

## **Cowfold Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 11 April 2016 in the Village Hall**

**Present:** Mr J Palling (JP) (Chairman)                      Mrs J Wright (JW) (Clerk)  
Mrs E Precious (EP)  
Mr S Clark (SC)

Mr L Barnard – West Sussex County Councillor  
Mr J Chowen – Horsham District Councillor  
Public: 3  
Press: 0

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr C Collins, Mrs S Awcock, Mr B Martin, Mrs G Martin, Mr T Clary and Mr R Clarke.

#### **2. Approval of the Minutes**

With the exception of the following amendment, the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14 March 2016 were agreed by all as a true and correct record:

Page 2, Item 5 The Public, Para.2, First sentence should read: "Kent Street" and not "Picts Lane".

#### **3. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest with regard to any item on the Agenda.

#### **4. Matters Arising**

A good response had been received with regard to the request for photographs to use in the bus shelter at the end of St. Peter's Close. An email had also been received from someone offering to help run a competition to find the best photograph and saying that he had spoken to Park Cameras in Burgess Hill who had offered to supply a Canon camera as a first prize. It was agreed to discuss how to proceed at the next Council meeting when all entries had been received.

The Horticultural Society members had begun planting out the containers outside the Co-op.

Mr Palling had contacted Chris Stark with regard to an update on the repainting of the white lines and roundabouts in the centre of the village but no date for the work to be carried out has been confirmed. Mr Barnard said that he would speak to Chris Stark asking for a definite timescale. Mr Palling had also asked about the possibility of installing posts outside the Co-op. Mr Barnard said that he would also discuss this with Chris Stark.

(LB)

With regard to the closure of the Lower Beeding swim school, Mr Chowen said that the owners were currently appealing against the decision.

Available dates had been received from the Scouts with regard to holding a meeting with them on the subject of use of the Scout Hut and the meeting was expected to take place shortly.

A notice had been put on the website with regard to the Safer Roads Committee's VAS versus gate poll with a link to their website in the hope that more residents would vote.

Mrs Wright was waiting to hear from Ellen Barker on when the Scouts would be available to spread play bark in the play area before placing an order.

Mrs Precious said that she would find out the number of the overgrown footpath at Little Brook so that the problem can be reported to WSCC.

(EP)

Mrs Wright was waiting for the go ahead from residents of Kent Street before writing to landowners asking them to clear their ditches and culverts.

Mrs Wright had asked for the roads to be swept again and reported the overgrown footpath on the A281.

Mrs Wright had contacted some neighbouring parishes with regard to events being held to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Some parishes were entering into the 'Clean for the Queen' event and some were undecided. Mr Martin had communicated that St Peter's school was not intending to celebrate in any way.

The information concerning the possible cancellation of the 3 in 1 card was put on the website.

Mrs Wright had written to the Southern Motor Group and the Bridge Garage asking them to be mindful of where they park their vehicles so as not to cause an obstruction of Eastlands Lane.

The letter from St Catherine's Hospice requesting a grant was put on the website.

Mr Martin had circulated the information published by Warnham Parish Council looking for volunteers for their emergency plan and identifying vulnerable people.

A copy of the current pavilion plans had been put on the website and on the Village Hall noticeboard.

The unlocked noticeboard in the car park and the broken recycling bin sign had been reported to HDC.

With regard to the collapsed bench on the Playing Field, Mrs Precious offered to think about how funds might be raised to replace it with one commemorating the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

(EP)

## **5. The Public**

Mr Brooke commented on the debris at the front of the Co-op. Mrs Wright said that she would contact the Area Manager to report all the issues at the Co-op.

(JW)

Mrs Wright said that she would report the dropped manhole cover in Henfield Road on the A281.

(JW)

Mrs Wright said that she would report the potholes in St Peter's Close which were now more than 40mm deep.

(JW)

## **6. District Councillor Report**

Mr Chowen said that it seemed that Neighbourhood Plans were now being challenged and suggested that details of this should be considered before formulating a plan.

A meeting was to be held to discuss village car parks currently owned by HDC with a view to selling them due to the high business rates and maintenance costs.

Mr Chowen had spoken to Adam Dracott following the letter that was sent from the Parish Council on the subject of air quality in Cowfold.

A response had been received from HDC which was read out to the Members stating the responsibilities of the District Council. The letter also asked for a Parish Council representative to attend a Steering Group meeting to be held between the middle and end of May. As Mrs Martin had raised the issue originally, it was agreed to ask her if she would like to attend the meeting. If she was not available, Mr Clark said that depending on the date, he may be available. Mrs Wright said that she would also be prepared to attend if necessary.

## **7. County Councillor Report**

Mr Barnard reported on the following issues:

- Henfield Neighbourhood Plan
- New Chief Executive appointment
- EU Debate
- Air Traffic Corps
- West Sussex Conference
- Operation Watershed

## **8. Correspondence**

*Cowfold Social Committee* – Details of the Cowfold Festival to be held on Saturday 2 July 2016 and request for permission to use the Playing Field and Pavilion. Noted.

(1464)

*Kit White, Weald Community Church* – Request for a grant towards the cost of purchasing a new mini bus. It was agreed that the Parish Council did not have the funds for this purpose but did agree to put the information on the Parish Council website.

(JW)

## **9. Accounts**

Nothing to report.

## **10. The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

It was agreed to purchase 150 commemorative coins to present to the St Peter's schoolchildren at a cost of £1.99 each plus carriage and VAT.

## **11. Neighbourhood Plan**

Mr Clark reported on progress made on the Neighbourhood Plan. The next stage was to clarify any issues and determine costs.

## **12. Skateboard Park**

Nothing to report.

## **13. Emergency Plan**

Nothing to report.

## **14. Village Volunteers**

To be discussed in conjunction with the Emergency Plan at the AGM in May.

## **15. Pavilion**

Once a meeting of the Pavilion Renovation Committee had been held to agree the final drawings, they would be submitted to HDC for authorisation.

## **16. Representatives' Reports**

### **Planning**

One planning application was received for consideration in April.

### **Finance**

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

Mrs Wright had registered for internet banking on behalf of the Parish Council. All present agreed with this course of action.

### **Open Spaces**

Mrs Precious reported on a fence near to the school entrance on the A272 which was in need of repair. Mrs Wright said that she would report the problem to WSCC Highways.

(JW)

### **Pond Warden**

Nothing to report.

### **Footpaths**

Nothing to report.

**Allotments**

Nothing to report.

**Roads & Transport**

Nothing to report.

**Streetlights**

Nothing to report.

**HALC**

Nothing to report.

**Village Hall**

Nothing to report.

**Website**

Nothing to report.

**CLC**

Nothing to report.

The next meeting which will be the AGM will be held on **Monday 9 May 2016**.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m