

Cowfold Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 10 December 2012 in the Village Hall

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

Mr J Chowen – Horsham District Councillor
Public: 3
Press: 0

1. Apologies

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

2. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12 November 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.

Mrs Wright reminded Councillors who had not completed their Register of Interests that they are required for adding to the website and sending to HDC. It was agreed that copies of the form would be circulated to all Councillors.

(VA/JW)

4. Matters Arising

A reply had been received from Susan Whitehead regarding the Acorn Avenue Pond and it was agreed to ask Pete the Pond to assess what work would be needed.

(JW)

It appeared that although the sweepers had been to the village, they had not cleaned round the islands and had left piles of rubbish swept from the gutters. Mrs Wright agreed to ask HDC to clear up.

(JW)

Mrs Wright had contacted Enterprise asking them to assess the damage done to the playing field and to produce a quotation for the work but no response had been received to date.

(JW)

Mrs Wright had contacted Cllr. Andrew Baldwin at HDC regarding the status of his action regarding the rubbish outside the Co-op store. He said that another strongly worded

(1292)

letter would be sent and if that doesn't satisfactorily resolve the problem they will prosecute. St Peter's Church was still to make a complaint to HDC.

(MC)

Mr Barnard was still to investigate the possibility of painting a white line on the kerb side of Bolney Road.

(LB)

Mr Barnard had sent a message to say that he had been unable to get an answer on the costing of grasscrete for Thornden yet.

(LB)

Mrs Wright had contacted the Partridge Green Community First Responder team regarding the letter received from the South East Coast Ambulance Service. It was agreed not to respond but to continue to liaise with the Partridge Green Team.

Mrs Wright had written to Tom Crowley regarding the lack of response from some HDC departments to resident's concerns.

A response had been received from HDC planning department regarding whether or not planning permission would be required to erect a flagpole outside the Village Hall and it would appear that an application would be required. Mrs Wright agreed to find out how much the application would cost to submit.

(JW)

WSSC had been contacted again regarding the blocked drains in Picts Lane and outside the Village Hall on the A281 but no response had been received to date. Mrs Wright agreed to contact them again.

(JW)

A request had been submitted for the Police to monitor the traffic with regard to reports that vehicles were not stopping at the traffic lights. No response had been received to date.

5. The Public

A resident of Thornden asked if a notice could be installed on the damaged grass verge asking people not to park on it. It was considered that it would be more beneficial to wait to hear what Mr Barnard has to say when he has been able to obtain a cost for installing grasscrete.

Mr Rolfe reported on the following issues:

- Broken post and rail around the car park
- The earth round the manhole cover on the field opposite Mercers Mead had been washed away and needed replacing.
- The tree outside 16 Fairfield Cottages was rotten and was in need of attention.

Mrs Wright agreed to report the broken post, rail and tree to Horsham District Council.

(JW)

Mr Chamberlin asked if the Parish Council would buy new lights for the Christmas Tree. It was agreed to fund the lights at a cost of £40.00.

6. District Councillor Report

Nothing to report.

7. County Councillor Report

Nothing to report.

8. Correspondence

Tony Lea: - Concerns regarding speeding traffic on the A272. Mrs Wright agreed to respond with the information requested.

(JW)

Jenny Baldwin: - Letter enclosing a donation of £1,000 towards the proposed skateboard park on behalf of St Peter's Church and the Jubilee Event organisers. Mrs Wright said that she would send a letter of thanks.

(JW)

Carla Staden – Copy of information from NALC regarding the Precept & Council Tax 2013-14. Noted.

9. Skateboard Park

Nothing to report.

10. Pavilion

Draft drawings had been received, however, they needed to be explained and questions need to be answered. It was agreed to invite the architect to the next Council meeting. Meanwhile, grant application forms were being completed in readiness to submit when the drawings become available.

12. Representatives' Reports

Planning

Mr Allmond read the Planning Report for December 2012.

Finance

Mr Collins said that he would be arranging a Finance Committee meeting to set the 2013/4 budget sometime in the week commencing 17 December 2012.

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

Open Spaces

Mrs Wright said that she had asked Shaun Stevens to produce a quotation for replacing the top gate of the playing field.

Mrs Chamberlin asked if something could be done to improve the Acorn Avenue play area. It was agreed to discuss this subject when setting the budget for next year.

Pond Warden

Nothing to report.

Footpaths

Nothing to report.

Allotments

Nothing to report.

Roads & Transport

It was reported that when the leaves had been cleared from Hanover Gardens, they had been blown into the road. Mrs Wright agreed to contact Hanover Housing Association and ask them to clear the road.

(JW)

Mrs Wright agreed to report the blocked drain outside 18 Fairfield Cottages to WSCC.

(JW)

Streetlights

Mr Allmond said that he would try to get the leaning lampposts in Fairfield Cottages assessed again.

(VA)

Health Care & Social Services

Nothing to report.

HDALC

Mr Allmond and Mrs Lucas had attended the annual meeting of HDC and HALC held on Monday 26 November 2012.

Village Hall

It was reported that the tenants of the Village Hall flat had given notice.

School Governors

Nothing to report.

Website

Nothing to report.

CLC

Nothing to report.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 14 January 2013.

The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.