



COTFORD ST LUKE PARISH COUNCIL

The Community Centre, Bethell Mead, Cotford St Luke, Taunton TA4 1HZ www.cotford-st-luke.org.uk

COTFORD ST LUKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held virtually on ZOOM on Thursday 8th April 2021 at 1830

MINUTES

Present: Cllr Coucher (Chair), Cllr Perrett, Cllr Lisa Davies, Cllr Davies, Cllr Woodford, Cllr Reeves, Cllr Hutson

Clerk: Louisa Gillett

There were four members of the public in attendance.

1/21 Apologies

PCSO Henderson

2/21 Declarations of Interest

A declaration was received from Cllr Pete Davies as Acting Chair of the Community Association Management Group.

3/21 Matters arising from PC meeting of 11th March 2021

A correction was made to change Cllr Davies to Cllr Lisa Davies.

4/21 Approval and signature of minutes of meeting of 11th March 2021

The minutes were adopted as an accurate record of the meeting, to be signed by the Chair at a future date.

5/21 Questions from the public (up to 15 minutes)

A member of the public asked if the rubbish at the back of Milsom Place will be cleared up. Steve Speck said that he has reported the matter to SCC and he will follow this up. It was agreed to produce a leaflet explaining the rules about fly tipping and littering in general to be circulated to houses in the area. A message will be posted on Facebook to raise awareness about fly tipping and littering.

6/21 Community matters

6/21.1 Rights of way and paths

- 6/21.1.1 Signs for local paths. Signs have been erected at the entrance to the paths across Richard Payne's land which have received positive feedback on the PC Facebook page. Steve Speck will send the invoice to the Clerk which is expected to be about £150.00
- 6/21.1.2 Permissive path. The only walking access to footpaths on the other side of the B3227 is along an unsafe road. Steve Speck has asked the landowner of the adjacent field if he is willing to permit a path through the field to give walkers a safer route and he has agreed to the idea in principle. Livestock is kept in the field. Subject to the costs involved, the PC will pay for secure gates for walkers to enter and leave the field.

Action: Cllr Perrett and Steve Speck will meet with the landowner to discuss the proposal and develop costings for the project.

- 6/21.2 *Allotment update.* Roughly 30 residents have expressed an interest in having an allotment in the village. There is funding of approximately £8000 available which was designated for allotments in

the Orchard Vale development, but there is no space for allotments at that site. SWTC will be asked if the funds can be re-designated for allotments in another part of the village. Allotments will be added to the Village Plan being developed by Cllr Reeves.

Action: Cllr Reeves will find out if the funds can be re-designated for use elsewhere in the village.

7/21 Village Plan

The PC will develop a Village Plan in consultation with residents for the future of the village. Residents will be informed of consultation meetings via the newsletter, which will be distributed in June; displays with maps and plans will be posted in the Community Centre; and the PC web site and Facebook page. Some ideas that have already been put forward include wildflower planting in grassy areas and maintenance and care of the flood plain. These ideas and others will be brought to consultation meetings. Advice on best management of the flood plain areas will be sought from local conservation organisations and ecologists. The Village Plan will include a comprehensive description of areas of the village that will require maintenance to be paid for by the PC.

Action: Cllr Reeves will organise stakeholder meetings.

Action: Cllr Lisa Davies will consult Somerset Wildlife Trust and a local ecologist for advice.

7/21.1 *Youth projects.* Cllr Lisa Davies is meeting with a local youth organisation to find out how to survey young people in the village. There has been some feedback from the young skateboarders/scooterists. They no longer use the ramp on the recreation ground as the surface has lost all its grip and is too slippery to attempt their manoeuvres. There has been a request for lighting to be installed at the MUGA and tennis court so that the courts can be used in the evening.

Action: Clerk to ask SWTC to repair the surface.

Action: Clerk to obtain an estimate for court flood lights.

7/21.1.1 *Bird box kits.* Cllr Lisa Davies explained that a local charity has produced bird box kits for children to make and suggested the PC could purchase some to give to children in the village, after which the bird boxes could be erected around the village. It was agreed the project could be organised through the school. The PC agreed to contribute £150 towards the project.

Action: Cllr Lisa Davies will ask the school if they would like to be involved in the project.

8/21 Update from the Media and Communications Working Party

8/21.1 *Social media.* Cllr Lisa Davies reported that the number of followers on the Facebook page has increased to 380 with more than 1000 likes on the land purchase issue.

8/21.2 *Newsletter.* Cllr Lisa Davies and Cllr Davies are putting together a newsletter to be printed in early June. Articles for publication are welcome from all members of the community and can be sent to clerk@cotford-st-luke.org.uk

9/21 Update on estates

9/21.1 *Footpaths on the flood plain.* There have been several requests for the paths on the flood plain to be mown during the summer to give walkers easier access to the area. Cllr Hutson will ask SWTC to provide an estimate for doing this work.

9/21.2 *Hedges in Graham Way.* There have been several complaints that the hedges have become overgrown and unkempt. These would normally be cut by large clippers that cannot be used until the end of the nesting season on 31st August. Residents will be advised of this on Facebook.

10/21 SCC Councillor: update by Mike Rigby

Cllr Rigby did not attend the meeting and did not supply a report.

11/21 SW&T Councillor: update by John Hassall

11/21.1 *Council meetings.* From 7th May councils are no longer permitted to meet remotely. There have been several complaints about the return of face-to-face meetings and until more information is available from government, councils are encouraged to hold their Annual General meeting and the next PC meeting before this date. CSL PC will meet on 6th May.

11/21.2 *Council unification.* Two proposals have been put forward for council unification; Stronger Somerset is supported by Mendip District Council, Sedgemoor District Council, Somerset West and

Taunton Council and South Somerset District Council; One Somerset has been proposed by SCC. There are advantages and disadvantages to both proposals, but unification will bring disruption and there will be delays before benefits.

11/21.3 *NHS land purchase.* SWTC has purchased the land and plans to use it for water treatment to remove phosphates before recycled water enters the rivers and water table.

12/21 Police update for March 2021

A report was circulated prior to the meeting. There were no questions.

13/21 Cotford St Luke Community Association

Repair work has started on the hall. The guttering has been replaced and the plastering and re painting will start next week. The CA will pay for the repairs and invoice CSL PC for reimbursement.

14/21 Finance

14/21.1 Payments

14/21.1.1 *CSL 404 SWTC Repair of bus shelter £548.00*

14/21.1.2 *CSL 409 Louisa Gillett reimbursement £29.00*

14/21.1.3 *CSL 410 Kingfisher Tree Services £1080.00.* Kingfisher will be paid for one of the invoices to the value of £540. Cllr Hutson will find out what the second invoice is for.

RESOLUTION: The councillors resolved to pay vouchers 404 and 409, and half of 410.

15/21 S106 projects

An application for S106 funding has been submitted to SWTC for Acoustic Improvement of the main room of the Community Hall. The PC will be notified by 22nd April if the application has been successful.

16/21 Planning

There were no planning applications.

The meeting ended at 20:20

Signed

Dated