

Cowfold Parish Council

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

Present: Mr J Palling (JP) (Chairman) (P/T) Mrs G Martin (GM)
Mr C Collins (CC) Mr B Martin (BM)
Mrs E Precious (EP) Mrs J Wright (JW) (Clerk)
Mr S Clarke (SC)

Mr L Barnard – West Sussex County Councillor

Mr R Clarke – Horsham District Councillor

Public: 3

Press: 0

Paul Yallop – General Manager, Cameliar Botnar Foundation

Anika Clough – PCSO

Paul Yallop explained the main aims of the Camelia Botnar Foundation and the opportunities available to the trainees to learn a skill in a wide range of craft and trade disciplines.

Anika reported on police issues concerning Cowfold since July 2015.

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Ms S Awcock.

2. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14 September 2015 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 Clarke had arranged two meeting dates, the first being on Monday 19 October 2015 at 7.30pm in the Reading Room of the Village Hall to decide on roles and responsibilities of all interested parties. Depending on the success of the initial meeting another would be held on Monday 2 November 2015.

Mrs Wright had contacted Evolve Estates again with regard to the broken wooden base next to the Co-op and was awaiting a reply.

Mrs Wright had asked for the car park fence to be repaired again.

Mrs Wright had contacted BT with regard to the inspection cover near to the bus shelter in Henfield Road but to date only traffic cones had been placed in the area. Mrs Wright said that she would contact them again asking when the work would be carried out.

Mrs Wright had asked for the roads to be swept. Mr Barnard had not been able to find out who had been spraying weed killer.

Mr Collins had looked at both bus shelters and found that a ridge tile was missing and the roof was probably in need of re-felting on the one outside Godmans Court. The shelter at the end of St Peter's Close had three panels that were covered in glue that could not be removed. Mr Collins said that he would investigate the possibility of obtaining some posters of Cowfold in days gone by that could be laminated and placed over the panels.

(CC)

5. The Public

Mr Rolfe asked if consideration could be given to refurbishing the play area on the playing field. It was agreed to discuss this issue as an Agenda item at the November council meeting.

Mr Rolfe also said that there were two signs on the traffic island that were in need of attention. Mrs Wright said that she would report the problem to WSCC Highways.

(JW)

Mr Brooke said that the problem with bus drivers keeping their engines running outside Godmans Court had improved. He also said that there was still a problem with overgrown vegetation throughout the village.

6. District Councillor Report

Mr Clarke reported on the following items:

- Horsham District Council Development Plan
- Sussex Policing
- HDC Disability Hate Crime Awareness Day

7. County Councillor Report

Mr Barnard reported on the following issues:

- Police & Crime Commissioner possible additional responsibilities
- Section 106 status

Mr Barnard said that the planters for outside the Co-op had now been ordered and should be installed shortly.

Due to the lack of service recently from WSCC Highways it was agreed to ask Chris Stark to attend a Council meeting to discuss how the situation could be improved.

(JW)

8. Correspondence

Julie Wilkinson – Request for the support of the Parish Council to get a public footpath

moved on the grounds of security and privacy. It was agreed to respond by saying that it is not appropriate for the Parish Council to provide support to an individual for this purpose especially in the absence of confirmation of support from neighbours and other users such as the Ramblers Association.

(JW)

Michaela Clements, St Catherine's Hospice – Request to advertise Christmas Santa Run events. It was agreed to put the information on the website.

High Weald AONB Partnership – Neighbourhood Planning. Email passed to Mr Clarke.

HDC – Update on Horsham District Planning Framework Report. Noted.

SALC – Invitation to elected Members to AGM on Thursday 19 November 2015. Noted.

Lionel Barnard – West Sussex Council VAS Maintenance & Installation Agreement. It was agreed to forward the Agreement to members of the Cowfold Road Safety Committee and ask them to attend a Council meeting for an update on progress.

(JW)

9. Neighbourhood Plan

See Agenda Item 4.

10. Public Works Loan

Nothing to report.

11. Skateboard Park

Mr Chamberlin said that the agreement by the Council at the September meeting was for the purchase of two metal ramps at a cost of £200 each excluding VAT and not wooden ones as stated in the Minutes. He was still waiting for quotations for the manufacture of a ramp.

Mr Chamberlin said that the weeds had been treated but if there were still problems Mr Farley would return to permanently rectify the situation.

12. Pavilion

An email had been received from Doug Edwards containing arrangements that had been made for a hole to be excavated on 20 October following which a soil sample will be taken and sent for analysis. There was no mention of the other exploratory work required and it was agreed to ask Doug when this additional work would be carried out and how it may affect users of the Pavilion.

(JW)

13. Street Art

Mr Rolfe had not received any information from the head of the Art Department of the 6th Form College to date. It was, however, considered that the owners of the properties that may be identified for street art should be consulted initially.

14. Representatives' Reports

Planning

Mr Collins read the Planning Report for October 2015.

Finance

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

Open Spaces

Mrs Wright had asked the grass cutting and grounds maintenance contractors for a quotation to be sent by the end of October for the year 2016/17 following the unsatisfactory service received lately.

It was agreed to accept the quotation for play equipment repairs from R J Playground Services Limited at a cost of £415.00 excl. VAT.

(JW)

Pond Warden

Nothing to report.

Footpaths

Nothing to report.

Allotments

Nothing to report.

Roads & Transport

It was reported that the road markings at the roundabout at the junction of the A272 and A281 had worn away and the drains were in need of clearing on the A281 Horsham Road. Mrs Wright said that she would report both problems to WSCC Highways.

(JW)

It was also reported that there was overgrown vegetation overhanging the pavement at a property at the back of Thornden on the A272. Mrs Wright said that she would write to the resident asking them to cut it back.

(JW)

Streetlights

Nothing to report.

HALC

Nothing to report.

Village Hall

The next meeting is to be held on Thursday 15 October 2015.

Website

Nothing to report.

CLC

Nothing to report.

The next meeting will be held on **Monday 9 November 2015**.

The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.