



COSBY PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mr Les Phillimore
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Minutes of the Meeting of Cosby Parish Council held at 7.00pm on Thursday 21st December 2023 in the Heritage Room, Cosby Village Hall, Park Road, Cosby.

Present: Cllr: V Rye (Chair) Cllr: J Wolfe Cllr: M Howkins Cllr: J Chapman
Cllr: S Boocock Cllr: H Stevenson

Also present Mrs S Chapman (Assistant Parish Manager)

Members of the Public: 2 members of public present

23.844 Chairmans welcome

Chairman welcomed those present and presented a plant to Sarah Chapman on behalf of Councillors for her dedication to the Christmas Light challenges and Christmas market

With Caroline Russell in attendance, Council presented Caroline with the Garner Cup for services to the community.

23.845 To receive apologies for absence

Cllr: C Pharoah, Cllr: S Wegerif, Cllr: G Lee, Cllr: M Hillmann (All approved)

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

None declared

23.847 To receive and sign the minutes of the meeting of Cosby Parish Council held on Thursday 16th November 2023.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of Cosby Parish Council held on Thursday 16th November 2023 be signed as an accurate record with amendments as recorded.

Matters arising from the minutes: -

Minute 23.829

- (a) (1) Faded white lines are to be repainted
- (a) (2) Overgrown hedges are private property and referred to County Council
- (a) (3) Pending investigation Parish Manager
- (a) (4) Beech hedge due for annual flailing by Blaby DC
- (b) **RESOLVED:** That the written response to Mr C Snowball regarding sports provision on Victory Park be approved and sent.

23.848 To receive and approve the financial reports for the month ending 30th November 2023 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 30th November 2023 including income and expenditure, budget year to date, balance sheet and to record the signing of the bank reconciliation for the same period be approved.

- a) Parish Manager advises Council that Santander have still not provided a closing bank statement in relation the provision £193,303.67 investment money and will continue to chase and / or report or the Financial Conduct Authority.

23.849 Report from the Village Hall (Committee) Charity

- a) Graham Anderson provided a verbal report regarding the village hall use highlighting concerns over the cost of utilities and low level of deposits taken to secure the hall.
- b) Disposal of rubbish should be the responsibility of the user group and not left on site.
- c) Future usage of the changing rooms and charges is of concern due to only the Cricket Club making use of them.
- d) Village Hall Committee will continue to take bookings “business as normal”
- e) Lawyers are engaged and working towards a common transfer date for the village hall.
- f) Parish Manager will explore any issues within Local Government Licensing regarding private Burlesque dance classes.

23.850 Clerks report

- a) Parish Manager advises Council that over £15,000 has been invested to date in the future of the village hall which are RESOLVED to be recharged to the Recreation Ground Charity in due course. The Charity currently holds around £28,000 with a further £10,000 RESOLVED to be invested in the children’s playground development.
- b) Cosby Settlement – street lighting has all been upgraded to LED so cost of electricity consumption should reduce considerably. Grant has been paid by Blaby DC with the County Council grant yet to be paid.
- c) Waste bins upgrade. Blaby DC have confirmed that the rubbish collection service rate will remain as is.
- d) Rubbish bin between gym and library to be relocated to inside the playground extension.
- e) Change of Use – commercial buildings to the rear of Croft Road. Planning Officer will seek more detail on the proposed activities.
- f) Christmas Lights and repeat failures during heavy rain. Assistant Parish Manager has been instructed to stop all investigation and repair work until 2024 when new connections to the lighting columns will be fitted.
- g) Parish Manager to write to and publish Totally Trees and the Electrician thanking them for their hard work and commitment to repairing the Christmas lights.

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

None to consider

23.852 Correspondence received.

- a) Email – Mr C Snowball – Concerns regarding best value assessment of playground equipment. Parish Manager has provided Mr Snowball with pricing and equipment specifications and has heard nothing since.
- b) Email – Cllr: S Wegerif – Concern over choice of bank and investment accounts. Members are assured that Members have been fully informed throughout the selection process with as much due diligence undertaken as was reasonable.

- c) Community media – to consider and approve a public statement in response to the article “Female Football in Cosby” published on Spotted Cosby and in the December edition of Cosby News.

RESOLVED: That the Public Statement (with amendments & additions) be sent to Cosby News for publication in February 2024.

23.853 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

No requests received

23.854 To consider any planning applications listed and any notices received after the publication of the agenda.

None to review

23.855 To receive any updates from Working Parties to include: -

a) Finance and Staffing Working Party – updated 2024/25 budget (Parish Manager)

Parish Manager provided overview of the 2024/25 budget and Precept highlighting a preliminary budget setting of £169,993, Precept £155,093 4.96% increase, approximately £6.00 pa increase for a Band D.

b) Cemetery, Chapel and Pinfold Working Party – Allocation of cemetery land for new cremation plots (Urgent item).

RESOLVED: That the Assistant Parish Manager sources at-speed proposals for the development and setting out of the top left hand cemetery area ahead of the next Cemetery Working Party.

23.856 To receive any updates on Village Projects to include: -

a) Cosby Christmas Lights switch-on and Christmas Market – review

- i) An extremely successful evening with considerable village attendance
- ii) The 2024 Christmas event is scheduled for Saturday 30th November 2024
- iii) To note the Cosby Recreation Ground Charity audit and approval of Christmas Light switch-on and Street Market collection on 2nd December 2023 amounting to **£63.77**

RESOLVED: That the charity collection audit of £63.77 be agreed and signed by the Chairman.

- iv) To approve a donation to the Corps of Drums for their attendance at the Christmas event 2023

RESOLVED: That a donation of £100.00 be made to the Corps of Drums

23.857 To receive any reports from External meetings

No reports

23.858 To receive any reports from County / District Councillors

No reports

23.859 To confirm the date of the next meeting as Thursday 18th January 2024

Meeting closed at 8.56pm