

COTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the full Council meeting held on 14 December 2022 held in Cotton Village Hall

Councillors Present: Sarah Wenban (SW) (Chairman), Peter Gibbs (PG) Sue Cox (SC), Trudy Winder (TMW), Trevor Woods (TW).

In Attendance : David Rayner (Clerk) and two member of the public. County Councillor Andrew Stringer and District Councillor Andy Mellen.

141222/01 **Apologies for absence:** Paul Howlett (PH) and Beryl Ellis (BE) offered apologies for absence.

141222/02 All councillors accepted PH and BE's apologies.

141222/03 **Declarations of Interest: None received.**

141222/04 **Dispensations:** No requests for dispensation were received.

141222/05 **Minutes of previous meeting:** All Councillors confirmed receipt of the draft minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on 5 October 2022 prior to the meeting and these were accepted as record of the meeting.

141222/06 **Update on noticeboard:** DR contacted PH as requested and offered to take over issue from PH. PH agreed. DR phoned Greenbarnes and spoke to Andy Brewer. He was asked to send some photos, which he did. First comment was that we had purchased a wall mounted noticeboard not a post mounted version, but after examination of the photos said that the substantial cross timbers added were sufficient for the board. Next Andy pointed out that the bottom cross timber was still in place which was covering a vent in the noticeboard. DR had removed this and will see it the situation improves. Andy also mentioned that the screws fixing the board to the cross pieces protruded right through the timber and water could find its way into the noticeboard via capillary action.

Signed:

Date:

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141222/07 Lord of the Manor: PG updated up on the tree survey position. PG has had two quotes one nearly £500 and one over £500 who said “And by the way, because the tree is covered in ivy, we can’t do it properly but if you pay us we can take the ivy off”. PG stated you could get a bill for £1,000 and all it says is that there is some work that needs doing. SW suggested that we get Andrew Collins to take a quantity of ivy off the tree from the ground upwards to expose the trunk and offer an initial view on its condition. If necessary then get an expert opinion, not necessarily a written report. PG to get quote to have the ivy cut off at the bottom of the tree so we can agree at the next meeting.

Planning:

141222/08 DC/22/05611 Erection of 1No dwelling and triple cartlodge: SW has had conversations with MSDC and Andrew Stringer PG, former chair, and called for this meeting for consistence’s sake. This development lies outside our settlement boundary, it’s now no longer a conversion but a demolition and a new build, and we always look to the local plan with reference to character etc. PG asked AS and/or AM if it was legitimate to take down the existing agriculture building and replace with a new building of a similar size but in a different place. AS said that case law has established that if planning permission under class Q regulations is granted, then a principle of a dwelling is granted and they can submit a full planning application on the basis of the approved principle of a dwelling of a similar size. After much discussion it was decided that the Council would offer some comments on the proposal and SW with DR would draft a response.

Finance:

141222/09 Cash balances: The retained balances are £15,554.41 overall with £7,759.24 in the Community account and £8,795.17 in the premium account.

141222/10 Bank movements: Since the last meeting there has only been a receipt of interest of £4.90, and the only payments were those authorised at the last meeting.

141222/11 Payments to be authorised: The following payments were authorised at the meeting:

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	Payee	Description	Amount
141222/12	Zurich Insurance	Insurance on Carters Meadow	£279.74
141222/13	A J Collins	Grass cutting contract	£1,650.00
141222/14	London Hearts	Defibrillator purchase	£1,453.20
141222/15	Locality Grant: AM has offered just over £600 additional grant towards the defibrillator, amount to be confirmed in due course.		
141222/16	Defibrillator: TMW stated that the first training session on 24 January 2023 was full. Other dates will be arranged. Training is being offered for free but a donation to the charity who supported the trainer's niece will be made.		
141222/17	Councillors left meeting early: SC, TMW and TW left the meeting together with one member of the public because of a clashing meeting.		
	Public Forum:		
141222/18	Streetlighting: AS has had a site meeting with the new chief engineer and has paid for a safety audit in order to speed the process up. Proposals have been requested for both hard narrowing of the road and also soft narrowing. AS is pushing for street lights to make crossing the road safer. Martin Yates is concerned that any action is being pushed back and back but AS is aware of the pressure in the area with Bacton as well. AS has requested the raw data from Martin Yates.		
141222/19	Items for a future agenda: The two items SW suggested were, A - The King's Coronation and B - Bacton F C letter requesting support which arrived too late for this meeting. SW also commented that a budget for 2023/4 would need to be prepared early in the New Year.		
141222/20	Date of next meeting: Next meeting is arranged for 11 January 2023.		
141222/21	Chairman closed the meeting at 20:25.		

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