

# COTTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the full Council meeting held on 5 July 2023 held in Cotton Village Hall

**Councillors Present:** Sarah Wenban (SW) (Chairman), Paul Howlett (PH) (Vice Chairman), Peter Gibbs (PG), Beryl Ellis (BE), Trevor Woods (TW), Sue Pushman (SP).

**In Attendance :** David Rayner (DR) (Cotton Parish Clerk).

050723/01     **Apologies for absence:** Jacob Stringer (JS) apologised by text for his absence which was only picked up after the meeting.

050723/02     **Declarations of Interest and Dispensation considerations:** There were no declarations of interest or dispensations to consider.

050723/03     **Minutes of previous meeting:** These were not circulated due to a mix up by the clerk and will be carried forward to the next meeting.

050723/04     **District Councillor's report:** Andy Mellen had sent a report but was unable to attend in person. SW hopes he will still be able to support the Parish Council despite his additional duties as leader of Mid Suffolk District Council. It was noted that Andy has his Locality fund budget available this financial year and we should think if there are any projects that could be supported this way.

050723/05     **County Councillor's Report:** Andrew Stringer had sent a report but was unable to attend in person.

### **Planning**

050723/06     DC/23/02919 Change of use of land east of Station Road.

CPC to comment that it neither supports nor opposes the application but makes the following observations. They are puzzled by the odd shape of the proposed site within a much larger field and wonder to what use the remainder of the agricultural land around it will be put. They would wish the applicant to be reminded that this land lies beyond the settlement boundary, and we would oppose any proposed future residential development and finally, we would expect there to be responsible disposal of the horse manure, given the proximity of residential

Signed: *Sarah Wenban*

Date: *12/07/23*

property on the other side of the railway line and the site is bounded on one side by a public footpath.

050723/07 Councillors noted that the following planning application have been determined:  
**DC/23/02073 Willow House, Mendlesham Road, Cotton – Erection of a first-floor rear extension.**

**MSDC Granted**

**DC/23/02073 15 Mill Road Cotton – Agreement on material**

**MSDC Granted**

050723/08 Finance: The finance papers were also not circulated due to a mix up by the clerk and will be carried forward to an additional meeting.

050723/09 **Suffolk County Council ANPR:** The ANPR device will be in Cotton in late July. Councillors were concerned that this is after the schools have broken up and will not give a realistic representation of the problem. It was stated that the device will be in Cotton for 1 week, but these are moving round Suffolk on a weekly basis.

050723/10 **Norwich to Tilbury:** After a long discussion it was decided that another Parish meeting would not achieve anything as there are not any significant new proposals being made. However it appears there will be 15/16 of the 50m pylons proposed to run through north/south on the east side of the village. Following the change of project name, the petition signed previously is now null and void and there is a new petition which needs to be signed. Details will be put on the Cotton Grapevine Facebook page. Leaflets will be available for distribution soon, but it was felt that an additional local leaflet should be distributed at the same time. SW will be attending a National Grid event in Diss and hopes to gauge opinion from slightly further afield. SW will draft a response to the second consultation.

050723/11 **Governance:** Owing to the lack of supporting documents, a further meeting has been arranged for 12 July to sign the AGAR report and CIL return with all the policy reviews to be included on the agenda for the September meeting. DR to provide details of when the CIL money needs to be spent by.

All policies will be circulated by email in the next couple of weeks for the councillors to read and review in advance of the September meeting.

There was a discussion regarding the asset register and the land on Scuffin's Lane. It was decided that DR would talk again to SALC and ask about the ramifications of including the land on the asset register as originally advised by SALC for £1. Are we able to obtain insurance cover on the land given we don't own it but do maintain it.

050723/12 **Correspondence:** Councillors noted there was no correspondence received.

#### **Community groups**

050723/13 **Road safety:** Nothing further to report on the traffic calming issue on Station Road. Andrew Stringer emailed his report and mentioned that he hopes to have some news soon.

050723/14 **Norwich to Tilbury:** Nothing further to add.

050723/15 **Cotton Village Hall:** DR mentioned that the grant application to Mid Suffolk District Council for the electrical work to move the incoming mains electricity cables has been approved and that the Hall will also be funding the addition of a generator socket which will be fitted at the same time. Included in the grant application is a full internal electrical check of the hall as there is no evidence that one has been done previously.

050723/16 **Matters for a future agenda:** AGAR and CIL returns for July, Policy reviews and website revamp for September.

050723/17 **Next meeting:** Councillors advised that the next meeting is scheduled for 12 July.

050723/18 The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.52pm.