

COSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Cossington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Cossington on Monday, 14th November 2022 at 7.30 p.m.

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

Apology for absence received from Councillor P. Blundell.

46. Interests

Members had no interests to disclose.

47. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th October 2022 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

48. Reports of the County and District Councillors

Neither of the Members were in attendance.

49. Report from Organisations

Councillor Dare reported that the new Village Hall Committee was being established. Councillor Clasby reported that there was nothing new in respect of Neighbourhood Watch which related to Cossington.

50. Maintenance Items

There were no new road defects or fly-tipping deposits to report. Regarding the Flood Group, the water course was flowing smoothly, and the monitoring of dog fouling was continuing.

County Highways had undertaken the work to rectify the drainage issues in Brent Road which appeared to be reasonably effective. However, the tarmac finish on the new drainage system was uneven which caused surface water to pool in the dips and miss the newly installed grating. This needed to be rectified. The ditch on the southern side of the road had also recently been cleared by unknown parties and County Highways had been requested to cut gripes into the verge to allow surface water to enter the ditch. Sustrans would be requested to prevent surface water which reached their track from flowing northwards at the Brent Road bridge.

The Area Highways Engineer had again reminded their contractor of the need to relocate the village nameplate at Middle Road to a permanent position near the flower tub as soon as possible but, despite promises that the work would be completed on 10th November, it had yet to be carried out.

There was no update regarding the condition of the former railway bridge at Broderip. Councillor Dare was carrying out refurbishment work to the wooden seating on the Big Tree Surround and it was agreed to monitor work being carried out at the junction of footpath BW11/6 and Combe Lane, the entrance to which is currently blocked.

51. Authorisation for Payment

The following payments were authorised:-

DD Sedgemoor DC	payroll	£537.50
001026 GWB Services	grass and hedge cutting	£811.20
001029 Sedgemoor DC	gang mowing	£115.20

Members gave preliminary consideration to the Estimates for 2023/24.

Open Meeting 7.55 p.m.

No members of the public were present.

Open Meeting closed at 7.55 p.m.

52. Planning Applications

There were no new planning applications to consider.

The Chairman reported that there had been no response to the latest request for a follow up meeting with planning officers regarding the impact of the traveller sites upon the village which was promised following the site meeting on 1st December 2021. A further reminder would be sent with a copy to Sedgemoor Customer Services.

It was agreed to report a large structure being erected behind the Wessex Water site in Brent Road to Sedgemoor Planning Enforcement.

Reference was also made to the fence recently erected in Station Road alongside the development site. It is understood Sedgemoor's Planning Enforcement had instructed the developers to remove it but a substantial section remained and the public footpath sign had also been uprooted. The appropriate authorities have been notified accordingly. Supporting documentation, including justification, had also been submitted for the gabion walls (application 22/22/00008) and the views of the Sedgemoor Planning Officer were awaited.

53. Playing Field

It was reported that Sutcliffe Play South West had not yet completed the remedial work required to the new equipment prior to release of the final payment. Councillor Clasby had carried out repairs to the vehicular gate post and car park fence.

Councillor Stradling was preparing a further grant application to provide for some new play equipment for younger children to replace the see-saw and spring riders and new fencing. The application had been approved to proceed to stage 2 of the Valencia Communities Fund grant procedure and ideas from Members would be sought prior to quotations being obtained.

An update was submitted on the situation regarding the community wood.

54. Village Survey

The Chairman reported that the autumn newsletter had now been distributed. The proposed new village survey would be launched in February 2023. A new location for a letter box in the Brent Road area for the collection of completed questionnaires would be investigated. The most practical method for the option of the questionnaire to be completed and returned electronically would be further explored.

55. Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Meeting be held on Monday, 12th December 2022.

The Meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

Chairman