

Cowfold Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 11 June 2012 in the Village Hall

Present: Mr V Allmond (VA) (Chairman) Mrs M Chamberlin (MC)
Mrs S Lucas (SL) Mrs E Precious (EP)
Mr C Collins (CC) (P/T) Mrs J Wright (JW) (Clerk)
Mr J Chamberlin (JC)

Public: 1
Press: 0

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mr A Dunlop (AD), Mr R Holden (RH), Mr P Dittmer (PD), Mr L Barnard (LB) and Mr J Chowen (JC).

2. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14 May 2012 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

As Mrs Precious had encountered problems obtaining quotations from architects to produce drawings for the new Pavilion due to them not being able to compete with 'one man band' architects it was agreed to proceed with the quotation received from Sara Rudkin at a cost of £2,250.00 plus expenses.

No communication had been received from Mr Dittmer to say whether or not the WC sign outside the restaurant had been covered.

(PD)

With regard to the Honorary Awards Procedure, Mrs Wright had circulated the procedure and application form to all Members.

Mrs Wright had contacted the Football Club to ask for confirmation that the playing field had been reseeded.

Mrs Wright had reported the blocked drains and puddles to WSCC.

5. The Public

Mr Chamberlin said that the Village Sign had been repaired. It was agreed to pay the associated invoice at a cost of £340.00.

6. District Councillor Report

Nothing to report.

7. County Councillor Report

Nothing to report.

8. Correspondence

WSSC: Advice note entitled Flooding in Your Parish. Map of gullies to follow. Noted.
Cowfold Football Club: Request to install another storage container on the playing field. No objections were raised provided that there is an existing concrete base to put it on, otherwise the Football Club may have to obtain planning permission.
HDC: Notification of a Member Seminar: Future of Youth Service Provision in Horsham District at 6p.m on Wednesday 20 June 2012 at County Hall North. Noted.
West Sussex Mediation Service: Request for grant. It was agreed to donate £25.
WSSC: Response from Peter Griffiths to a letter sent regarding provision of secondary education in the Horsham District. Noted.
The Queen Alexandra Hospital Home: Request for support. It was agreed to display their Open Day poster on the notice board.

9. Skateboard Park

Mr Chamberlin had received a plan and costs for the proposed skateboard park. The cost for the installation of the equipment is £38,743 excl.VAT and does not include the cost of extending the base.

Mr Chamberlin said that he would be visiting the Purple Bus to see how the young people are progressing with their plan to raise funds towards the project.

10. Honorary Awards Procedure

The procedure and application form were discussed and agreed. It was agreed to produce a notice to advertise the procedure.

(JW)

11. Annual Accounts 2011/12

The Annual accounts had been tabled and accepted by all.

12. Pavilion

Mrs Precious said that she would be contacting all users of the Pavilion to let them know the status of the project.

A list of possible funding sources had been received from Howard Collins at HDC and these will be explored once the drawings had been produced.

A Jumble/Toy/Bric-a-brac sale had been arranged for Saturday 28 July 2012 and Mrs Precious requested help from Councillors.

13. Representatives' Reports

Planning

Mr Allmond read the Planning Report for June 2012.

Finance

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

Open Spaces

Mr Allmond said that an oak tree in Fairfield Cottages had almost split in half and was in a dangerous condition. He asked for agreement to a cost of £1,000 to make the tree safe. However, because of the tree's position which is on the road side of the playing field it was thought that it was the responsibility of WSCC Highways and, therefore, Mrs Wright agreed to contact them and ask them to deal with it.

(JW)

Mr Holden had sent a message saying that in his opinion the football club had not reseeded the playing field and that it was in the worst condition ever. He suggested that the club refrain from using the field at all for the time being.

A message had been received from Anthony Parsons to say that they had scattered some grass seed. He also said that the dug outs had been removed for the summer as had been agreed, an outside tap had been installed and the Pavilion had been tidied up.

It was agreed to request that until further notice, the football club must refrain from using the front of the field for training purposes until the ground has recovered and if they need to train through the summer months they need to keep to the pitch and beyond only.

(JW)

It was agreed to thank Jenny Baldwin for arranging two very successful events over the Jubilee weekend.

(JW)

Mr Chamberlin said that he would contact Saxon Weald to request that they cut back the overgrown vegetation at the Post Office Twitten and between 15 Fairfield Cottages and 2 Alley Groves.

(JC)

Mrs Wright said that she would contact Duncan Lawrence again to ask if the Scouts would be prepared to rake over the play area.

(JW)

Pond Warden

Nothing to report.

Footpaths

The footpath at the back of the playing field which had been closed without permission or notification had been reported to WSCC.

Allotments

Nothing to report.

Roads & Transport

Nothing to report.

Streetlights

Mr Allmond said that he would inspect the two lampposts (No's 2 & 4) which Mrs Lucas reported as leaning over.

(VA)

Health Care & Social Services

Mrs Lucas said that she was still trying to sort out the lack of free hospital parking.

HDALC

Mr Allmond and Mrs Lucas had attended the last HALC meeting where it was reported that a new Code of Conduct was in the process of being produced.

It was also reported that Members' Registers of Interest would have to be displayed on the website in future. Mrs Wright agreed to contact the Monitoring Officer at HDC to say that the Members were not happy with this arrangement and ask for comments on the subject.

(JW)

Village Hall

It was reported that the Village Hall Committee had decided to cancel the annual music licence as the cost had increased to £580 and it would be cheaper to apply for a licence on an individual basis.

School Governors

Mrs Precious said that a new Headmaster had been appointed to commence on 1 September 2012.

Website

Nothing to report.

CLC

Nothing to report.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 9 July 2012.

The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.