

# Cosgrove Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Cosgrove Parish Council held on **Wednesday 1 July 2026** at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr D Smith (Chair), Cllr C Bird, Cllr A Bracey, Cllr S Comerford (Vice Chair),  
Cllr J Proctor, ~~Cllr P Roberts~~

Mrs J Evans (Clerk to the Council)

The meeting opened at 19.33 hours. Ward Cllr McCord was in attendance from 19.50. There were 8 members of the public present.

**CPC/26/07/1** Cllr Roberts was absent on holiday.

**CPC/26/07/2** There were no declarations of interest.

**CPC/26/07/3** The Minutes of the meeting of 3 June 2026 were approved unanimously.

**CPC/26/07/4** There were no Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere in the Agenda.

## **CPC/26/07/5 Public Speaking**

Following the rejection on 30 June 2026 of the proposed warehouse development (WNS/2022/1741/EIA) by the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC), the Furtho (Pit) Development Objection Group thanked the Parish Council (PC) for representing the village with clarity and commitment at the SPC meeting. Particular thanks were expressed to Cllr Bird who acted as spokesperson for the PC and presented the view of the village clearly. The PC, in turn, thanked FDOG for all the work carried out over the past 4 years – the research, the expert reports, the fund raising and the scale model. The challenge presented by the proposed development was well outside the scope of what the PC could deal with, and the PC and all residents were indebted to the FDOG committee.

Cllr McCord mentioned there will be a change in the national delegated planning scheme which will take away the right of Ward Councillors to call in planning decisions with effect from October 2026. The PC thanked Cllr McCord for his stirring presentation at the SPC meeting and for his continuing support to the PC and residents.

**CPC/26/07/6** The PC were grateful to Mr T Cavender for his presentation about the Grand Union Canal Water Transfer Scheme and his role in exploring further possibilities for improving delivery of water supplies to the area and the Buckingham Canal.

**CPC/26/07/07** The Clerk's report is appended to these Minutes at Appendix A. No decision was taken about moving forward with the results of the village survey of April 2026.

## **CPC/26/02/8 Finance**

(a) The update on current finances in comparison to the budget is appended to these Minutes at Appendix B.

(b) The payment schedule, circulated ahead of the meeting, was approved for payments totalling £5,159.65 and is appended to these Minutes at Appendix C. Payment for the restoration of the village noticeboard (£183.00) will be delayed until after completion of the work. It was noted the toddler playhouse is now close to the wall of Rectory Buildings with one part the required 1.5 m distance but another less than that (1.45m). Distances to be double checked but nothing done unless the next safety inspection picks up on this.

(c) It was **resolved** to add Cllr Roberts to the online banking mandate.

**Action: To add Cllr Roberts to online banking**

**CPC/26/07/9 Councillor updates**

Cllr Bird had received a complaint about parking on the zigzag lines outside the school and it was **resolved** the Clerk should write to the school asking them to remind parents not to park on these lines.

Cllr Comerford reminded the meeting the Buckingham Canal Festival will take place weekend 18/19 July. Parking will be offered in Solomon's Piece by the landowner.

The length of the grass at the Castlethorpe turn was still causing problems for drivers, with another near miss reported on Facebook. The grass on the triangle had been cut by a volunteer. It was now the verges that were causing a problem. The PC noted there is £65 in the budget for maintenance of the Castlethorpe turn but felt if the PC used these funds, it allowed West Northants Council to get away not taking responsibility for grass cutting in this area. It was agreed to report the matter on FixMyStreet (FMS) monthly.

Cllr Proctor had reported the food van in the hedge on FMS. He noted the playpark was starting to look good and asked for refurbishment of the playpark and consideration of an increase in budget (currently standing at £10,000) to be tabled at the next meeting.

Cllr Smith was pleased his report on FMS had resulted in the overgrowing vegetation on The Stocks to be cut back. He was less impressed with the patch repair of the highway outside the church which was sufficiently uneven to cause a puddle. He had completed a litter pick along Stratford Road

**Action: Clerk to write to Cosgrove School. Cllrs to report overgrown verges monthly on FMS. Clerk to add playpark refurbishment and increase budget to September Agenda**

**CPC/26/07/10 Planning** no applications to consider

**CPC/26/07/11** It was **resolved** to accept the quotation from Zurich at £603.

**Action: Clerk to renew insurance with Zurich**

**CPC/26/07/12** No resolution was agreed on applying for a Traffic Regulation Order for double yellow lines in two locations. It was decided to consider the matter again at the next meeting.

**Action: Clerk to relist on September Agenda**

**CPC/26/07/13** The need to be on the housing list at West Northants Council if social housing is required will be mentioned in the Old Mail. There was no appetite for seeking information on neighbourhood development plans.

**CPC/26/07/14** It was initially felt there was no need to have a civility and respect pledge as it is common sense. After discussion, however, on balance, it was felt to be a good thing and it was **resolved** for Cosgrove PC to adopt this.

**Action: Clerk to complete paperwork.**

The meeting was considered to be effective as it finished within the time shown on the Agenda, The date of the next meeting will be **Wednesday 2 September 2026**  
The meeting closed at 21.00 hours.