

# COSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Cossington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Cossington on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 7.30 p.m.

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

Apologies for absence received from District Councillor B. Crow.

## **113. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meetings held on 9<sup>th</sup> March and 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as correct records.

## **114. Interests**

Members had no interests to declare.

## **115. Reports of the County and District Councillors**

Neither Member was present.

## **116. Report from Organisations**

Councillor Dare had no report on behalf of the Village Hall Committee. In respect of Neighbourhood Watch, Councillor Clasby reported upon recent incidents in Middle Road and egg throwing by youths in the village. PCSO Lora Bray was in attendance and reported that she had contacted the Coastal Archers following damage to their signs and safety concerns due to people accessing the playing field through gaps in the western hedge. The Zumba Group had also had their activities disrupted when using the field. It was also noted that there had been other frequent incursions onto the playing field from the western boundary with those involved sometimes flouting playing field rules. It was clarified that access to the field from this boundary is legally considered as trespassing. PCSO Bray confirmed she was experiencing difficulty in making contact with the people concerned but would seek assistance from the appropriate District Council officer and keep the Parish Council informed of progress regarding the matter, which would be kept on the agenda for review at future Meetings.

## **117. Maintenance Items**

It was noted that several highway defects had been marked for repair by County Highways. It was noted that all fly-tipping deposits previously reported had been removed. There was no report on behalf of the Flood Group. Monitoring of dog fouling was continuing with focus on problem areas reported by residents.

It was noted that some repair work had taken place in Landshire Lane and Hirst Lane but edge of carriageway/verge repairs had not been completed in Combe Lane. The matter would be kept under review.

County Highways had taken no action to rectify the drainage issues in Brent Road/Cossington Lane. The Chairman had taken photographs and was compiling an illustrated report to further seek the assistance of County Highways and the County Land Drainage Section in resolving this and related matters. Due to their long-standing nature it was agreed to invite Liam Gill, Assistant Highway Services Manager, to a future Meeting of the Parish Council to discuss the issues concerned.

The Chairman reported that the village nameplate in Middle Road was found to be causing an obstruction to visibility to vehicles when emerging from a private residential entrance. The nameplate had been removed in the interest of safety and a possible alternative location was being identified. Councillor Dare would clear vegetation in Locks Way which was obscuring a street name plate, the matter having been reported by a local resident.

## **118. Authorisation for Payment**

The following payments had been made since the last Meeting:-

DD	SDC	clerk salary adjustment	£9.69
DD	SDC	clerk salary 3 months	£500.01

000977 GWB Services	grass cutting	£254.25
000978 SALC	affiliation fee (part)	£140.03

The following payments were authorised:-

000979 GWB Services	grass cutting	£396.00
000980 SDC	gang mowing	£345.60
000981 Parish Clerk	expenses & sundry payments	£351.38

### **119. Bank Reconciliation**

A bank reconciliation as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020 was checked with the original bank statements and signed by the Members who did not sign cheques as part of the Council's financial controls.

Open Meeting 8.00 p.m.

The member of the public in attendance had no issues to raise.

Open Meeting closed at 8.01 p.m.

### **120. Planning Applications**

The following planning applications were considered.

003 – Work to 4 trees at Bridge School, Cossington Centre, Middle Road – Somerset County Council – recommend that the application be withdrawn and resubmitted as part of the application for the proposed fence.

54/20/00009 – Outline application for up to 125 dwellings to the north of Cossington Lane, Woolavington and off-site improvements to the B3141/A39 junction – Gladman Developments. This appeared to be a duplication of an earlier undetermined application and it was agreed to reiterate the previous objections to the overall development on strategic policy grounds due to its proximity to, and resulting overall impact on, Cossington.

Three planning contraventions had been reported to the District Council since the last Meeting. It was noted that the owners of Green Paddocks had been invited to submit a retrospective planning application in respect of a partially erected stable and storage building. Breaches of planning conditions at Henshirl Paddocks were being investigated.

### **121. Playing Field**

The Annual Inspection Report of the play equipment had recently been received. There were no immediate actions required. Councillor Gardner had kindly repaired the spring rocker and Councillor Stradling would compile an action plan on other issues raised for consideration at the next Meeting.

The field was in regular use by the Archery Club. They had completed their hire agreement for 2020/21.

No further information had been received following an enquiry from the owner of nearby land for a wayleave agreement to lay service pipes through part of the playing field and it was agreed to leave the matter in abeyance – and not to entertain such a scheme whilst the frequent “trespassing” mentioned in Item 116 was still occurring.

### **122. Cossington in Bloom**

The Chairman outlined plans which had been agreed for the 2020 Cossington in Bloom Competitions. The results would be made public on Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 6.00 p.m.

### **123. Dates of Meetings**

It was agreed that the next Meeting held on Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

The Meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

Chairman