

Cowfold Parish Council
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 13 June 2011 in the Pavilion

Present: Mr V Allmond (VA) (Chairman) Mrs E Precious (EP)
 Mrs S Lucas (SL) Mr G Sibley (GS)
 Mrs M Cutbush (MC) Mrs J Wright (JW) Clerk

Mr L Barnard – West Sussex County Councillor
Mr A Dunlop – Horsham District Councillor
Public: 6
Press: 0

1. Apologies

There were no Apologies for absence.

2. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Monday 16 May 2011 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

Mrs Wright had reminded Mr Chowen of the action he agreed to take regarding litter bins and he had spoken to the Environmental department at HDC but no response from them had been received to date. Mrs Wright agreed to contact Mr Chowen again.

(JW)

Mr Allmond had spoken to both Mark Detnon and Paul Dittmer regarding their interest in becoming a Councillor. Co-option of new Members will be an Agenda item at the July Council meeting.

Mrs Wright had spoken to Tim Boxall regarding the faulty light on the island opposite Mercers Mead and it has now been added to the inventory and repaired.

Mrs Wright had written to the PCC regarding the possibility of them cleaning the War Memorial in the churchyard but no response had been received to date.

Mrs Wright had investigated current legislation on the keeping of chickens on allotments. It was agreed that keeping chickens would be a nuisance as they were likely to attract rats and foxes and, therefore, the request from Mr Margetts was rejected.

Mrs Wright had spoken to Lloyds Business Banking regarding the problems encountered when attempting to revise the signatories on the bank account and was assured that the problems had been rectified. Forms for signature were expected in the next couple of days.

Tim Boxall had arranged for the Highway Rangers to cut back the overgrown vegetation in Henfield Road.

5. The Public

Mr Dittmer was concerned about the response made to WSCC regarding their intention to reduce the speed limit from Shermanbury to Cowfold from 60mph to 50mph. Mr Dittmer was told that the Parish Council considered that this course of action would not be enforceable and, therefore, a waste of funds which would be better spent on installing traffic calming measures within the village.

Mrs Collins, Ms Jelley and Mrs Casey were in attendance for the discussions on Item 10 of the Agenda.

Mr Hall was of the opinion that the War Memorial in the churchyard could be cleaned. He also expressed his disagreement with the decision made to clear the waste area at the allotments.

6. District Councillor Report

Mr Dunlop reported on his involvement with discussions concerning the possibility of a new crematorium at West Grinstead.

7. County Councillor Report

Mr Barnard reported on the following issues:

- Seminar on Health
- A27 Issues
- Police Authority visit
- Community Action Plans

It was agreed to contact Duncan Barratt asking him to attend a Council meeting to speak to the Members on the subject of Community Action Plans.

(JW)

8. Correspondence

Cowfold Scouts: Request for KB Fitness to use the Scout Hut for Zumba classes whilst the school hall is being used for a show. No objections were raised to this request.

Communities and Infrastructure: Minerals and Waste Development Framework Update. Noted.

Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign: Request for Annual Subscription. It was agreed to pay £10.

Tesla-IMC International Limited: Notification of Geophysical Survey – Horsham, Billingshurst & Pulborough Area. Noted.

9. Representatives' Reports

Planning

Mr Allmond read the Planning Report for June 2011.

Finance

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

Open Spaces

Mrs Wright said that the wood chippings needed replacing in the play area as they had worn away. The surface under the swings was also in need of repair, but so far no quotes had been received. It was agreed to order new wood chippings.

(GS/JW)

The Fete Committee had asked if they could arrange to fill up the dip in the ground at the top gate of the playing field so that the Classic cars arriving for the fete would not be damaged. No objections were raised to this request.

It was agreed to go ahead and get quotes for the work required to be carried out on the Oak trees at the Scout Hut.

(GS)

Pond Warden

Nothing to report.

Footpaths

Mrs Lucas said that it had been reported that children on bikes were speeding through the Twitten by the Post Office causing a nuisance. It was thought that this area had a 'no cycling' sign. Mrs Wright agreed to investigate and if there was no sign to speak to Tim Boxall, WSCC about installing one.

(JW)

Allotments

Nothing to report.

Roads & Transport

It had been reported that youths and their vehicles had been causing a nuisance near the Hanover Gardens properties. Mrs Wright agreed to speak to the PCSO asking him to visit the area and speak to the residents about the problem.

(JW)

Streetlights

Nothing to report.

Health Care & Social Services

Nothing to report.

HDALC

Mr Allmond and Mrs Lucas had attended the AGM held on Wednesday 18 May 2011.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 18 July 2011 at Mannings Heath Village Hall.

Village Hall

Major electrical work was required in the Village Hall to make the installation safe and compliant with current IEE regulations.

School Governors

Mrs Precious said that St Peter's school swimming pool refurbishment was now complete and that they were hoping that it would be well used by residents this summer.

Mrs Precious agreed to find out what was happening regarding the prize giving arrangements for the winners of the road safety poster competition.

Newsletter

Mrs Cutbush said that she was looking for a volunteer to take over the editing of the newsletter.

Website

Mrs Cutbush said that rather than finding another website provider, it would be cheaper to train someone. However, it was suggested that there might be a young person in the village who was capable of building a website and it was agreed to ask around and try to find a volunteer.

(All)

Scout Hut

Nothing to report.

CLC

Nothing to report.

10. Future of the No.86 Bus

The future of the No.86 bus was discussed in some detail. It was agreed to write to WSCC asking them to reconsider the proposal to discontinue the service especially as no alternative service had been found and copy the request to The Secretary of State for Transport, Nick Herbert MP, Horsham District Council and the West Sussex County Times.

(JW)

11. 2010/11 Annual Accounts

The Accounts had been previously circulated for comment. Mrs Cutbush proposed that they be accepted; this was seconded by Mrs Lucas and agreed by all.

10. Pavilion

Mrs Wright had contacted Mark Passfield regarding lower cost options for replacing the Pavilion. Mark was currently costing the materials for the new build which was based on the original plans. It was agreed to ask Mark if he was also working on the cost of refurbishing the current Pavilion as requested.

(JW)

Mrs Precious reminded Members that loaves of sandwiches and cakes would be welcomed to sell at the village fete in aid of the new Pavilion fund.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 11 July 2011.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.