

MINUTES, ANNUAL PARISH MEETING **COTFORD-ST-LUKE PARISH**

(in the format to be presented to the next meeting for approval)

**Thursday 19th May 2022, in the Community Centre, commencing at
7.00pm**

Present:

Cllr A Coucher

C Morrison-Jones (Locum Clerk)

5 x members of the public

1) Apologies of Absence

None

2) Acceptance of minutes from Annual Parish Meeting 6th May 2021

The minutes of the meeting were accepted by those present as a true record of the meeting

3) Report by the Chairman of Cotford-St-Luke Parish Council

The plans the Parish Council have for the next year are as follows:

The paths on the flood plain and around Cotford St Luke are inaccessible in the winter, so we are installing a hard path on the raised part of the flood plain from Bethell Mead to Burge Meadow. The project is divided into 2 parts. This will make it accessible throughout the year for all residents. Also, we have plans to replace the bridge on that path.

Outdoor exercise equipment is going to be installed the field near to the primary school. Somerset West and Taunton Council, who own the land, have drawn up an agreements with the parish council to allow us to use the field. The area we chose is near to the east of the play area on the field near the Primary School.

Speed of vehicles is always an issue in any urban area and Cotford St Luke is no exception. I have been in contact with traffic management at Somerset West and Taunton Council over the past year asking for guidance on this problem. Kate Brown from Traffic Management, will be assessing our needs within the next few weeks. Originally, we explored building a pedestrian crossing which after talking traffic management, was far too expensive. So, we are considering other options such as speed signs and road markings.

Weed control in the village is a controversial subject. Even though we do not own the roads in Cotford St Luke, it is our responsibility to keep them clear of weeds. Somerset West and Taunton Council originally managed this but have given that responsibility to us. Over the past year we have explored alternative methods of controlling weeds, but they all were too expensive or ineffective. We have found a company who are trained in spraying weeds and so we will be re-starting that part of our commitment to the Parish in the near future. However if a realistic alternative is found, we will consider that.

The basic management of Cotford St Luke is down to the Parish Council and not the District or County Council. We help at a grass roots level to keep our village for the residents working for the residents.

So, I would like to encourage residents who enjoy living in Cotford St Luke to consider whether they could give a little of their time to the village by either offering themselves to be a councillor or as a committee member of the Community Association.

We have 5 councillors at present, and we need 2 more so that the work that we do can be more evenly distributed. The amount of time required on the council is totally up to the individual.

If you want Cotford Saint Luke Parish Council and the Community Association to be run by residents of Cotford St Luke rather than Bishops Lydeard Parish Council, please put yourself forward.

4) Questions and Comments from Parishioners

- Has the existing bridge (on the new pathway been surveyed?
Cllr Hutson reported that he believed that it has been and he will try and find out more information.
- Will the weed control company be using glyphosate?
Yes, it will be but it will be only be spraying 'kerb side' and will be applied carefully in a spot application method rather than a generalised area spraying.

5) Any other business

None

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 19.11