

## **Cowfold Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 10 October 2011 in the Village Hall**

**Present:** Mr V Allmond (VA) (Chairman)                      Mr C Collins (CC)  
Mrs S Lucas (SL)    Mr P Dittmer (PD)  
Mrs E Precious (EP)    Mrs J Wright (JW) Clerk

Mr L Barnard – West Sussex County Councillor

Mr A Dunlop – Horsham District Councillor

Public: 3

Press: 0

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr G Sibley (GS), Mr M Detnon (MD) and Mr J Chowen (JC).

#### **2. Approval of the Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12 September 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**

Mr Allmond and Mrs Lucas had attended the Essential Training – An Introduction to Planning seminar on Wednesday 21 September 2011.

A response had been received from WSCC to a request to clear the overgrown vegetation on the footpath to the rear of 2 Alley Groves. The area will be borne in mind at the next inspection which will take place shortly.

The Highway Rangers have been asked to cut back the overgrown vegetation on the footpath on the A272 between the last bungalow and Eastlands House entrance.

A response had been received to a letter sent to Cameliar Botnar Foundation regarding cases of empty lager bottles which had been scattered around the woods at the bottom of the field past the allotments on the Colvin estate. Disciplinary action was being taken and the area would be cleared.

Mrs Wright had written to Ed Dickinson to ask if the funds that were now not being used on reducing the speed limit on the A281 into Cowfold could be spent on traffic calming measures within the village. A response had been received to say that the request would be looked into.

Mrs Wright had received a response from Royal Mail regarding the possibility of

introducing an additional postcode in Bolney Road to avoid HGV's trying to enter private properties instead of Oakendene Industrial Estate which had been forwarded to Deborah Hart.

Mrs Wright had contacted Mark Passfield to ask if the cost estimate for the refurbishment of the Pavilion had been completed but no response had been received to date.

Mrs Wright had asked HDC to send someone out to disinfect the area around the Pavilion and Kicking Wall. Mrs Wright had also written to HDC asking what had happened to the Parish Council's request to convert the coach park into a car park but no response had been received to date.

Mrs Precious said that she would be visiting the school shortly and would ask about the arrangements for the prize giving for the winners of the road safety posters.

(EP)

## **5. The Public**

Dawn Jelley gave an update on the save the 86 bus campaign.

Mr Rolfe said that there were two streetlights that were not working properly, one in Barleycroft and the other in the Henfield Road between Barleycroft and the Hare and Hounds. Mr Allmond agreed to report the faults to WSCC.

(VA)

Mr Rolfe also said that the gutters needed clearing. Mrs Wright agreed to contact HDC to ask if the gutters could be swept.

(JW)

## **6. District Councillor Report**

Mr Dunlop reported on the following issues:

- Future of Bus Links for Cowfold meeting to be held on 17 October 2011
- Traffic in Villages Group.

## **7. County Councillor Report**

Mr Barnard reported on the following issues:

- Traffic regulation orders
- Broadband
- Environmental Climate Change Board
- Electoral Review Panel
- Tour of the Archivist Office.

## **8. Correspondence**

*WSCC:* Public Rights of Way Volunteers – Up-date. Noted.

*NALC:* How to respond to Planning Applications. To be considered by the Planning Committee.

*Boundary Commission for England:* The 2013 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in England. Noted.

*HDC on behalf of Robert Nye:* Budget Proposals – 2012/13. Email to be forwarded to all Members and discussed as a separate Agenda item at the November Council meeting. (JW)

*Ahmed Ramiz-HDC:* Consultation of Proposals to Examine the Deregulation of Schedule One of the Licensing Act 2003. Email to be forwarded to all Members. (JW)

*Gordon Lindsay:* Switchover Help Scheme. Information to be put on website. (VA)

*Royal British Legion:* The Poppy Quiz to be held on Thursday 27 October 2011. Noted.

*The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons:* Guide to Taking Part. Noted.

*HDC:* Local Development Framework Statement of Community Involvement. Added to the circulation documents.

## **9. Re-routing HGV's**

Mr Barnard had received a reply from one of WSCC officer team on the subject of re-routing HGV's the highlights of which are as follows:

To work within signing rules only stating the next principal destination (eg Horsham or Crawley) is allowed. The existing sign on the M23 already shows Horsham A264. Highways Agency will not allow use of non-standard wording on their signs or pay for them.

SatNavs will be showing the A23 and A272 as a suitable and quicker route. Google directions say that using the A23 and A272 is half a mile shorter and three minutes quicker than the suggested alternative of A264 and A24 and all of these roads are suitable to take long distance and heavy traffic.

The Officer view is that even if they were able to install some sort of advisory lorry route signing, it is unlikely to sufficiently affect vehicle numbers to cause the locals to feel that it has been successful.

The only way to know what traffic is actually using Cowfold and more specifically where HGV's are headed when driving through is to stop vehicles and ask drivers or to set up video surveys and analyse the output. The cost would be in the order of £10k which would have to be funded by the Parish Council. Even if this survey was carried out there would be no guarantee that the Highways Agency would act on the results.

## **10. Flashing Road Signs**

As Mr Sibley was absent it was agreed to discuss this item at the November meeting when a response may have been received from Ed Dickinson at WSCC on the subject.

## **11. Pavilion**

Mrs Wright had arranged a meeting with Kevin Thame from the Football Foundation for Thursday 20 October 2011. She and Mrs Precious will be meeting with Kevin to discuss the possibility of funding for the new Pavilion.

A Barn Dance will be held on Saturday 15 October 2011. Any assistance on the night

would be appreciated.

The next Toy/Jumble/Book Sale will be held on Saturday 12 November 2011.

## **11. Representatives' Reports**

### **Planning**

Mr Allmond read out the report for October 2011.

### **Finance**

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

### **Open Spaces**

Mr Sibley had arranged for one of the trees at the Scout Hut to be looked at again as it appeared to have some loose branches. Mrs Wright agreed to ask Mr Sibley why he had not contacted Impressions who carried out the work originally. (JW)

### **Pond Warden**

Nothing to report.

### **Footpaths**

It was reported that the bridge in the woods between the Acorn Avenue Estate and Eastlands Lane was broken and had become dangerous. Mrs Wright agreed to contact WSCC to ask them to repair it. (JW)

### **Allotments**

Nothing to report.

### **Roads & Transport**

Nothing to report.

### **Streetlights**

Nothing to report.

### **Health Care & Social Services**

Nothing to report.

### **HDALC**

The Annual meeting of HDC and HALC will be held on Thursday 3 November 2011 at The Studio at the Capitol.

### **Village Hall**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 18 October 2011.

### **School Governors**

Mrs Precious said that she had taken over as temporary Chair of the School Governors.

Mrs Precious also said that the school would like to be included in the Parish Council's Emergency Plan. As the Parish Council did not have one currently, Mrs Wright had suggested that the school contact Tony Skelding at HDC.

### **Newsletter**

Nothing to report.

### **Website**

Nothing to report.

### **Scout Hut**

Nothing to report.

### **CLC**

Mr Allmond had attended the last meeting which included the merger of the East and West Sussex Fire Services and Antisocial Behaviour.

The next CLC meeting will be held in November.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 14 November 2011.

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.