

COTFORD ST LUKE PARSH COUNCIL

	<p>It was agreed that the representative should meet with Tony Freeman outside of the meeting to discuss possible FA funding. Maybe do some fund raising. To then bring back to the Parish Council</p> <p>7.2 Hedges overgrown no action from SWT – Baileys Gate Helen Phillips had been on a tour of the village and had seen this hedge and the difficulties the person had had getting any action from SWT. This hedge to be part of a general plan re- open spaces between the Parish Council and the SWT</p> <p>7.3 Parking near or on the roundabouts Graham way near Co-op. Person from the village raised concerns that cars are parked on the hill. Cllr Coucher identified that the Highway code is being broken by this action. Ex Cllr Stansbury explained the history of this issue and had been raised for 3yrs with no action. Letters through the door has been done before. The fact that they do slow the traffic in this area was noted. Mr Freeman explained that parking issue has been de-criminalised due to difficulty of enforcement. Police might be able to send a standard letter to the houses. Parish Clerk to approach PCSO. Issues with low trees occluding views was noted by Helen Phillips from SWT.</p>	
<p>8.0</p>	<p>Mr Richard Payne, Local Landowner. He thanked the council for the opportunity to share issues re- access to land. He has farmed in the area since 1986. He farms in order to be beneficial to wildlife and crops. He has known rights of way over his land. He is constantly getting people walking off the clearly marked path. 10 yrs. ago there was a joint venture to put a notice board up with information. It now needs updating. He explained positively that he has employed two boys out of the village. He wants to work with the Parish council and is happy to see people on the footpath. Different signage put up in the past only lasted 48hrs before it was vandalised.</p> <p>We need an agreement by the villagers to keep to the paths. He offered new Public Rights of way information and would forward to the council. To be put on the website.</p> <p>He owns the land from the river. Happy with the use of this woodland. He explained there is a squeeze gap to the right of the stile to allow for access for all including dogs on leads. Agreed to do more marking. Agreed to remove the branches from the river.</p> <p>There is no alternative to the bird scarer but only in the spring period. A warning prior to the start of this period was deemed a good idea. Flood plain management. He has the equipment to deal with the floodplain. Environment agency may need to be involved.</p> <p>He has sent an email to Headmaster of the school regarding the National curriculum to alert children to paths and how to use them. Has had positive response from the school to come and see what is happening on the farm and how their food is grown. People have a right to walk the footpath but need to be in control of their dogs. The Parish Council agreed that this message should go out via the Website, newsletter, Facebook. The dog walkers on the council happy to give out leaflets to other dog walkers in the village. Cllr Davies to take the lead on this project. Cllr Green to do a live interview with the farmer on Facebook. Parish Clerk to coordinate contacts.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Clerk Cllr Davies</p>
<p>9.0</p>	<p>Helen Phillips SWT Council came to update the council on how the relationship will now work. She has had a tour of the village prior to the meeting. There was a merger of Taunton Deane and West Somerset councils. This started in April 2019</p>	

