



COSBY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes

Minutes of the Meeting of Cosby Parish Council held on Thursday 17th November 2022 in the Heritage Room, Cosby Village Hall, Park Road, Cosby.

Present: Cllr: V Rye (Chair) Cllr: J Chapman Cllr: M Howkins
Cllr: S Boocock Cllr: J Wolfe Cllr: C Pharoah
Cllr: M Hillmann

Also present Mr L Phillimore (Parish Manager)
Mrs S Chapman (Assistant Parish Manager)

9 Members of the public (1 as Public Participation, 7 as observers, 1 as Co-Option)

636. Chairman's welcome.

- a) Cllr: Rye welcomed those present and thanked the members of the public for their attendance.
- b) Cllr: Rye also wished to formally record her thanks to Paul Hodges, Dave Marriott and Jim Roberts for the over-and-beyond help for the 13th November Remembrance Parade.
- c) Cllr: Rye proposed that agenda item 6 "To consider any applications for Co-Option" be moved down the agenda to after agenda item 18 to allow the Co-Option vote to take place in a confidential session at the end of the meeting. **RESOLVED:**
- d) Cllr: Rye advised all those present of comments made by both Members of the Council and public following the last meeting that: - *Cllr: Hillmann was not refused the right to speak about his Motion, he would have been allowed to respond and explain his rationale after the debate as per the Rules of Debate.*

637. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr: K Scotton (Work commitments) Cllr: S Wegerif (Councillors are aware) Both approved

638. To receive disclosures of members' interests (i.e., the existence and the nature of those interests in respect of items on this agenda)

Cllr: M Howkins, non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 11 b – Toc-H being a paid-up member of Friends of Toc-H and auditor of Toc-H accounts.

Cllr: M Howkins - Declaration of Non-pecuniary Interest as a Trustee of the Village Hall Committee

639. To receive and sign the minutes of the meeting of Cosby Parish Council held on Thursday 20th October 2022

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of Cosby Parish Council held on Thursday 20th October 2022 be approved

a) Matters arising from these Minutes

Minute 634 a - Chairman confirmed that she is collating the responses to the RPT Consulting report.

Minute 634 b – To note that the 2022 Remembrance Parade did take place

640. To receive and approve the financial reports for the months ending 31st October 2022 including income and expenditure, budget year to date, balance sheet and to record the signing of the bank reconciliation for the same period.

RESOLVED: That the financial reports for the month ending 31st October 2022 including income and expenditure, budget year to date, accounts paid and balance sheet and to record the signing of the bank reconciliation for the same period be approved.

a) Cllr: Rye queried 140/4450 Cemetery and Victory Park expenditure on trees and shrubs.

Parish Manager confirmed that expenditure relates to routine arboreal works covered by **earmarked reserves**

641. Clerks report

a) Recreation Ground Charity meeting – 6.30pm Thursday 15th December 2022

b) Tarmac pathway repairs – Parish Manager to liaise with the contractors due to unsightly “tape” repairs.

c) Housing Developer – meeting to be arranged, likely December 2022

d) Remembrance Day – Cllr: Pharaoh suggests that the Parish Council and the churches work together for a cohesive village event

642. To consider and approve the meeting dates for Cosby Parish Council for the year 2023

RESOLVED: That the dates be approved, the Parish Manager noting that the May meeting is early due to 2023 being an election year.

643. To consider and approve the Working Party meeting schedule for Cosby Parish Council for 2023

RESOLVED: That the dates be approved being based upon weather seasons and budgets.

644. To consider any Memorial applications not in compliance with the published cemetery Rules & Regulations

None to consider

645. Correspondence received.

a) Email – Member of the public – fees for commercial dog walkers

The email be noted and Parish Manager to advise the resident of the requirements of the Recreation Ground Charity as owners of Victory Park to generate an income.

b) Email - ToC-H – request for grant from Cosby Recreation Ground for £175 for a replacement Father Christmas suit for the annual charity collection sleigh ride.

RESOLVED: That a sum of £175 be approved from the Recreation Ground Charity funds.

Late Correspondence as grant applications

c) Bulls Head, Cosby – Request for £665.00 for a Cherry Picker related to the Cosby Christmas Lights in The Nook

RESOLVED: That a sum of £665.00 be granted from the remaining £807 Covid grant and Recreation Ground Charity

- d) **Cosby Village Hall Committee** – Request for up to £1,500 to sponsor the annual Christmas pantomime

RESOLVED: That a sum of £1,000 be granted from the Parish Councils and residual Covid grant fund.

- e) **Email – Member of the public – Cosby Post Office closure**

The correspondence be noted and the resident be advised that it is too early for Cosby Parish Council to seek a new operator.

It is also noted that The Parish Manager as County Councillor is in contact with Post Office Ltd regarding the closure.

- f) **Email – Blaby DC – Dog waste bin – Bramble Walk**

The correspondence and subsequent service charge reduction be noted

- g) **Email – Parking on Cambridge Road vs Saffron Dynamo**

The correspondence be noted and that the Parish Manager as District Councillor has requested the Civil Enforcement Officers and Police monitor the parking.

- h) **Email – Cllr: M Hillmann – withdrawal of Motion 2 (2022)**

The withdrawal of Motion be noted

Late Correspondence (Cemetery)

- i) **Letter from member of the public re: internment of ashes** in excess of Cemetery Rules and Regulations 6 e.

