

Costock Parish Council Minutes

Minutes of a meeting of Costock Parish Council held on 15 May 2024, in the Village Hall, Costock at 7.00pm

In Attendance: Cllr Kath Owen, Cllr Peter Gordon, Cllr Victoria McCourt, Cllr Mike Mears and Cllr John Finney

Attendees: Cllr John Cottee, Cllr Andy Edyvean and Lucy Brazendale, Clerk.

1. To elect a Chair of the Council

The Council resolved to elect Cllr Kath Owen as Chair of the Council for 2024-2025. All Councillors present agreed.

2. To receive the Chair's Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr Kath Owen signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

3. To Elect a Vice Chair of the Council

The Council resolved to elect Cllr Peter Gordon as Vice Chair of the Council for 2024-2025. All Councillors present agreed. Cllr Gordon signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

4. To receive and approve apologies for Absence

Cllr McGowan and Cllr Hoyle - reasons given and accepted.

5. To record Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

6. To approve minutes of the meeting held on 17 April 2024

The minutes of the meeting were approved and signed by the Chair

7. Verbal report from the Borough and County Councillors

John Cottee

Costock is definitely on the list for On Demand buses and these should be announced July or September but should run to East Leake from Costock.

Layby rubbish on Old Main Road - Cllr Cottee advised the clerk to chase Streetwise regarding this.

The request for an additional lamppost on Main Street has been denied for a second time.

There is no update regarding any discussions with the farmer in the village for different farming methods to help reduce flooding in the village.

Costock Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Chair's signature.....

Andy Edyvean

Cllr Edyvean confirmed that he has checked about the signing off process for the drains in Algar Close which have been causing problems during flooding. The drains were signed off as being fit for purpose and unfortunately there is therefore no recourse if it is found that the drains were not actually fit for purpose.

8. Public participationTraffic

A villager expressed concern about the large increase in traffic passing through the village in recent years, both on Main Street and the A60. Other villagers have also mentioned this to him, and the Councillors too have noted this rise in traffic. The villager counted 656 vehicles passing in a one-hour period between 8am and 9am one morning but also said that there has been an increase in out of service buses going through the village and HGVs. It is suspected that this increase is due to the large number of new houses which have been built in East Leake and that Main Street is easier for the buses to use than other roads in East Leake.

Action: Cllr Cottee asked the clerk to email him with the details and he will ask if some traffic monitoring can be put in place and the results fed back to the Council.

Cllr Edyvean will also mention this to the Rushcliffe planning executive officer as an observation for future planning applications.

Flooding

It was noted that in recent flooding the drainage work that has been done in February did seem to allow the water to clear more quickly from the village. The dry weather and work on the fields has meant though that water is currently coming off the fields, into the village more quickly.

Some of the new flood wardens assisted during the flooding and were able to close the road to which people were mainly co-operative. High viz jackets and signage are still awaited but the flood sign storage boxes have now arrived and have been built.

Cllr Owen reported that the Via work to repair drains etc, will start on Church Lane and Chapel Lane week commencing 20 May but that the work at Algar Close will be approx.. a week later as 4 way traffic lights will be required there.

Cllr Cottee left the meeting 7.25pm**9. & 10. Clerk's report and Correspondence**

Request for an additional lamppost on Main Street - this has been refused for a second time. The Clerk to inquire whether the Parish Council would be able to

Costock Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Chair's signature.....

contribute to the cost and if this would change the County Council's decision and how much such a contribution would be.

Renewing car parking lines in the Village Hall car park

One quotation has been received for £320 + VAT. The clerk is to get more quotations.

Request to move the 30mph sign the clerk is to further pursue this as nothing further has been heard. Ideally the sign would be moved to the East Leake side of Elm Farm, particularly as Elm Farm is now busier.

Defibrillator Course this has now been rescheduled to 27 June at 7.30pm. The clerk has emailed those on the village email list and get this added to the website. Cllr Gordon will get a notice prepared to go on the noticeboard.

Internal Audit this has now been completed and the findings reported to the Parish Council. The Clerk needs to make sure all required documents are put on the website and is putting this in place.

11. To discuss and approve the relevant AGAR forms for the financial year 2023-2024

- (a) Section 1 Annual Governance Statement - approved by the Council and signed by the Chair, Cllr Owen and the Clerk
- (b) Section 2 Accounting Statement - approved by the Council and signed by the Chair
- (c) The Annual Internal Audit report was read and approved by the Council and the Clerk confirmed that she would action all the administrative points that the Auditor highlighted in his letter which had been previously circulated to the Councillors.

12. To approve the start date for the Exercise of Public rights relating to the External Audit

The Council resolved to commence the start of the Exercise of Public Rights on 8 July 2024. This period will close on 16 August 2024. This will be published on the village noticeboard and website.

13. To approve the Schedule of Meetings of the Parish Council for 2024-2025

The following schedule of meetings was agreed by the Council
19 June 2024, 17 July 2024, 18 September 2024, 16 October 2024, 20 November 2024, 18 December 2024, 15 January 2025, 19 February 2025 and 19 March 2025

14. To approve the Council's annual subscription to the Nottinghamshire Association for Local Councils, RCAN and SLCC

The annual subscriptions were approved.

Costock Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Chair's signature.....

