

COSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The 2022 Annual Meeting of Cossington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Cossington on Wednesday, 18th May 2022 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- Councillors P. Blundell, J. Clasby, M.F. Dare, E. Ingram, J. Stradling, G. Terry and Mrs L. Woodward.

Apology for absence received from District Councillor B. Crow and County/District Councillor M. Healey.

1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Proposed Councillor Stradling, seconded Councillor Ingram and agreed that Councillor G. Terry be elected Chairman for 2022/23. The Chairman signed a declaration of acceptance of office. Proposed Councillor Dare, seconded Councillor Ingram agreed that Councillor J. Stradling be elected Vice-Chairman for 2022/23.

2. Interests

Members had no interests to disclose.

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th April 2022 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. Model Code of Conduct

It was agreed to adopt the revised Countywide Model Code of Conduct.

5. General Power of Competence

It was resolved that Cossington Parish Council met the criteria to use the General Power of Competence.

6. Reports of the County and District Councillors

It was noted that both Members had apologised for non-attendance.

7. Report from Organisations

Councillor Dare was re-appointed as the Parish Council's representative on the Village Hall Committee and he reported that he would be attending their Annual General Meeting in the near future. In respect of Neighbourhood Watch, Councillor Clasby referred to recent issues regarding a door-to-door salesman about which the police had been informed.

8. Maintenance Items

It was noted that road defects at the Bell Lane and at Cossington Level were still outstanding. There were no new instances of fly-tipping to report. Regarding the Flood Group, the water course was flowing smoothly although there were fallen twigs and branches building up in some areas which would need clearing at a suitable opportunity. Monitoring of dog fouling was continuing.

It was agreed to remind County Highways of their promise to complete the work to rectify the drainage issues in Brent Road/Cossington Lane during the current financial year. Minor patching work had recently been carried out in the area. An issue relating to sewage in Cossington Lane had been reported to Environmental Services at the District Council. County Highways had confirmed that the proposed new location for installation of the village nameplate at Middle Road was owned by the County Council and was thought unsuitable. They had suggested a location near the flower tub, but Members have expressed concerns regarding the limited available verge width in the vicinity allowing for the roadside the drainage ditch. In the circumstances, the sign had been fixed at ground level to the posts in its original location near West Close Farm, to avoid causing a visibility issue, enabling County Highways could gain access to it to relocate it to a suitable permanent position.

There was no update on the former railway bridge at Broderip. It was agreed to raise no objection to a commemorative plaque being added to a seat in the village centre in memory of Bob Bailey, a school minibus driver.

9. Authorisation for Payment

The following payments were authorised:-

001013 GWB Services	grass cutting	£437.00
001014 Sedgemoor DC	gang mowing	£172.80
001015 Zurich Municipal	insurance premium	£674.28

Open Meeting 8.10 p.m.

A member of the public raised an issue regarding fund raising social events which were previously organised by village groups.

Open Meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

10. Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered

002 - Erection of self-build dwelling and detached garage, Ditch Furlong Road (revised plans) – J. Baker – confirm previous recommendation of refusal as it was considered that the proposal did not meet the criteria of Local Plan Policy D9 and the related supplementary planning guidance document (adopted August 2021).

004 – Erection of single storey extensions, conversion of loft space to living accommodation and erection of detached garage and garden room, Rhiwbina, Brent Road (revised plans) – A. Denman – it was felt that the reduction in the size of the garage and the introduction of a hipped roof reduced its impact on the area and the Parish Council therefore had no objection.

005 - Erection of single storey rear extension on site of conservatory, 14 Bell Lane – E. Smith – no objection.

It was agreed to refer an issue regarding installation of gabions along the southern boundary of the building plot at Station Road to the District Council's Planning Enforcement Section for investigation as the approved scheme indicated no new structural developments in the vicinity of the site boundary.

11. Playing Field

It was understood that Sutcliffe Play South West would install the new play equipment in late June. It was felt that consideration would need to be given in the near future to the car park fence which was starting to lean. It was agreed to invoice the Archery Club for use of the field during the current year in the sum of £350 representing a £50 increase on previous years

12. Cossington in Bloom/Parish Newsletter

The Spring Parish Council Newsletter had now been delivered by Members. Councillors Clasby and Ingram would compile a shortlist for each of the 2022 Gardens Competition categories around the end of June and these would be passed to independent judges who would visit Cossington during July. The awards would be presented at the Garden Show on 17th September.

13. Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Meeting be held on Monday, 13th June 2022.

The Meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

Chairman