RESOLVED: a) That the person be permitted to be interred as the third cremation casket

- b) That the Parish Manager investigate other burial authority policies and report back to Council.

646. **Public Participation – a) Public Speaking Protocol – Requests received by the protocol deadline to be reported by the Clerk to the Parish Council with detail of the agenda item to which they relate. b) The meeting will be suspended to allow members of the public to make representation about items that are not on the agenda. All requests must be made to the Clerk prior**

- a) Mr A Marriott spoke on behalf of the Cosby Cottages Association and indicated that a £4,000 grant would not cover the cost of LED upgraded street lanterns and that the CCA are not VAT registered.

Cllr: Rye suggested that that could be a future conversation

Cllr: Rye will review her personal Council records to clarify when the resolution 492 e was discussed and passed.

647. **To consider street lighting on The Settlement**

- a) **Motion 2 (2022)** Cllr: M Hillman withdraws the Motion listed on 15th September 2022 and 20th October 2022. (See correspondence received 653 h) in favour of: -

- b) **Motion 3: (2022) Cllr V Rye - to overturn Resolution 492 e (16th December 2021). “That the “fair warning” letter of Cosby Parish Councils decision to divest responsibility be approved and issued to the Cosby Cottages Association” be withdrawn and that: -**

Pursuant with “Parish Councils Act 1957, S3”

- i. Once the Cosby Cottages Association can evidence that they are unable to secure funding from either Blaby District Council or Leicestershire County Council to either take over responsibility for street lighting on The Settlement or to meet the cost of upgrading the sodium lanterns (12 in total as present) to LED lanterns

on The Settlement, Cosby Parish Council will provide a grant of up to £4,000 by way of contribution to the upgrade to LED lanterns.

- ii. Cosby Parish Council will be responsible for the electricity consumption for lighting on the Settlement with a review every 3 years henceforth with no guarantee of continuance on the condition that the street lighting is upgraded or works are commissioned to upgrade to LED lanterns no later than 1st September 2023.
- iii. Cosby Parish Council will no longer accept financial responsibility for the repairs and maintenance of the street lights on the Settlement with effect from 1st April 2023

Cllr: Rye advised that the Motion debate will be held in public with the vote held in a confidential session.

Cllr: Hillmann explained his rationale to table his Motion 2 (2022) including: -

- a) The amount of staff time and work required in matters relating to the divesting of responsibility being out of proportion to the cost of the Motion being approved and a compromise was a sensible way forward.
- b) As a public authority, investing in upgrading The Settlement street-lighting to LED's is a positive investment in the environment.

The Parish Manager advised Members that in his opinion, there was an ethical dimension that Members needed to consider and that within the *Parish Councils Act 1957 s3*, the Parish Manager is comfortable that the Act provides the legal authority for the Parish Council to pay for the "lighting" (Lanterns upgrade and electricity consumption) element of street lighting on The Settlement.

NB: No Member debated the Motion. (See confidential session for the resolution)

648. To consider any planning applications listed and any notices received after the publication of the Agenda.

None considered

649. To receive any updates from Working Parties

- a) Cllr: Hillmann advised members of the Cosby Neighbourhood Development Plan referendum takes place on Thursday 24th November.
- b) Cllr: Rye advised Members of a need for the Victory Park WP to meet to review the Playground upgrade proposals. Parish Manager advised Members to invest in quality equipment and if necessary, Council can call on General Reserves.
- c) Members to agree a date for the Village Projects update meeting
 - i. Cllr: Rye advised that the "Council Development Meeting" should aim to meet in January 2023 to review priorities.
- d) Update on the re-constitution of Cosby Recreation Ground Charity
 - i. Parish Manager will speak to Councils lawyers regarding the wording within the Side Letter and ownership of the Village Hall.
 - ii. Village Hall Committee are unable to sign the letter until they have reconstituted
 - iii. Village Hall Committee to agree their "way forward" and advise the Parish Manager of any concerns, issues or expectations.
- e) Christmas Event
 - i. Cllr: Rye requests any available help on the evening of Saturday 3rd December 2022 from 4.00pm

650. To receive any reports from External meetings

None attended

651. To receive any reports from County / District Councillors

L Phillimore as County Councillor advised of the launch of Fox Connect on 27th October 2022 and the increasing use of the new public bus service by Cosby residents.

652. (Agenda item 6) To consider any applications for Co-Option

Helen Stevenson presented herself for Co-Option

653. CONFIDENTIAL ITEM: In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960 and (Exempt information at Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 Act) the press and the public will be excluded from the following items by reason of the confidential nature of the business **(Personal, Commercial, Legal)** to be discussed and Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual/s and will be requested to withdraw.

a) Co-Option - RESOLVED: That Helen Stevenson be Co-Opted onto Cosby Parish Council

i. Cllr: C Pharaoh - Abstain

b) To take the vote (If required) on Motion 3 (2022) street lighting on The Settlement

i. Proposed by Cllr: V Rye, Seconded Cllr: C Pharaoh

RESOLVED: That Motion 3 (2022) is carried by majority and the Parish Manager to confirm the resolution to Cosby Cottages Association

c) To consider and approve the Local Government Pay awards for 2022/23

RESOLVED: That the Local Government Pay Awards for 2022/23 with an additional day's holiday from 1st April 2023 be approved.

654. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Thursday 15th December 2022

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.00.