

## **COSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

A Meeting of Cossington Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Cossington on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:- Councillor Ms G. Terry (Chairman), Councillors J. Clasby and J. Stradling with Somerset Councillor Suria Aujla.

Apology for absence received from Councillors P. Blundell, E. Ingram and Mrs L. Woodward.

### **47. Interests**

Members had no interests to disclose.

### **48. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

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

Somerset Councillor Suria Aujla agreed to take up issues relating to Somerset Council's approach to the control of ragwort with appropriate officers. It was noted that an acknowledgement had been received from the local MP, Ashley Fox after he was contacted on the matter at the suggestion of Somerset Councillor Healey.

### **50. Local Community Networks**

The Chairman reported that she had recently attended another poorly attended meeting of the Avalon and Poldens LCN Highways and Transport Working Group. She had subsequently had a virtual meeting with the Link Officer, Emmaline Kay, to discuss concerns at the way the Working Groups were being run by the Avalon and Poldens LCN and to offer suggestions for improvements which might increase the group's usefulness. Emmaline had agreed to take the points on board and further meetings were scheduled following the next full LCN meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> October. The 5<sup>th</sup> November Working Group meeting (in Glastonbury) would include attendance from Highways representatives

### **51. Report from Organisations**

In the absence of Councillor Dare there was no report on behalf of the Village Hall Committee. Councillor Clasby had nothing to report in respect of Neighbourhood Watch.

### **52. Maintenance Items**

It was agreed to report highway defects at Combe Lane and also tyres fly-tipped at Bell Lane. The monitoring of dog fouling was continuing. In respect of the Flood Group, the main watercourse was flowing smoothly and landowners had cleared ditches at Manor Road. It was agreed to purchase some long-handled rakes to help clear gratings during heavy rain should the need arise and to enquire as to whether Cossington was regarded as a flood susceptible area by Somerset Council which would determine the frequency of their gully clearance. Surface water from land upstream in Cossington Lane was not able to enter the roadside ditches causing pooling of water in Brent Road and it was agreed to report the matter to County Highways. It was noted that odours were still being noticed in Brent Road.

The Chairman had advised the Head of School of the Bridge School of the contact details of the company who carried out repairs and maintenance of public clocks who had referred the matter to their premises department.

### **53. Finance**

The following payments were authorised

|        |              |  |         |
|--------|--------------|--|---------|
| DD     | EDF Energy   | playing field electricity              | £60.92  |
| DD     | EDF Energy   | playing field electricity              | £19.62  |
| 001076 | GWB Services | grass cutting                          | £874.80 |
| 001077 | Parish Clerk | payroll & sundry payment reimbursement | £624.24 |

A bank reconciliation as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024 was checked with the original bank statements and signed by the Member who did not sign cheques as part of the Council's financial controls.

An application received that day for a grant on behalf of Catcott School was deferred to enable details to be circulated to all Members.

Open Meeting 7.50 p.m.

No issues were raised during the open session.

Open Meeting closed at 7.56 p.m.

### **54. Planning Applications**

The following new planning application was considered.

22/24/00007 – Change of use and conversion of barn to holiday let and associated works (revised scheme), Gardeners Cottage, Middle Road – G. Wason – recommend permission.

There had been no response to date in respect of the report lodged with Somerset Council relating to suspected contravention of Condition 4 of planning permission 54/23/00002 (Land at Green Paddock, Cossington Lane).

It was noted that Openreach have been granted permitted development (planning permission not required) to erect five nine-meter wooden poles south of Cossington Lane, Woolavington to enable the travellers' sites to have internet access.

### **55. Playing Field**

There were no new maintenance issues in the playing field to consider.

The Cossington Community Wood Group were expecting a delivery of trees for planting and Councillor Stradling outlined issues discussed at a recent meeting of the Polden Environmental Network.

### **56. Cossington in Bloom 2024**

Members reviewed the Presentation Event held on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2024. It was felt that the event went well but general attendance was disappointing. It was agreed to carry out a more detailed review before any 2025 Presentation Event. It was also agreed to record a vote of thanks for the Chairman in respect of all the work carried out behind the scenes in preparation for the Event.

### **57. Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next Meeting be held on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7.30 p.m.

The Meeting closed at 8.05 p.m.

Chairman