

Cowfold Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 12 January 2015 in the Village Hall

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

Mr L Barnard – West Sussex County Councillor

Public: 6

Press: 0

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs E Precious (EP), Mr J Chowen (JC) and Mr R Clarke (RC).

2. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8 December 2014 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

No information from Mr Chowen regarding the SHLAA discrepancies had yet been received.

(JC)

Mr Barnard said that a meeting was to be held on 13 January 2015 to discuss the installation of posts and creation of a pathway outside the Co-op.

Mrs Wright said that she would report the problem with the power cables which had dropped in Bolney Road.

(JW)

The message from Janine Creaye regarding the noise from flight path changes had been forwarded to Mr Barnard.

A response had been received from Mark Miller, NPT Sergeant to the Council's concerns regarding the lack of policing in Cowfold. The NPT are apparently working hard to get PCSO Julie Green a basic driving permit and in the meantime other officers have been allocated who will fill in for her or at the very least transport her when required.

(1397)

Mrs Precious had still to compile a list of paths considered to be priority for clearance (EP)

Mr Rolfe was still working on producing a leaflet for distribution with regard to dog fouling. In the meantime it was noted that since the new streetlights had been installed the dog fouling signs had not been replaced. It was agreed to ask Horsham District Council to replace them. (JW)

The subject of funding to extend the basketball area to accommodate a skateboard park was discussed at the annual finance meeting.

The overgrown hedge at the Post Office Twitten had been cut back.

Mrs Lucas said that the overhanging branches outside 4 Alley Groves had been cut back.

5. The Public

Mr Marsden reported on his investigations to date on the subject of public toilets and was arranging to make an appointment to speak to Nick Herbert at one of his clinics.

Mr Rolfe asked about the status of the defibrillator and was told that it had been transferred from the old Co-op store to the new one. Mr Chamberlin said that one was also going to be installed on the wall of the Village Hall.

Mr Hughes was in attendance with regard to the flooding problem in Kent Street. He had completed an application form for funding from the WSCC Operation Watershed scheme which required some input from the Parish Council.

Mr Chamberlin had received an unsatisfactory response from HDC regarding his concerns about the lack of pavement space along Bolney Road when the refuse bins were out. He said that he would be contacting them again as some of the measurements quoted were in his opinion incorrect.

6. District Councillor Report

Nothing to report.

7. County Councillor Report

Mr Barnard reported on the following issues:

- WSCC Budget Cuts
- Libraries Review
- WSCC Management Restructure
- Boundary Review Meeting

8. Correspondence

Fields in Trust – Request for Annual Membership renewal at a cost of £50. Currently the Council has a Standing Order in place for £25 and it was agreed to continue paying at this level.

Julie Green, PCSO – Monthly report. Noted.

Michelle Stokes, Steyning Grammar School – Invitation to attend the Project Based Learning event on Monday 19 January 2015. No Members present were available to attend the event and it was agreed to ask Mrs Precious if she would be interested in attending.

Anthony Lea – Request for the 30mph limit to be extended on the A272 and maybe some speed cameras put into operation. Mr Barnard said that it was unlikely that WSCC would agree to the speed limit being extended and speed cameras would be a police matter.

(JW)

9. Christmas Tree Lights

Mr Chamberlin had purchased new Christmas Tree lights following a vandalism incident. It was agreed to reimburse Mr Chamberlin the sum of £74.

10. Budget 2015/16

The annual finance meeting had been held on Tuesday 6 January 2015 and Mr Collins presented the 2015/16 budget for approval. All voted in favour of accepting the budget and of applying for a Precept of £36,557 representing a 1.2% increase on 2014/15.

11. Skateboard Park

The 2015/16 budget had included an amount to add to the funds already received to enable the basketball area to be extended to accommodate a skateboard park. Mr Chamberlin said that he would get three quotations on behalf of the Parish Council.

12. Pavilion

Nothing to report.

13. Representatives' Reports

Planning

Mr Allmond read the Planning Report for January 2015.

Finance

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

Open Spaces

It was agreed that when the weather improved to apply weed killer to the vegetation growing through the tarmac at the Acorn Avenue Play Area.

Pond Warden

Nothing to report.

Footpaths

Nothing to report.

Allotments

Nothing to report.

Roads & Transport

Mrs Chamberlin commented on the state of the verge at the entrance to Mercers Mead. It was agreed to write to HDC informing them that the grass verges throughout the village had been damaged due to their refuse vehicles.

(JW)

Streetlights

Nothing to report.

Health Care & Social Services

Nothing to report.

HDALC

The next HALC meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 March 2015 at Southwater.

Village Hall

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 15 January 2015.

School Governors

Nothing to report.

Website

Nothing to report.

CLC

The next meeting is to be held on Wednesday 4 March 2015.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 9 February 2015.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.