

Cowfold Parish Council
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 14 August 2017 in the Village Hall

Present: Mr J Palling (JP) (Chairman) Mr T Clary (TC)
Mr C Collins (CC) Mrs M Cutbush (MC)
Mrs E Precious (EP) Mrs R Detnon (SC)
Mrs S Parsons (SP) Mrs J Wright (JW) (Clerk)
Mr B Martin (BM)

Mr J Chowen – District Councillor
Public: 1
Press: 0

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs G Martin, Mr S Clark, Mr L Barnard.

2. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 10 July 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 emailed Mr Barnard as the first step required before requesting a Traffic Regulation Order to reduce the speed limit on the A281 following the fatal accident that had occurred on 18 April 2017.

Mrs Wright had written to ask for Chris Stark's advice on installing cameras in the village to monitor the traffic. Chris had sent a rather lengthy response which was read out at the meeting resulting in an action to speak to the Manager of the Co-op to discuss the possibility of installing additional cameras on their building. (JW)

No action had been taken to clear the overgrown footpath in Station Road which is now completely impassable. It was agreed to follow up the request for the work to be carried out. (JW)

A representative from West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service would be attending the September Council meeting to speak about their 'What If' campaign.

Mr Barnard was not present, and, therefore no further information on the air quality problem was available.

Mrs Wright had contacted HDC Planning department following information from residents that the boundary fence of the new housing development in the centre of the village had been moved out over a weekend. A Compliance Officer had visited the site and concluded that there had been no breach of planning conditions.

Mrs Wright had spoken to the insurance company following receipt of the RoSPA report which had identified problems with the skateboard equipment. They said that provided action was being taken to rectify the problems as far as possible, the insurance cover would not be affected and no additional action was required.

5. The Public

Nothing to report.

6. District Councillor Report

Mr Chowen reported on the following issues:

- Completion of the Alley Groves Housing Development
- Appointment of new Communications and Welfare Director
- Gypsy & Traveller Sites
- Horsham on Ice
- New Leisure Centre
- Recycling
- New cinemas
- Year of Culture 2019.

7. County Councillor Report

Nothing to report.

8. Correspondence

Bernard and Jenny Baldwin – Request to organise the annual Firework event on behalf of the Parish Council and suggestions for how the funds from the event could be used. It was agreed to suggest that the funds could be used to purchase some equipment for the new Pavilion.

9. Accounts

Nothing to report.

10. Cowfold Air Quality Committee Update

It was agreed to hold a pre-meeting, the date of which is to be determined, before the meeting that has been arranged with Nick Herbert takes place. It was also agreed to invite Chris Stark to the meeting with Nick Herbert.

(JW)

11. Neighbourhood Plan

Nothing to report.

12. Emergency Plan/Village Volunteers

Mr Martin reminded everyone that the Village Clean-Up Day is taking place on Saturday 7 October 2017. It was agreed to spend up to £100 on providing refreshments at the end of the event when it is hoped that volunteers will sign up to join the Committee. Mrs Wright agreed to contact Pete the Pond again to ask if it was possible to carry out work on the pond on the same day.

(JW)

13. Newsletter

Mrs Cutbush said that she had been hoping that the Newsletter would have been sent for printing. However, she had found out that West Grinstead PC was campaigning against the proposed changes to the No.17 bus schedules and wanted to include an article on the subject.

14. Pavilion

Work was proceeding well now that the asbestos had been disposed of. A more detailed update on progress, costs etc. would be available for the next meeting.

15. Representatives' Reports

Planning

No planning report was presented.

Finance

Approval for payments was requested and agreed by all.

Due to the timing of Council meetings it was not always going to be possible to authorise payments to Fowlers when they became due. It was agreed that provided no payment was made without a certificate signed by Doug Edwards, it would be acceptable to authorise payments retrospectively.

Open Spaces

Mr Martin expressed concern regarding a tree in a garden in Thornden that appeared to have died and may be in danger of falling. Mrs Wright said that she would look at the tree and ask the owner to deal with it.

Footpaths

Nothing to report.

(JW)

Allotments

Nothing to report.

Roads & Transport

Mrs Wright had reported the recent flooding problems to Chris Stark who said that he would look into the problem and inform us of any action to be taken.

Streetlights

Nothing to report.

HALC

Nothing to report.

Village Hall

A meeting to discuss the vacant Treasurer position was to be held shortly.

Website

Nothing to report.

CLC

Nothing to report.

The next meeting will be held on **Monday 11 September 2017**.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.