

Cowfold Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 10 January 2011 in the Village Hall

Present: Mr V Allmond (VA) Mrs S Lucas (SL)
Mr C Collins (CC) Mrs E Precious (EP)
Mr G Sibley (GS) Mrs J Wright (JW) Clerk

Mr Jonathon Chowen, Horsham District Council
Mr Lionel Barnard, West Sussex County Council

Public: 2
Press: 0

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mr B Baldwin (BB), Mrs M Cutbush (MC) and Mr I Shepherd (IS).

2. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13 December 2010 were agreed by all as a true and correct record:

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest with regard to any item on the Agenda.

4. Matters Arising

Mr Baldwin had not yet arranged a date to speak to the Scouts about the work of the Parish Council.

(BB)

Mr Baldwin was still to locate the Tree Preservation Order map currently in his possession to determine whether or not planning permission would be required to carry out the work on the trees at the Scout Hut.

(BB)

Mrs Wright had received a response from Lower Beeding Lions to her email regarding their use of the playing field. They agreed that they would hire the Pavilion as the public toilets were now closed and raised no objections to contributing to the maintenance of the field. However, it was decided that instead of asking for a contribution Anthony Parsons would be appointed as the Parish Council representative who would take responsibility for deciding whether or not the playing field was suitable for use during periods of wet weather by the Lower Beeding Lions and Cowfold Football Club.

Mrs Wright had sent another email to HDC asking them to disinfect the areas of the playing field that were being used as a toilet. Apparently, still no action has been taken; therefore, it was agreed to forward the requests to Mr Chowen to find out why the messages had not been responded to.

(JW)

The telegraph pole between Oakfield Road and Mercers Mead which had been hit by a car had been repaired.

The bags of rubbish that had been dumped next to the recycling bins had been removed.

Mr Sibley said that he could not see any problems with the play area surface. However, after it was explained exactly what the problems were thought to be, Mr Sibley agreed to revisit the area and report on his findings at the next meeting.

(GS)

The dog bin next to the Scout Hut had still not been emptied and it was reported that the other bins in the village had also not been emptied. Mrs Wright said that she had included this problem in her email to HDC and agreed to forward this to Mr Chowen for further investigation.

(JW)

Mrs Wright had emailed Mr Barnard asking for the possibility of some assistance to reopen the Youth Club. Mr Barnard said that he would provide the details of the Officer that could be contacted to apply for assistance.

Mrs Wright had emailed Mr Barnard regarding the problem of no salt being delivered to the village. Mr Barnard said that there appeared to have been a mix up and suggested contacting Richard Speller at Broadbridge Heath for future requirements.

Mrs Wright had reported the potholes that had appeared outside 2 Fairfield Cottages to WSCC which were due to be repaired shortly.

A holding response had been received from the Football Club regarding their comments on the Football Association Step 7 Proposals. A full response would be sent in time for the next Council meeting.

A list of Scout Hut bookings for 2010 had been received.

5. The Public

Mr Rolfe said that the footpath outside Huntscroft Gardens was in need of repair. Mrs Wright agreed to report the problem to WSCC again.

(JW)

6. District Councillor Report

Mr Chowen reported on the 2011/12 budget which was currently being finalised.

7. County Councillor Report

Mr Barnard reported on the following issues:

- Bad Weather Management
- Budget Cuts
- Pothole Management

8. Correspondence

None.

9. Representatives' Reports

Planning

None.

Finance

Approval of the tabled cheques for signature was requested and agreed by all.

Open Spaces

Nothing to report.

Pond Warden

Nothing to report.

Footpaths

Mr Sibley said that the drain cover outside no's 8 & 9 Fairfield Court had not been repaired. Mr Sibley agreed to confirm whether he thought it was a problem which needed to be reported to Southern Water or to Saxon Weald.

(GS)

Allotments

Nothing to report.

Roads & Transport

Mrs Lucas said that it was difficult to see the edge of the pavement located past the Kissing Gate in Fairfield Cottages since the paint had worn away. Mrs Wright said that she would report the problem to WSCC and ask if it would be possible to repaint the pavement edge.

(JW)

Streetlights

Nothing to report.

Health Care & Social Services

Nothing to report.

HDALC

An extraordinary meeting was being held on Monday 17 January 2010 which was being attended by Mr Allmond and Mrs Lucas.

Village Hall

The next meeting of the Village Hall Committee was scheduled to take place on Tuesday 18 January 2011 and the AGM will be held on Tuesday 22 February 2011.

School Governors

The next Governor's meeting is due to take place in February.

Newsletter

Mr Allmond agreed to write an article for the next Newsletter advertising Councillor vacancies.

Website

Nothing to report.

Scout Hut

Nothing to report.

CLC

Nothing to report.

10. Football Club Fence

This item will be discussed at the February meeting when a full response relating to the Football Association Step 7 proposals has been received.

Mrs Wright agreed to ask for a copy of the letter that the Football Club had received stating that a fence and dugouts were a requirement.

(JW)

11. Benches

It was agreed to purchase a bench from Mr Reynolds to be installed at Fairfield Cottages at a cost of £250.

(GS)

12. SALC/NALC Annual Subscription

Mrs Wright said that the 2011 subscription had been increased significantly and asked whether Members still wished to subscribe to SALC/NALC. It was agreed to make a decision after the extraordinary HALC meeting due to take place on Monday 17 January 2010 where the subject would be under discussion.

13. 2011/12 Budget

Mr Collins presented the 2011/12 budget and proposed that it be accepted. Mr Sibley seconded the proposal and it was agreed by all.

14. Severe Weather Arrangements

The information contained in the email received from Horsham District Council relating to strengthening Coordination between Parish/Neighbourhood Councils & Horsham District Council during severe weather events was noted.

15. Pavilion

Mrs Precious said now that the Football Foundation and Sport England were awarding grants again the Fundraising Committee would be submitting expressions of interest.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday 7 February 2011.

The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.