

COTTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held online on July 8, 2020 at 7.30pm

PRESENT

Cllrs Peter Gibbs, Beryl Ellis, Sarah Wenban, Sue Cox, and Rod Caird (Clerk). Two members of the public, County Cllr Andrew Stringer and District Cllr Andrew Mellen were also present.

1/080720 Apologies and approvals of absence

Paul Howlett and David Williams had sent apologies and their absence was approved.

2/080720 Declarations of Interest and dispensations requested

None

3/080720 To approve the Minutes of Parish Council meeting on May 13 and June 11, 2020

The minutes were approved.

4/080720 To receive comments from members of the public on matters on the Agenda and reports from the District and County Councillor

Cllr Mellen reported that a joint cabinet meeting had looked at climate change task force proposals. The Council is going ahead with external commercial investment proposals in spite of opposition. The administration claims the policy is working in spite of the risk of loss of equity value. In response to a question he clarified that funds for the investment come from the Public Works Lending Board (PWLB). Some of the investment is outside Mid Suffolk.

Cllr Stringer reported the County Council was very involved in implementing government policy on the pandemic. Staff had done extremely well, and the Council is very mindful of staff welfare; meetings are all taking place online. There are still issues on school transport. Some roads have been closed to create walking and cycling routes. A proper policy is being developed on cycle routes. Sizewell C has gone to the next planning stage. The decision to use road transport to and from the site will cause severe problems. The build will take at least ten years at huge cost. A meeting is due to take place next week on the Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) speed sign trial which was discussed before the lockdown.

5/080720 To consider any updates on current planning applications including:

20/02592 - Insertion of 1No dormer to the front elevation, Gable End Cock Road Cotton – *The Parish Council decided to support this application*

DC/20/01947 - Erection of 1No dwelling, detached cartlodge with storage to the side

and over and new vehicular access, Land Adjacent To Broad View, Broad Road - *withdrawn*

DC/20/01937 - Erection of 1No dwelling, detached cartlodge with integral annexe and new vehicular access, Land Adjacent Long Meadow Broad Road – *amended and awaiting decision*

20/01622 The Meadows, Scuffins Lane - Proposed enlargement and alterations to previously extended double garage/workshop with office space over (as approved in 0627/16 amended by 1151/17), to create single guest annexe ancillary to use of main dwelling. Removal of previously approved external staircase. Repositioning of existing access. Erection of wall and gates to frontage – *granted*

20/01550 Boundary Farm, Cotton Road (partly in Cotton) - Change of use, conversion and extension of existing dairy buildings into annexe accommodation following partial demolition – *withdrawn*

20/01168 Gable End, Cock Road - Erection of dormer to front elevation – *granted, but this appears to overlap 02592 above*

19/00646 Outline Planning Application (All matters reserved) Erection of up to 65No dwellings with attenuation basin on land on the west side of Broad Road, Bacton – still listed on the website as “awaiting decision”

The status of the current applications was noted.

6/080720 To discuss the Village Hall improvements project

The Village Hall will remain closed until circumstances improve. Improvement work continues; decoration has been completed and a deep clean will be arranged. A risk assessment is being developed and essential equipment such as sanitiser dispensers is being acquired.

7/080720 Consideration of the current vacancy on the Parish Council

Cllr Ryan Grimwood has resigned from the Council owing to pressure of work, and he was thanked for his contribution. The vacancy has been formally advertised and if no election is requested by voters it will be possible to coopt a volunteer after July 23.

8/080720 Financial report to date, including any payments due; and adoption of the standing orders, code of conduct, financial regulations and other statutory requirements

A bank reconciliation to July 7, 2020 was presented, showing a balance of £23,107.70.

Payments were made as follows: ICO (registretion renewal) £40; St Andrews PCC (churchyard upkeep) £600; Cotton Village Hall (repairs etc) £100.

Payments were made under sections 111,112 and 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Approval and adoption of the statutory paperwork was held over until the September meeting.

9/080720

Correspondence and urgent matters to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council

The new post box at the Village Hall is currently covered and out of use. It is still unclear why it has been installed and it should be moved to a more suitable location. Cllr Stringer will be encouraged to pursue this.

The Torwel and Hammer is doing business under difficult circumstances and is hoping for new bookings.

The Clerk will make contact with the Diaper farm management to request clearance of rubbish and fly-tipped material from the field formerly used for horses.

DRAFT