

# COTTON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of the Parish Council Meeting held on September 12, 2018 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

<b>PRESENT</b>	Cllrs Peter Gibbs, Sarah Wenban, Chris Tester, David Williams and Beryl Ellis, and Rod Caird (Clerk). Two members of the public, together with Cllr Andrew Stringer and were also present.
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**1/120918 Apologies and approvals of absence**

Apologies had been received from Marian Cocksedge and Paul Howlett and their absence was approved

**2/120918 Declarations of Interest and dispensations requested**

None

**3/120918 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on July 18, 2018**

The Minutes were approved and signed

**4/120918 To receive comments from members of the public on matters on the Agenda and reports from the District and County Councillor**

Cllr Stringer's written District and County reports are published with these Minutes.

**5/120918 To consider any updates on current planning applications, including:**

*18/03558 Erection of two dwellings with garages and vehicular access at Willow House, Mendlesham Road;*

After discussion it was agreed to comment as follows: **The Parish Council noted that the site is currently outside the Parish settlement boundary; but it is within the boundary proposed by the Parish Council in its comments on the District Council's current Local Plan consultation. In the context of that submission, the two proposed houses would be acceptable to the Parish Council.**

**The Parish Council also noted that a significant local amenity would be provided as a part of the development if a footpath through the site were made available to give pedestrian access to Carter's Meadow and towards the Church. This would connect footpath 30 to important local features**

*18/03204 Construction of concrete hardstanding at Oak Tree Farm, Willow Lane – granted; 17/02809 Discharge of conditions, landscaping details etc. at*

*Kimberley, Blacksmith Road – granted; 18/02887 Lime Tree Farmhouse, Parkers Road, Cotton, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 4QQ, conversion of existing barn to annexe and alterations – granted; 18/02888 Lime Tree Farmhouse, Parkers Road, Conversion of existing barn to annexe and alterations – (duplicate) withdrawn; 18/02995 Two storey side extension and garage at 8 Hempnalls Meadow, Dandy Corner – granted.*

**6/120918 To consider an update on plans for the WWI centenary commemoration in November 2018 and an update on the work on the War Memorial**

A meeting of the WWI commemoration planning group had been held on September 10. A budget of £500 was agreed and details of planned events will be published in the Quarterly, the Parish Magazine, the website and elsewhere. Tickets will be available from the Community Circle Café. A Parish Council wreath will be purchased for the Church service and a photographer will be sought to make a record of the events.

The yew tree root will be removed from the churchyard near the memorial and work undertaken to return the memorial to a fully upright position.

**7/120918 To review progress on refurbishment of the village sign and to consider the need to cut back trees on the Village Hall side of Cotton Lane**

The sign (together with the metalwork surround to the memorial) is with the shotblasting company. The trees have been trimmed back.

**8/120918 To consider a resident's complaint about specific nuisance dogs**

It was agreed the Clerk would write to the owners concerned, drawing attention to the requirement to keep dogs under proper control, and would contribute an item to the Quarterly on the same subject.

**9/120918 To consider a resident's complaint about obstructions to footpath 30 off Mendlesham Road**

This has been reported to the rights of way team at Suffolk County Council

**10/120918 To note that Suffolk County Council has been advised of the location of new grit bins in the village and has been requested to supply grit**

The County Highways department has issued new guidelines about grit bins, and the Clerk has reported the position of the new bins as required. A response is awaited.

**11/120918 To receive a financial report from the Clerk including any payments due**

A bank reconciliation to September 10, 2018, was presented, showing a balance of £23,327.56. The second precept instalment of £3,000 was received from MSDC on Aug 31. Payments were made as follows: £131.40 to HMRC for PAYE; £258.64 to Rod Caird for Clerk pay; 348 to Ladywell

Accountancy for payroll services; £279.14 to Zurich Insurance for Carter's Meadow insurance renewal; £230.89 to CAS Insurance for Parish Council insurance renewal; £125 to Polstead Press for Autumn Quarterly; £1,490 to A.J. Collins for grass cutting and tree trimming. Payments were made under the General Power of Competence conferred by the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8 and the War Memorials (Local Authorities' Powers) Act 1923, s.1; as extended by Local Government Act 1948, s.133.

**10/120918 Correspondence and urgent matters to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council**

The next meeting will be held on November 21, 2018 at 7.30pm (Chris Tester will be unable to attend).

DRAFT