

# Cosgrove Parish Council

## MINUTES OF COSGROVE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2018 at the Village Hall, Bridge Road

### Present:

Cllrs Mrs H Harbottle (in the chair), Mr D Smith, Mr W Smith & Ms T Wallace

Also present were Mr D Everett (Clerk), and 2 members of the public

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Mr A Bracey (Holiday), Mrs F Childs (unable); Mr M Draddy (work commitments), Mrs L Welton (away), Mr I McCord (SNC) (Commitments elsewhere) & Mr A Walker (NCC) (Emergency NCC meeting)

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

None

### 3. To Sign and Approve Minutes of the Meeting dated Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Minute of the meeting Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018 were approved and signed as a true record

### 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes (for information only)

#### (a) Yardley Road / Castlethorpe Turn

HH (NCC Highways) had forwarded junction proposals re-circulated **and remains on hold** due to NCCs Financial position (signage installation costs prohibitive for CosPC)

\* > file

#### (c) Traffic speed

Cllr Childs comments re 20mph > NCC highways for costing and permission - reply circulated

\* Discussed at length

#### (d) Hanslope / Castlethorpe Expansion

\* Response from Cllr Walker & Northamptonshire Highways > no knowledge? discussed

#### (e) Canal Festival – Report

No issues > letter to BCS (thanks for clearing up after the event)

#### (f) Environmental Contract

AH Contracts (Tony Harris) to cease due to ill health > now DAH Contracts (Dudley Harris family member) current contract rates continue

\* New Public liability Insurance > for file

### 5. Public Speaking Time (this is limited to 15 minutes)

One issue about the state of Bridge Road witnessed by a resident with NCC Highways present (previously circulated) discussed

\* Cllr W Smith to chase up comments about necessary repair! via Street Doctor

### 6. District and County Councillor Reports

#### (a) Cllr Mr I McCord (SNC) Local Government Reform by e-mail

The public consultation is now closed. There have been over 6000 responses and these are being worked through. The findings will inform the submission that will be with the Secretary of State by

the end of August. SNC will meet for a special council meeting on 30 August to approve, or not, the submission document. In the meantime SNC carries on with business as usual. Unfortunately, we now need to separate from Cherwell. This has been a most successful partnership and saved all of us millions over the past 8 years. Yvonne Rees will become a share Chief Exec with Oxfordshire County Council and Cherwell District Council. In the interim Richard Ellis will be the Interim Chief Executive. Both these appointments are effective from 1 Oct. The timetable for the reorganisation is that in the Autumn the Sec of State will review what has been submitted and consult on the proposal. Then give an indication as to whether or not he is minded to approve this or not. Given that his guidance gives one possible option to comply I will be astonished that is not so minded. Then he confirms his decision. Next, a Statutory Instrument is drawn up with orders to cancel the SNC and parish elections for 2019 and prepare the abolition of SNC and all the other councils and the creation of the new West Northants and North Northants Authorities. That will establish a shadow council which should be in place by spring time 2019, April or May time. For approx. a year the shadow authority will have the task of establishing what the council will look like, committees, constitution, policies and the what, when and how of bringing 3 districts and half a county council into one. 1 April 2020 the council is created and the others abolished. A month later on the first Thursday in May elections to the new authority are held. So as not to waste any time we intend to work on the proposition that this will happen and therefore start on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept with a pre-shadow period when we can work to think about what we want when the actual shadow comes into force. The timetable is very challenging and anything we can do to help must be worth it. None of this is ideal. Every day more alarming news spills out of NCC. Last week they issued a second s114 Notice to control their spending and there is a real possibility that they have deficit position that is unlawful and unprecedented. They now need to save approx. £70 million from now until the end of the year – about £10m a month. I think that is impossible and don't know what they will do to sort it. Last week too the auditors, KPMG, released an update on progress with the audit and report and accounts preparation for the year ended 2017-18. It was grim. They have had many delays and unanswered questions and will miss the deadline of 31 July to file the accounts. In addition, they reported that the money given by Public Health England for the likes of stop smoking programmes had been misappropriated and millions needed to be repaid over 5 years. NCC has also bound the new authorities to pay for their misdeeds. The auditors have raised concerns about the use of S106 money as well and need more information to satisfy themselves it has not been misused also We also have been told this week that the draft s114 notice that was written in Oct 2015 has been released. We all knew it was drafted, but this has now finally been released. NCC was warned almost 3 years ago they were heading for trouble and chose to do nothing about it. I am happy to meet with you, in Towcester, or elsewhere to discuss this so you are aware of the implications for us all should you want to. Apologies again for my absence, we are living in some interesting times.

**Cllr. Ian A McCord Leader**

**(b) Cllr Mr A Walker (NCC)**

No reports

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

**(a) Northamptonshire Highways**

Categorisation of Potholes > circulated for information

**\* (b) NCALC Update**

Circulated by E-mail > includes AGM @ Moulton Community Centre 1000 – 1300 Sat 6 October

\* Attending? (Chairman & Clerk)

**\*(d) HAGS**

Outdoor gym > Chairman to investigate

**(e) Northamptonshire Highways**

Notice of Carriageway works A422 RAB & Deanshanger Road 7 – 10 August from 2000 – 0600

\* circulated

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

(a) **Chairman** > Spoke of emails dealt with and initial contact with Caravan Park

(b) **Cllr W Smith** > Planters / Speed Watch (SIDs) & Yardley Road

(c) **Cllr Bracey** > x

(d) **Cllr Childs** > Speed limit issue raised (Min:4(c))