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	<p>There is a completely new executive. They are also under financial pressures and must make cuts. 20% cut in employees. Parks and Open spaces (previously the DLO) team have started recruitment. This is the reason the grass has not been cut as often. Many staff took early retirement or redundancy. The council have lost a lot of expertise and experience. But locality managers are now in place. The new employees will need training. Cllr Davies asked could we find an alternative supplier to do work that has not been done. They are currently prioritising health and safety issues.</p> <p>There are services that are there are responsibilities to do. Problems of unknown land ownership is still an issue. The parish council might have to ask homeowners to deal with if their foliage is over-growing paths. A member of public also stated that the grass cutting is often to a poor standard.</p> <p>Helens colleague was also present did speak to it about doing the schedules and the standard of cuts. They were asked about picking up of tree debris. The Parish Council agreed for a drawing up of a schedule of necessary work and what cannot be done by SWT could be put out to tender for local gardening businesses to complete.</p> <p>Helen Phillips offered to be our main council contact on these issues.</p>	<p>Clerk and Helen Phillips SWT</p>
10.0	<p>SWT Councillor Update Mr Hassall was present to deliver his report. He explained he is learning a lot as a new councillor. He will do a surgery before each Parish Council Meeting in Oake and Cotford, alternate months.</p> <p>SWT have cancelled the development in Firepool. Also supporting a Frack Free Zone in Taunton. Grants are available to plant trees. There are still tracks of land in the village owned by Coftons who went into receivership which may be good sites. SWT is supporting a direct cycle route to Taunton via Cotford. Cllr Hassall is on the scrutinising committee. Somerset local transport board. He is available for contact. Use of general enquiry form discussed. We have Helen has a contact.</p>	
11.0	<p>SCC Councillor: Mike Rigby was absent.</p>	
12.0	<p>Communication within the Parish council It was agreed that this topic be dealt with at an extraordinary meeting outside of the routine Parish Council Meeting. The date to be circulated by Cllr Coucher</p>	<p>Cllr Coucher</p>
13.0	<p>Annual agreement of up to date Parish Council Documents</p> <p>13.1 Standing Orders -Agreed at this meeting</p> <p>13.2 Financial Regulations -Agree at this meeting</p> <p>13.3 Code of Conduct – Agreed at this meeting</p> <p>Further documents needing review will be brought to future meetings.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
14.0	<p>Discussion of current issues for Parish Council.</p> <p>Allotments no action outstanding. Agreed to take off current list.</p> <p>Winter Gritting. Encourage Cllr Rigby to lobby on our behalf. Can come off our list</p> <p>MUGA Agreed to move maintenance money in current budget to be moved into the savings account. To be ring fenced.</p> <p>Website has recently been updated by Cllr Davies. Content needs to be discussed. To stay on this list and to go onto September agenda.</p> <p>PClerk issues regarding job description and hours of work will be on July Agenda</p> <p>Stage 2 Community Hall Ex councillor Stansbury gave a brief history of Stage 2 of the community hall. He was happy to hand over the Phase 2 issues to a current councillor as needs further investigation. It is on the questionnaire - do we need</p>	

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	<p>another Hall? If we don't go ahead is the build linked to 106 or CiL money? Cllr Peter Davies will talk to Mr Stansbury to bring the project up to date.</p> <p>Sunday Bus to remain on list</p> <p>Phone Signal Issues in the village – kept on the list for future work</p> <p>Speed watch Cllr Woodford to take on board and Clerk will put in charge with Mr Gunner who has the equipment.</p> <p>Items removed from the list at this meeting: Farmland issues, youth gazebo issues, mini goals (now in situ top field), cycle path (on SWT agenda), Path from Burge meadow to lower park (Clerk trying to contact owner)</p>	
15.0	Issues relating to Landowner Responsibility – blocked streams, overgrown hedgerows, obscured signs and footpath maintenance. Great attempts to contact De Loitte still not happened. Clerk to get quotes.	Cllr Davies
16.0	Plan following Cllr Newing Griffiths resignation. The Parish Council agreed the need to be proactive to try and fill the vacancies. Will be in the newsletter and Councillors and Clerk encouraged to seek volunteers. Will be on July Agenda	
17.0	Feedback Arts Project waiting on the newsletter and the questionnaire to be circulated for comment.	Cllr Featherstone
18.0	Correspondence received. St Margaret's Hospice Newsletter. Updates on M5 Junction work. These to be put in the Notice Boards	Clerk
19.0	Planning None received	
20.0	Plastic benches from school They have rescinded the offer.	Cllr Green
21.0	<p>21.1 Annual Financial statement Had been sent out to the Councillors.</p> <p>21.2 Annual internal audit report. Discussion of whether we need to be a member of ICO. Next month to discuss further. Issues re the clerk's job description to be discussed at the July meeting.</p> <p>21.3 AGAR Annual Governance and Accountability Return was signed by the Chairman</p> <p>21.4 Publication of Public Rights This will be 17th June – Friday 26th July 2019 Financial records will be available to view by the public at the Clerks home.</p> <p>21.5 Payments Somerset Association of Local council's Annual Fee £499.33 Somerset Web services Annual Domain Cotford-st-luke.org. £18.00 Samson Landscaping -concrete base Youth Gazebo £1988 No VAT Jill Larcombe- Internal Auditor £100</p> <p>21.6 Refund of £20.00 from OMG Trading Ltd – Mini Goals top field</p>	
22.0	Annual Parish Electors Meeting. Called for 20 th June 2019 18.30 -20.30. [This was later challenged prior to dissemination of these minutes. This date has been cancelled].	
23.0	Award Tony Freeman was congratulated by the Parish Council for obtaining the British Empire Medal. A well-deserved achievement.	
18.0	Date of next Meeting 11th July 2019	

Agreed as a true reflection of June 13th Parish Council Annual Meeting

Signed Chairman Cllr Adrian Coucher Date 2019