

Cowfold Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 14 November 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: 2

Press: 0

1. Apologies

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

2. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 10 October 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 Precious said that St Peter's school no longer had the names of the winners of the poster competition. Mrs Wright agreed to find out the names and send the book tokens to the school for distribution.

(JW)

Mr Allmond had reported the faulty streetlights in Barleycroft and Henfield Road.

Mrs Wright had asked for the gutters to be swept and was awaiting a response.

Mrs Wright had forwarded the email from HDC regarding the consultation of proposals to examine the deregulation of schedule one of the Licensing Act 2003 to all Members.

The Switchover Help Scheme information had been put on the website.

Mr Sibley had tried contacting Impressions regarding the tree by the Scout Hut which still had dead branches in it but had been unsuccessful. Mrs Wright agreed to try to contact them and ask them to remove the dead branches.

The broken bridge in the woods between the Acorn Avenue Estate and Eastlands Lane had been repaired.

5. The Public

Mr Rolfe said that HDC had been to disinfect round the Pavilion area but it needed to be done again. He also said that the dog bin by the Scout Hut had not been emptied. Mrs Wright agreed to contact HDC on both matters.

(JW)

6. District Councillor Report

Mr Dunlop reported on the following issues:

- Future of Bus Links for Cowfold (2nd meeting)
- Horsham District leisure needs assessment
- Air Quality in Cowfold

7. County Councillor Report

Mr Barnard reported on the following issues:

- Libraries
- Broadband
- Shoreham Harbour Improvements
- Olympic Route
- Big Society
- Crawley Town Centre Partnership
- Adult Learning Centre visit.

8. Correspondence

Guy Sibley: Letter of resignation. Accepted with regret.

John Chamberlin: Request for donation towards the Christmas Tree lights to be paid early. It was agreed by all to donate £100.

Circus Tyana: Request to use the playing field sometime in 2012. No objection was raised to this request.

John Chamberlin: Request for the PC to consider installing a ramp for skateboarding. Mrs Wright agreed to contact CLC to ask if there are any grants available for the purpose.

(JW)

HDC: Update on the Cowfold Air Quality Management Area. Noted.

HDC: Request to complete a questionnaire on antisocial behaviour in the District. Mrs Wright agreed to complete the questionnaire.

(JW)

HDC: Consultation on the Draft Horsham Town Plan Supplementary Planning Document. Noted.

Camelia Botnar Children's Centre: Request for grant. It was agreed not to make a donation at this time.

9. Flashing Road Signs

A meeting had been arranged with WSCC to discuss the possibility of installing flashing road signs and where they could be located.

10. Newsletter

Eyelevel Publishing had said that they could no longer publish the newsletter due to not being able to generate sufficient income from advertising. Mr Allmond had, therefore, tabled three options for consideration as follows:

- Scrap having a newsletter and put all news content onto the website. This would of course preclude anyone without access to a computer.
- Negotiate with the Thirteen Eight publication with a view to including the PC's news in their magazine.
- Start from the beginning again and produce our own. This option involves a lot of work for at least two people.

It was agreed that the best option would be to explore the possibility of including the Parish Council news in the Thirteen Eight publication and Mr Allmond agreed to get in touch with the Editor to discuss the matter.

(VA)

11. Pavilion

Mrs Wright and Mrs Precious had met with Kevin Thame from the Football Foundation who said that funding sought from them would be a last resort and would not exceed £50,000. It was agreed to wait until the next meeting when, hopefully refurbishment costs would be available, to make a decision on the way forward.

A Barn Dance was held on Saturday 15 October 2011 which made a profit of £230. A Jumble Sale was held on Saturday 12 November 2011 and made a profit of £280.

12. Representatives' Reports

Planning

Mr Allmond reported on the planning applications that had been received in November 2011.

Finance

Mrs Wright tabled an estimate of costs against budget for the year 2011/2012. Mr Collins agreed to arrange a finance meeting for some time in December to determine the precept required for 2012/2013.

(CC)

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

Open Spaces

A quotation was awaited from Shaun Stevens for some play area repairs.

Mr Dittmer said that he would consider becoming the Councillor responsible for Open Spaces.

Pond Warden

Nothing to report.

Footpaths

It was reported that the rail on the bridge of the footpath that runs past Station Road Cottages was broken. Mrs Wright agreed to contact WSCC to ask them to repair it.

(JW)

Allotments

Nothing to report.

Roads & Transport

Mrs Wright agreed to speak to WSCC Highways regarding the cracked pavements throughout the village.

(JW)

Streetlights

Nothing to report.

Health Care & Social Services

Nothing to report.

HDALC

Mr Allmond and Mrs Lucas had attended the Annual meeting of HDC and HALC which was held on Thursday 3 November 2011 at The Studio at the Capitol.

Village Hall

Mrs Lucas said that some windows in the Village Hall had been replaced.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 10 January 2011.

School Governors

Nothing to report.

Newsletter

See Agenda item 10.

Website

Nothing to report.

Scout Hut

Nothing to report.

CLC

Nothing to report.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 12 December 2011.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.