15. Planning Matters

Reference number : 24/00449/FUL

Applicant: Mrs Karen Sankey

Development: Proposed menage finished in waxed sand surface and enclosed with 1.2m open timber fence and access track to support the riding school and permit riding facility for the members of the school and community charity groups

Location: Canaan Farm Riding School, Loughborough, Costock, Nottinghamshire, LE12 6XB

Deadline for comments: 24.5.2024

- The Council wish to make no comments

Reference Number: 24/00799/FUL

Applicant: Mr I Le Jeune

Development: Replacement of existing doors and windows and change of use from holiday let to dwelling.

Location: The Manor House, 4 Church Lane Costock Nottinghamshire LE12 6UZ

Deadline for comments: 1 June 2024

- The Council wishes to make no comments

Reference Number: 24/00800/LBC

Applicant: Mr I Le Jeune

Development: Replacement of existing doors and windows and change of use from holiday let to dwelling.

Location: The Manor House, 4 Church Lane Costock Nottinghamshire LE12 6UZ

Deadline for comments: 1 June 2024.

- The Council wish to make no comments

Cllr Edyvean left the meeting 8.00pm

16. Playing Field and Equipment

(a) Monthly risk assessment report

- Cllr Mears reported that the grass was very long around the play equipment

Action: It was agreed that the Clerk ask Peter James to mow this area twice a month (May - August)

- Cllr Mears reported that one of the old metal bench seats in the playground is looking very scruffy. Ideally this should be repainted but this will require a lot of work and expense. Given that the bench is very old the Council will look to replace with a recycled plastic bench which requires less maintenance

Action: Clerk to research new bench for playground

(b) Update on work schedule for repair / maintenance work recommended in play equipment inspection report

- The runner to climb onto the rocking horse is still broken. Someone in the village has been asked to provide a quotation to repair this.

- the playground inspection report suggested that tree canopy over the basket

Costock Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Chair's signature.....

swing was cut back. It was agreed this will be left until the Autumn.
 - the other items in the report were low risk and so will be kept under review

17. Environment

- (a) Flooding update - see public forum discussion
- (b) Old Main Road littering update - see Cllr Cottee's comments
- (c) Village gateway grant application update

The quotations received were reviewed and the Council decided to use the aluminium signs provided by Morris Signs (£6198.00).

The location of the new signs was discussed and agreed that the new signs would replace the current one on the left hand side of the road at the entrance to the village from Bunny, and from the Loughborough direction would replace the sign currently on the right hand side of the road.

Action: The clerk will seek the required permission for this from Via

Action: The Councillors will research ideas and artwork for the pictorial part of the sign.

Action: Clerk to proceed with the grant application

- (d) Update on moving the bin on the A60 to outside the bus shelter - this has been rejected by the Council although they will conduct spot checks during the summer to see if it is a problem in its current location.

18. Nature Reserve

Written report from Cllr McGowan - There are no specific projects for the nature reserve, but volunteers are doing a great job in maintaining the areas for the enjoyment of all. Particularly Tony Cragg and Steve Wyles who have both been regularly mowing or strimming the paths and entrances and Ann Lister for keeping everyone on track. In addition, Bob Simpson has attended and undertaken a newt survey (report next month).

19. Village Hall

Written report from Cllr McGowan - There are no major issues with maintenance or bookings, but the cost of utility bills has increased significantly over the last year. We have talked about insulating the ceiling and I think this is something that we will need to consider. It would be great if we could qualify for a grant to assist with the cost and I would like to help in researching this. The Village Hall committee has mentioned the likely need for the building to be repainted in the near future and I think that this should be done in conjunction with any insulation of the roof. A big thank you to Bob Simpson for his great work on preparing the risk assessments for the Village Hall.

Action: Clerk and Cllr McGowan to research any available grants and investigate contacting the utility support provider suggested by ACRE

Car park lines - one quotation has been received

Action: Clerk to research more quotations for this work

Chairs behind the village hall - these have now very kindly been disposed of by Cllrs Gordon and Hoyle. Cllr Gordon reported that the new flood sign storage box, which was planned to go behind the village hall, will not fit there because of the number of toys from the playgroup which are stored there.

The bin store in the car park is looking very scruffy and is hard to get the bins out of if they are full and so heavy.

Action: Cllr Owen to speak with playgroup and Cllr McGowan to discuss whether some of the toys could be cleared out, or stored elsewhere, and as to whether the bin store was actually needed and could be disposed of.

Some of the posts for the fence surrounding the village hall car park have rotted. A builder in the village has a solution which could mean that the fence is repaired in a less expensive way than having to replace all the posts. He is going to provide a quotation for the Council.

20. Finance

(a) Payment of accounts - it was decided that the Community Heartbeat telephone system was no longer required. It has never been used to date and the new defibrillator does not require such a system.

Action: Clerk to cancel the Community Heartbeat system and request a new invoice

All other invoices were approved. It was agreed by all the Councillors that Cllr Owen could pay the accounts by BACs this month as we have run out of cheques temporarily and the new bank account is not yet opened

(b) Update on bank change progress

The signatories to the new bank account signed the application form to open the bank account. The clerk will now proceed with the application.

21. Village website / newsletter

22. To receive items for information

There is to be a Village Garden Party at The Old Rectory on 22 June 2024 between 2.30 and 5.00pm

23. Date of next meeting confirmation - 19 June 2024

Meeting closed at 9.00pm

Lucy Brazendale, Clerk to Costock Parish Council