

# Cosgrove Parish Council

**MINUTES OF COSGROVE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY 1st MARCH 2023 at the Village Hall Commencing at 7.30pm  
(Face coverings remain optional)**

**Present:**

Cllrs Mr D Smith (in the chair), Mr C Bird, Mr A Bracey, Mrs S Comerford, Mr M Draddy, Mr C Peacock, Mr J Proctor & Mr P Roberts  
Also present were Cllr Mr I McCord (WNC), Mr D Everett (Clerk), Mrs J Evans (Deputy Clerk) and 8 members of the public and from Min:5)

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Full Council;; (A Casual vacancy remains > website notice)

**2. Members Declaration of Interest (for items on the Agenda)**

None

**3. Minutes for approval of the Meeting dated Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023**

Minutes of meeting Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023 were approved and signed as a correct record

**4. Clerks Report**

- Open Reach > Poles update responses circulated (by end of April 23)
- Xmas Lights (additional cost issues dealt with by the Chairman)
- Gigaclear update > Wayleave agreement still outstanding and remains so until Playing Field Land Registry is confirmed > discussed at length
- Burial Ground a further issue caused by Co-Op /Church? > deferred

**5. New clerks appointment and contract**

Mrs Jenny Evans (In post Salary and WP Pensions > new contract) > deferred to end of meeting

**6. Public Speaking Time**

Gigacledar trenching subsidence (> Fix my Street); 7-11 Stratford Road (Cosgrove Hall cottages and lack of parking facilities on site > FUL and LB applications now approved (and discussed); Tree felling land between Canal and Caravan Park; AB reported that FDOG had met previous evening and issues; Accidents Yardley Road junction (advise reports by Street Doc)

**7. WNC Councillor Report**

**AL5** Access off A508 (RAB –v- Traffic lights) subject to Highway comments > more to do along with Environmental objections who maybe softening approach;

**WN Budget** was Passed, expect a Council Tax rise of 4.99%

Green waste charge will increase from £42 to £55 per year per bin

Black bins will be on a 3 weekly collection not fortnightly as present

Car parking increased in Northampton with some modifications to allow for a period of free parking at the weekends.> Expect your bills to arrive probably next week.

**Community Voting WNC Days** - we received an email asking for residents to vote on priorities for small grants in 3 areas in Northampton. Ken asked about Deanshanger Ward, once we have an answer we can update these were for small grants of £2500 but residents may want to think about schemes now should this money be made available to us.

**Gypsy & Traveller Site** - Enforcement update. WNC have advised that the people on site are those allowed, the pre occupation conditions have not been complied with as yet but they have allowed a grace period for compliance.

**Local Plan Update** - Today 1 March I attended a briefing on the WNC Local Plan. The new thinking is that the spatial strategy and local plan part 2 will be replaced with one district wide Local Plan for WNC. They are still working on the timetable and the plan to develop the Plan! However, the plan period will be to approx 2041 which means that an additional 6,000 houses over and above what is currently in the existing plans are required. This should mean many of the sites promoted previously can be reconsidered and hopefully removed. WNC needs a small amount of employment land approx 25 Hectares but may have to take an allocation of additional Strategic Logistics land allocation which in the SEMLEP area is assessed to be in the range of 257 to 575 Hectares (SME LEP is NNC, WNC, MKC, Bedford, Central Beds and Luton)

#### **8. Correspondence received since last meeting (list at the meeting)**

- Cllr McCords further report on Furtho Pit AL5 > circulated and website
- Green Bin licences due from 1 April (£42 > £55)
- Open Reach update > end of April?
- AW Report on Pump Station The Green and odours > circulated
- MKC Enforcement of Caravan Park circulated > clerks letter to WNC Planning suggesting liaison with MKC to revisit issues (including a long promised Master Plan) as yet NR

#### **9. Allotments**

Issue over water supply installation costs as only £1,899.80 has been forward from GUH via Arnold Thomson > discussed Cllr Proctors deals and suggested that now ownership appeared complete to remove from Agenda (to be dealt with at Cllr roundup)

