

Cowfold Parish Council
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 10 April 2017 in the Village Hall

Present: Mr J Palling (JP) (Chairman) Mr S Clark (SC)
Mrs E Precious (EP) Mrs M Cutbush (MC)
Mrs G Martin (GM) Mrs J Wright (JW) (Clerk)
Mr T Clary (TC)

Mr Chris Stark – West Sussex County Council Highways
Public: 3
Press: 0

Chris Stark had been invited to answer questions with regard to the current arrangements for reporting highways issues and the problems associated with it. He also entered into discussion on the subject of the ongoing Cowfold Air Quality problem.

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mr B Martin, Mr C Collins, Mrs R Detnon, Mrs S Parsons, Mr J Chowen, Mr R Clarke and Mr L Barnard.

2. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13 March 2017 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

Mrs Wright had spoken to the Manager of the Co-op regarding the complaint made about a delivery which had been made at 10.35am. He said that all deliveries were normally made at 7.00 am, however, on that particular day it had been delayed. The Manager will be attending the May Council meeting.

5. The Public

Mr Brooke said that the problem with bus drivers leaving their engines running had improved.

6. District Councillor Report

Nothing to report.

7. County Councillor Report

Nothing to report.

8. Correspondence

Houses of Parliament – Information on UK Parliament Week. Information to be put onto the website.

(JW)

Andrew Margetts - Concerns regarding the amount of traffic passing through the village and the problem of air quality. It was agreed to respond to Mr Margetts informing him of what the Parish Council are currently doing about these problems and inviting him to a Parish Council meeting where he could voice his concerns directly.

(JW)

St Catherine's Hospice – Notification of The Garden and Local Produce Fair to be held on Thursday 18 May 2017 at Cuckfield Park. Information to be put onto the website and poster to be displayed on the Parish Council noticeboard.

(JW)

9. Accounts

The costs against budget statement for Quarter 4 was tabled.

10. Cowfold Air Quality Committee Update

Responses had now been received from Nick Herbert and Sir Nicholas Soames and Horsham District Council had now been contacted by Nick Herbert asking what the current status was. It was suggested that maybe instead of paying £16,000 for a feasibility study to be undertaken it would be more effective for Nick Herbert to contact Highways England directly to determine whether installing diversion signs on the A24 and A23 would be an option.

11. Neighbourhood Plan

Due to the present uncertainty with regard to neighbourhood planning, Mr Clark said that progress would be minimal in the short term.

12. Emergency Plan/Village Volunteers

Mrs Precious and Mr Martin had met to agree a plan to launch the Cowfold Volunteers in Spring/Summer 2017 and had produced a set of immediate actions. A poster had also been produced which will be advertised around the village on the website, noticeboards and the Cowfold Community Facebook page.

(EP/JW)

13. Newsletter

Mrs Cutbush had produced a note containing what was required to resurrect Cowfold News. It was agreed to publish the first edition in the Autumn. Mrs Wright, Mrs Parsons, Mrs Detnon and Mrs Precious all offered assistance with contacting organisations for articles, contacting potential advertisers, deliveries and obtaining quotations from printing companies. Mr Clark said that he would assist with the software requirements.

14. Pavilion

Three tenders had been received and were currently being evaluated.

15. Representatives' Reports

Planning

No planning report was available.

Finance

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

It was agreed to donate £55 to St Peter's church for providing refreshments for Bill Lucas's presentation.

Open Spaces

A new contractor had been appointed to carry out grounds maintenance and grass cutting.

Pond Warden

Nothing to report.

Footpaths

The broken post in Eastlands Lane was yet to be identified.

(EP/JW)

Allotments

Nothing to report.

Roads & Transport

Nothing to report.

Streetlights

Nothing to report.

HALC

Nothing to report.

Village Hall

With regard to questions that had been asked about monies that may be held by the Village Hall Management Committee associated with the Pavilion, following a report presented by Mrs Martin detailing the history of when the running of the Pavilion had been taken over by the Management Committee to the present day, it was agreed to accept the offer of £5,000 towards fixtures and fittings for the new Pavilion.

Mrs Martin said that the Village Hall Management Committee were currently advertising for a volunteer to take over from Kay Blackwell who had been looking after the finances for the past ten years.

Website

Nothing to report.

CLC

Nothing to report.

The next meeting will be held on **Monday 8 May 2017**.

The meeting closed at 9.09 p.m