

COTTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on November 21, 2018 at 7.30pm at the Trowel and Hammer

PRESENT	Cllrs Peter Gibbs, Sarah Wenban, Paul Howlett, David Williams and Beryl Ellis, and Rod Caird (Clerk). Eight members of the public, together with Cllr Andrew Stringer were also present.
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1/211118 Apologies and approvals of absence

Apologies had been received from Marian Cocksedge and Chris Tester and their absence was approved

2/211118 Declarations of Interest and dispensations requested

None

3/211118 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on September 9, 2018

The Minutes were approved and signed

4/211118 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.

In the light of recent correspondence there was a discussion about care and control of larger dogs such as Huskies and Malamutes and the Malamute owner who was present at the meeting offered the chance for any Parish Councillor or resident to meet his dogs. He also agreed to write an article about their behaviour and temperament for the Cotton Quarterly. Cllr Wenban said she would also contribute on the legal context.

5/211118 To consider any updates on current planning applications, including:

18/05010 Submission of details under Outline Planning Application 3096/16 Refused/ Allowed by Appeal APP/W3520/W/17/3170524 - Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale of two dwellings and associated garages. Land Rear of Broadway Cottage, Broad Road Cotton – no objection was raised

18/05024 Householder Planning Application - Erection of a single and two storey rear extension. Stanmore House, 2 Stewart Field Cotton – no objection was raised, although it was noted that the extension will be very close to, and may overlook, the neighbouring property

18/04480 Erection of dwelling at Aporia, 1 Mill Hill - pending

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

6/211118 To consider an update on the work on the War Memorial and to review the WW1 commemoration events

A meeting will be held of all interested parties on December 12 to review the WW1 events. It was noted that feedback had been very good and a member of the public commented that the Parish Council should be commended for an excellent weekend's events.

Work on the memorial is not yet completed, although it was fully upright and cleaned in time for November 11. The rest of the work on the railings and surround is in hand. It is envisaged that a ceremony may be held in May 2019, in the presence of the Diocesan Bishop, to rededicate the memorial around the centenary of its construction.

Sincere thanks were expressed by the Parish Council to:

- The Trustees of Carter's Meadow for the catering early on November 11 and for making the cooking equipment available for use by residents for a small fee
- The Village Hall and the Community Café for the catering and other excellent facilities provided
- John Telford-Taylor for all the research and fascinating information he gathered about the people of Cotton commemorated on the memorial.

7/211118 To review progress on refurbishment of the village sign

The sign has now been powder coated ready for repainting and will soon be back in position [since the meeting this work has now been completed].

8/211118 To discuss correspondence following a complaint to the previous meeting about dog behaviour and control

This matter was dealt with earlier, during the public discussion section of the meeting.

9/211118 To discuss the fact that Suffolk County Council has been advised of the location of new grit bins in the village but has not approved three of them

Following Cllr Stringer's intervention the sites have now been approved and the bins await filling.

10/211118 To receive a financial report from the Clerk including any payments due, consideration of a draft budget for 2019/20 and appointment of internal auditors for 2018/19

A bank reconciliation to November 21, 2018, was presented, showing a balance of £19,894.46. Payments were made as follows: £120 to the Imperial War Museum for rental of the film Battle of the Somme; £295.39 to Carter's Meadow to cover the cost of catering equipment; £107 to Polstead Press for printing of WW1 event tickets; £258.84 to Rod Caird for Clerk pay; £72 to Chipper Tech for stump grinding in the churchyard; £17 to the British Legion for a wreath; £22.98 to Rod Caird to reimburse for a second wreath; £64.60 to HMRC for PAYE. 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.

It was agreed to consider the budget and precept for 2019/20 at the January meeting.

It was agreed to appoint SALC as internal auditors for 2018/19.

11//211118 Correspondence and urgent matters to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council

It was noted that a number of improvements need to be made at the Village Hall such as better play equipment, especially for younger children and including a replacement swing, kitchen upgrading, renovation of the gents' toilet and other items. Funds are available from the District and County Councillors' budgets as well as from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which is paid to the Parish Council on completion of new builds. It was agreed to launch a public consultation in the village to determine how people feel about projects which should be undertaken using these funds.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is due to be held on Wednesday January 16 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.