#### **10. Planning**

##### **(a) Applications Received**

**WNS/2023/0217/FUL** Single storey front side extension with pitched roof, single storey rear side extension with a flat roof and lantern 27 Bridge Road

\* No objection (next to Bridleway/fp)

##### **INTERIM**

**WNS/2023/0285/FUL** Variation of Conditions (Windows and doors) Conversion of Coach House to annes accomadation The Old Dower House > noted

##### **(b) Decision Notices**

Approval for FUL & LBC conversion to Cottages 7 & 11 Stratford Road (Cosgrove Hall)

Approval Side extension and car port Little Orchard Main Street

##### **(c) Enforcement / Appeals**

##### **(d) Press Notices**

None

#### **11 Finance**

**(a)** The Council to approve budgetary control to date

\* **RESOLVED** to adopt

##### **(b) To Note Current State of Finance**

Treasurer's a/c:	£11,600.17
Business Inst a/c:	£56,686.51 (+ Vat repay't)
Earmarked Reserves:	£60,630.94
<b>Available Capital:</b>	<b>£7,655.74</b>

**(c) To Note Accounts for Payment** (Proposed JP seconded PR and carried unanimously)

Paid 9/3/2023

002166	Wayne Smith:	£583.20 (Microsoft 365 Billing period > 02/02/2023)
-----		
002167	Clerks Salary/Petty cash:	£474.00 (£460.00 + Petty cash £14)
002168	HMRC:	£115.00 (PAYE)
002169	DNH Contracts:	£84.00 (Environmental > Feb)
002170	David Smith:	£20.92 (Fasthosts Domain fees to year end)
002171	Cosgrove Village Primary:	£200.00 (Donation re hedge cutting Village sign)
002172	Cosgrove Village Hall:	£300.00 (2022/23 Hall Hire fees)
002173	Old Mail:	£250.00 (late s137 donation)

**12. Street Lighting**

Approved Quote for new lamp proposal The Stocks X Road and time table > 27/3 (WP connection)

**13. Highways**

Yardley Road / Castlethorpe turn danger further discussed + additional incidents

Stratford Rd / The Stocks (gas leak) footway markings remain

Q on Data Collection (SIDs)

**14. Caravan Park issues and rumoured planning application**

Suggested joint liaison between WNC & MKC after MKC had raised planning issues > awaits reply

**15. Play Area inspection report (circulated)**

Working Party to be agreed > Cllrs Proctor / Peacock deal > to report back with recommendations

\* Report liabilities. Matting –v- wet poor& Low Risk climbing frame > discussed

**16. Monthly roundup and issues from each councillor**

- **Cllr Draddy** > nothing further
- **Cllr Bird** > Pot hole responses(Fix my Street) > more pot holes & Post outside removed
- **Cllr Bracey** > nothing further
- **Cllr Comerford** > Planters and plants
- **Cllr Proctor** > nothing further
- **Cllr Roberts** > nothing further
- **Cllr Peacock** > Laptop for new clerk and add on's + licence. Proposed by CP seconded by PR and agreed
- **Cllr Smith (D)** > Fly tipping issues

*Cllr McCord gave apologies and left at this point*

**17. Councillor Questions and Items for Next Agenda**

Wheel run for towpath steps

**18. Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023 commencing at 7.30pm

## **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

**RESOLVED:** That, in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting by the reason of its confidential nature.

### **5. New clerk's appointment and contract**

The clerk advised that given the 'work ethics and responsibilities' CosPC was in the Substantive Range LC2 (24-28).and not LC2 (18-23) (below substantive range). But as JP pointed out that was the level agreed (after the clerk left the December meeting) and the contract was signed and dated and produced at the last meeting as Min:5.

\* CosPC however, should aspire to pay the reasonable going rate when the new clerk officially takes office' and members **RESOLVED** to accept the clerks advice.

With no other business the meeting closed at 9.36pm