached. In the meantime, it was also felt that any problems arising should be assessed with a view to alleviating any immediate issues and rectifying any systemic failing with the parties concerned. It was felt that the local Patients Participation Group (PPG) were probably the best placed body to fulfil such a role.

87. Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Meeting be held on Monday, 11th March 2019.

The Meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.

Chairman