

COSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Cossington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Cossington on Monday, 8th November 2021 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- Councillor G. Terry (Chairman), Councillors P. Blundell, J. Clasby, M.F. Dare, J. Stradling, Mrs L. Woodward and County/District Councillor M. Healey.

Apology for absence received from Councillor E. Ingram and District Councillor B. Crow.

57. Interests

Members had no interests to disclose.

58. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th October 2021 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

59. Reports of the County and District Councillors

Councillor Healey reported upon the single authority negotiations, the Northgate Yard project in Bridgwater and the Gravity project.

60. Report from Organisations

Councillor Dare had no report on behalf of the Village Hall Committee but it was noted that face to face Meetings were to resume shortly. Councillor Clasby had nothing to report in respect of Neighbourhood Watch.

61. Maintenance Items

Damage to the highway verge support at the Landshire Lane/Middle Road junction had been reported and a pothole in Landshire Lane would be reported. There were no new fly-tipping deposits to report. Regarding the Flood Group, the water course was flowing smoothly. Monitoring of dog fouling was continuing. The District Council had agreed to relocate the litter bin in the village centre to the site of the former telephone kiosk for the sum of £52.50 to alleviate the possibility of odours being experienced by those using the seat.

County Highways had indicated that they hoped to complete the work to rectify the drainage issues in Brent Road/Cossington Lane by 31st March 2022. They had been requested to carry out the work prior to the winter to prevent ice forming on the carriageway but a response was awaited. Water unable to access the highway ditches in Cossington Lane and flowing eastwards along the carriageway during heavy rainfall before entering the Sustrans track causing a risk of flooding to properties was discussed. It was agreed to approach the relevant landowner(s) where known to request them to clear their sections of ditch and to again request the support of County Highways in this exercise although it should be included in the above scheduled works.

Councillor Dare had cleared the alternative site identified for the village nameplate in Middle Road. A date was awaited from the County Council for installation following recent correspondence with County Highways. It was agreed to record appreciation of the work of the owner of West Close Farm in removing waste vegetation. Councillor Stradling submitted options for the possible provision of a barrier near the Manor Road end of the Drain footpath following a safety issue raised by a resident. Subject to any comments from Members, a copy of the options would be forwarded to the County Council. Their consent to erect any barrier would need to be obtained and a response was still awaited. County Highways would remove a damaged "Slow" sign at Brent Road and add a pedestrian warning sign to the adjacent cyclist warning sign post on the approach to the Sustrans Track/Playing Field

The police had installed temporary Speed Indicator Devices to monitor speed at Brent Road and Middle Road. A copy of the data would be supplied. Other possible speed enforcement measures had been outlined by the police and volunteers would again be sought to form a Roads and Traffic Working Group via the next Parish Newsletter.

Councillor Mrs Woodward reported that Sustrans had arranged for a full structural survey of the parapet walls and foundations to be carried out on the former railway bridge at Broderip. Councillors Dare and Stradling were

carrying out refurbishment work to the Big Tree Surround.

62. Authorisation for Payment

The following payments were authorised:-

DD SDC	salary recharge	£519.99
001000 GWB Services	grass cutting	£244.60
001001 SDC	gang mowing	£288.00

Open Meeting 8.00 p.m.

Members of the public addressed the meeting in connection with planning application 013 (see minute 63).

Open Meeting closed at 8.01 p.m.

63. Planning Applications

The following planning application was considered – 013 - Erection of rear and side single storey extensions, 9 Station Road – Mr & Mrs K. Fitcher – recommend permission subject to a condition to clarify treatment of the southern boundary wall.

Members had raised no issues in respect of a pre-application consultation in respect of proposed alterations at Crook Peak View. The Chairman reported that application 54/21/00008 – Retrospective application for two mobile home pitches and creation of four additional pitches at Vardoes, Cossington Lane, was to be considered at the next Meeting of the District Council’s Development Committee with their recommendation of permission following refusal recommendations from both Cossington and Woolavington Parish Councils. In light of information contained in the Committee Report, a letter had been sent to the Sedgemoor District Council Chief Executive with copies to the MP and Ward Member expressing concern at the District Council’s approach to planning applications for traveller sites in general. A meeting was requested and a response was awaited.

64. Playing Field

Councillor Stradling reported that he had applied for grant aid towards the cost of new play equipment and the prospective grant provider was likely to visit the site in the near future. A possible additional opportunity for grant aid would be followed up and minor maintenance work had taken place. The Chairman reported that the updated wayleave policy had been uploaded onto the Parish Council’s website as a news item prior to inclusion on a redesigned links page.

65. Cossington in Bloom

Councillor Stradling agreed to put forward suggestions for additional competitions and an event in 2022 for consideration at the next Meeting.

66. Parish Council Newsletter

A final draft newsletter, which had been circulated by the Chairman, was approved for publication.

67. Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Meeting held on Monday, 13th December 2021.

The Meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

Chairman