

Cosgrove Parish Council

MINUTES OF COSGROVE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 4th JANUARY 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 C Peacock, Mr J Proctor & Mr P Roberts

Also present were Cllr Mr I McCord (WNC), Mr D Everett (Clerk) and 1 member of the public and from Min:5 Mrs Jenny Evans the new deputy clerk (given Min:5)

1. Apologies for Absence

A Casual vacancy remains

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

None

3. Minutes for approval of the Meeting dated Wednesday 14th December 2022

Minutes of meeting Wednesday 14th December 2022 were approved and signed as a correct record

4. Clerks Report (Including 4 months notice of retiring after 31 years as previously agreed)

Other Reports deferred

5. New clerks appointment and contract

Mrs Jenny Evans had signed and returned conditions of employment as Deputy Clerk to the Chairman and took her place alongside the clerk (Salary and WP Pensions to be agreed)

6. Public Speaking Time

None

7. WNC Councillor Report

Spoke on Furtho Pits and the EA response especially the 'culvert' flooding at the Dogsmouth Brook under the old canal (with no projected impact on the River Great Ouse or flooding of the A508 across adjacent fields; Hydrology reports call for (objection still remains); Scale of warehousing basis /Q with an exchange of views; WNC Budget = 5% increase (spoke on Police and Fire)

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

- WNC / Request for Precept requirements by 17 Jan > deferred to the end of the meeting

9. Allotments

Cllr Proctor spoke on quotes for fencing with an update on progress

10. Planning

(a) Applications Received

WNS/2022/1741/EIA - Furtho Pit > FUL Planning app CosPC response ready > circulation before meeting and **RESOLVED** to approved circulated draft as CosPCs formal response

(b) Decision Notices

(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: £14,859.29

Business Inst a/c: £52,832.76

Earmarked Reserves: £56,731.14

Available Capital: £8,962.91

(c) **To Note Accounts for Payment** (Proposed DS seconded AB and carried unanimously)

002154 Clerks Salary/Petty cash: £474.00 (£460.00 + Petty cash £14)

002155 HMRC: £115.00 (PAYE)

002156 DNH Contracts: £120.00 (Environmental > Dec)

(d) **Precept Request (by 17th Jan 2023)**

* As Min:8

12. Street Lighting

PL1 Orchard Close still ooo > Chairman deals

Quote for new lamp proposal The Stocks Cross Road (previously circulated) = £2,275.00 (+vat)

* **RESOLVED** and Approved in principal > Chairman/clerk

13. Highways

Caravan Park Mobile Home delivery issues > Previous profiling

14. Caravan Park issues and rumoured planning application

* Deferred until details known (Cllr McCord/WNC) and liaison again raised + Chairman's reminder that NCC Highways had concluded max size of deliveries > for MKC Planning

15. Play Area inspection report (circulated)

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

16. Monthly roundup and issues from each councillor

- **Cllr Draddy** > Not present
- **Cllr Bird** > Invoices for Queens canopy/orchard plaques
- **Cllr Bracey** > Station Road > Castlethorpe
- **Cllr Comerford** > Obsolete telegraph poles still remain > clerk
- **Cllr Proctor** > Gigaclear issues.
- **Cllr Roberts** > No reports.
- **Cllr Peacock** > New lap top discussed > max £300 (next meeting).
- **Cllr Smith (D)** > Dog fouling issues.

17. Councillor Questions and Items for Next Agenda

Gigaclear; Play Area Inspection; Steps Railings so Towpath from Main Streetl issues

18. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 4th January 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.

With no other business the meeting closed at 8.36pm

11(d)

PRECEPT

The clerk presented draft proposals for 2023 / 24. Discussed at length with the current Running Balance, especially the re-introduction of a VH Grant of £500 (withdrawn the previous year due to Covid Grant) ; 6.3% was agreed given the current national concerns due to rising energy and admin costs. (WNC restricted to 5% with no such limit for PCs, although this may change given financial pressures in the future). Last year was pegged at 2.3% and the projection of precept rise from £23,500 > £25,000 was justified and unanimously approved. The clerk to amend the draft to include the issues discussed and outlined.

RESOLVED: That the precept be issued for the sum of £25,000.00