(e) **Cllr Draddy** > x (no report on school liaison) > Cllr Wallace to chase

(f) **Cllr Roberts** > x

(g) **Cllr D Smith** > PL2 Yardley Road obscured by vegetation > Cllr Smith to advise

(h) **Cllr Wallace** > Report on Bus Pass users w/o service (local initiatives discussed) \*

(i) **Cllr Welton** > x

\* Note: Rumours about cabs fares being increased because of lack of bus service > to be reported

**9. Planning**

**(a) Applications**

**S/2018/1624/FUL** Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of five dwellings 42 Bridge Road

\* **OBJECTION** Continues to be an overdevelopment of a constrained site to the detriment of the Grand Union Canal Conservation Area and the setting of the 2\* Listed Solmons Bridge. The canal side setting with a modern strident design appears contrary to good planning guidance.

We would however support 3 dwellings, especially as the current proposal is a cramped overdevelopment leaving all plots, except plot 5 with little or no amenity space. We are also concerned that the current proposal has a requirement for 20 parking spaces and 5 cycle bays accessed from Bridge Road. For these reasons alone the application should be refused

**Interim**

**S/2018/1671/OUT** New dwelling (outline application to include access); Land east of Bridge Road

\* **OBJECTION** The proposal in outline only, off of a private road adjacent to the setting of a Grade 2\* Listed Solmons Bridge in the open countryside outside village confines should be refused

**S/2018/1687/TCA** Remove one copper beech and one yew tree; Medlar House, Stratford Road

\* Noted

**(b) Decision Notices**

**Approved** Reinstatement of Bridge 1 Grand Union Canal

**Approved** Vari condition re side window 1 Mansel Close

**Approved** Condition re Protection of trees site of former Cosgrove House, Stratford Road

**(c) Enforcement / Appeals**

**Appeal** 6 The Tannery against refusal of two roof lights to the rear

**(d) Press Notices**

None

**10. Finance**

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

\* **RESOLVED** to approve budgetary control by unanimous decision

**(b) To Adopt Current State of Finance**

Treasurer's a/c:	£55.43
Business Inst a/c:	£31,438.83 (+ Vat repayment)
Earmarked Reserves:	£18,913.00
<b>Available Capital:</b>	<b>£12,581.26</b>

**(c) To Approve Accounts for Payment (list of outstanding accounts at the meeting**

001777	Clerks Salary:	£350.40
001778	HMRC:	£87.60 (PAYE)
001779	Petty Cash:	£13.62
001780	NJ Blackwell:	£454.50 (Mowing > July)
001781	E.ON:	£308.54 (PL energy)
001782	DacSoft:	£60.00 (Annual hosting fees)
001783	Came & Co:	£482.61 (Annual Insurance renewal Min:7(d) July)

**11. Street Lighting**

Village sign? + replaced lamp Bridge Road / Orchard Close > to replace yellow pl Navigation  
\* Cllr W Smith deals

**12. Highways**

- (a) Overhanging vegetation discussed
- (b) Current list of highway defects (given Min:7(a))

**13. Speed Watch (The way forward)**

Criteria confirmed > interest expressed action > deferred to full council  
\* Note: Although Truvelo operates at SRTS Cameras, no traffic counts

**14. Proposed work programme (projects)**

Deferred > Chairman/clerk (list discussed)

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

- (a) Chairman spoke on Min:14 programme and Cllr project allocation
- (b) Flag Pole project discussed > opinion divided  
\* Cllr Wallace investigates and would report

**16. Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018 commencing at 7.30pm

With no other business the meeting closed at 9.10pm

Cllrs Wallace & Smith D gave apologies

**Cosgrove Parish Council**  
**Outstanding Activities**  
**August 2018**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Parish Action</b>	<b>Action by Others</b>
Ongoing  2018	<b>Dog fouling</b>  <b>Litter</b>  <b>PL numbering?</b>	New Dog bin top of steps Main St/Towpath  Additional Litter Bins  In house completion	<b>Installed and well used</b> <b>Weekly emptying top of HT</b> <b>May BH &gt; Oct</b>  <b>SNC to approve (awaits)</b>  project for 2018/19
Ongoing	<b>Highway Issues</b>     <b>Canal Bridge</b>  <b>Pot holes</b>  <b>Caravan Park traffic</b>	Continual review  (Another accident > NCC)  Request Bridge one way (Unable due to f/w specs on old structure)  Monitored  Monitored Awaits decision  Liaison awaits	<b>Bridge Road subsidence 832331 *</b> <b>Old Cosgrove Rd surface 897080</b> <b>Stratford Rd tree line 866007 *</b> <b>Xroads hedge obstruct 893772 *</b> <b>Yardley Rd/Castlethorpe 842567</b> * (Plan awaits work ticket) <b>Same location 902386 missing</b> <b>Give Way sign (WT = 3m)</b>  Site visit (NCC) awaits re safety issues Bridge Road / Main Street  <b>Slow repairs (marked 7/18)</b>  Photos sent to endorse NCC Highways comments that Main St/Bridge Rd unsuitable for large vehicles and caravan deliveries Meeting TBA
Ongoing	<b>Blocked drains</b>	When required	<b>Monitoring</b>
Ongoing	<b>Bulb planting</b>  <b>Living Tree</b>	Agreed locations  Xroads	Resident (HR) dealt and supported  Planted