

# COSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Cossington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Cossington on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- Councillor G. Terry (Chairman), Councillors P. Blundell, J. Clasby, M.F. Dare and E. Ingram and Somerset Councillor Suria Aujla

Apology for absence received from Councillors J. Stradling, Mrs L. Woodward and Somerset Councillor M. Healey.

## **35. Interests**

Members had no interests to disclose.

## **36. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

## **37. Reports of the Somerset Councillors**

Councillor Suria Aujla reported upon Local Community Network Meetings and concern expressed by a resident regarding the local bus service. It was noted that a meeting of the Somerset Bus Partnership had taken place on 21<sup>st</sup> August but there was a lack of clear information on the outcome and it was understood that no changes were proposed to Route 75 at the present time. It was agreed to seek clarification and to include an item on the next Agenda. It was also noted that the next meeting of the Avalon and Poldens Local Community Network would take place on 9<sup>th</sup> October and clash with the next Meeting of this Council. Apologies would therefore be tendered.

## **38. Report from Organisations**

Councillor Dare reported that the Village Hall Committee would be renovating the shed and were planning an Open Day. Councillor Clasby had no report in respect of Neighbourhood Watch.

## **39. Maintenance Items**

A number of previously reported road defects had been marked for repair. It was agreed to request reinstatement of the give way markings at the Combe Lane and Hirst Lane (Landshire Lane) junctions with Bell Lane. A further quantity of fly-tipping deposits at Cossington Level had been reported. Regarding the Flood Group, some debris would be removed from the bed of the water course while water levels were low. The monitoring of dog fouling was continuing. County Highways would carry out the further work previously agreed to rectify the drainage issues in Brent Road during the current financial year.

No further information had been received from Sustrans regarding the results of the survey on the condition of the former railway bridge at Broderip. A 30 mph repeater signpost at Middle Road had been firmly reinstated but with a single sided roundel. County Highways had again been requested to replace it with a double-sided roundel. A Bell Lane nameplate had been reinstated but approximately 3m from the highway and not readily visible when approaching from the south. Clarification on current rules was being sought County Highways. Sustrans had erected a cycle route sign on the Locks Way triangle with "Bridgwater" mis-spelt. They had undertaken to correct the error.

Footpath BW 37/14 to the north of Combe Lane was no longer negotiable for walkers, the work being undertaken to level the land was still outstanding, footpath diversion signs removed and the alternative gate access tied up. The matter would be followed up with the landowner.

## **40. Finance**

The following payments were authorised

001045	GWB Services	grass cutting -2 months	£1,154.40
001046	Parish Clerk	payroll & sundry payment reimbursement	£978.12

Open Meeting 7.50 p.m.

A Member of the public referred to a long outstanding planning application which had yet to be determined.

Open Meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.

#### **41. Planning Applications**

It was agreed to confirm the following recommendations made in respect of planning applications since the last Meeting

22/23/00001 – Reconfigure Plot 5 to include an additional 4 mobile homes and 4 tourers all to be occupied by extended family members; retention of one utility room and re-siting of dayroom, Henshirl Paddocks, Cossington Lane – A. Roper – refusal;

22/23/00005 – Erection of extension, Hill Furlong, Bath Road – P. Heyward – no objection (subsequently granted permission).

22/23/00007 – Work to trees, The Bridge School – no objection (subsequently granted permission).

It was agreed to issue a reminder of the follow-up meeting promised by the Somerset Council Planning Officers regarding issues relating to the traveller sites.

Somerset Council had launched a public consultation on a set of outline “principles” that are designed to steer new development in Somerset – closing date 16<sup>th</sup> October. It was agreed the Parish Council should respond, and residents would be encouraged to do so as well.

#### **42. Playing Field**

Councillor Stradling had advised that the grant application for new play equipment for younger children and car park fencing had been declined. It was agreed to consider a new submission. The issue with a seat chain on the basket swing raised by the inspector in the annual report had been checked by a qualified installer but was felt not to require urgent replacement. The see-saw however was felt to be nearing the end of its life. Councillor Stradling had provided an update on work being undertaken at the community wood.

#### **43. Cossington in Bloom**

Members considered arrangements for the Presentation Event on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> October including details of the additional competitions comprising a vegetable monster competition for children and three other competitions covering art, literature and floral/shrub displays. The content of a flyer was agreed for printing and subsequent distribution to each property in the village. Publicity would also be via the website, noticeboard, through e-mail to subscribers and in the parish magazines.

#### **44. Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next Meeting be held on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7.30 p.m.

The Meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.

Chairman