

Cowfold Parish Council
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 8 January 2018 in the Village Hall

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

Public: 4
Press: 0

Mr L Barnard – West Sussex County Councillor

Dr M Smethurst & Dr J Darcy – Cowfold Surgery Dispensary

Doctors Smethurst and Darcy presented their case for appealing against an appeal made by Hanif Healthcare Limited to allow pharmacy services in Cowfold. It was agreed to support the surgery's appeal by writing a letter stating how important the personal service the surgery offers to residents especially the elderly is and that the Parish Council feels strongly that they should be allowed to continue their valuable service whatever the outcome of the appeal hearing.

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mr S Clark, Mr J Chowen and Mr R Clarke.

2. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11 December 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

No further information was available with regard to the legal position regarding the cellar trap door at the side of the Co-op which is still expected.

Mr Clark was not present and, therefore, no information was available on whether he had been successful in arranging for the children to make cards for a special birthday.

Mrs Wright had contacted the Clerk at Steyning Parish Council to ask about the benefits of employing Neighbourhood Wardens. He said that in the Steyning area the Wardens had been proved to be useful as they do have problems with anti-social behaviour,

drinking issues and problems with youth behaviour. As Cowfold is fortunate enough not to have the same problems, it was agreed that it would not be beneficial to employ Wardens at this time.

Mrs Precious said that she would ask Mr Martin if he would be interested in continuing to form a Village Volunteers Committee on behalf of the Community.

(EP)

Mrs Wright had written to the residents responsible for installing the gate at the entrance to the Kicking Field again asking them to remove it within fourteen days.

Mrs Wright had contacted Saxon Weald asking for the fingerpost outside 2 Oakfield Road to be reinstated.

5. The Public

Mr Rolfe said that five fence posts round the car park and three opposite Mercers Mead needed to be replaced and the school road signs needed to be replaced also. Mrs Wright said that she would arrange for the repairs to be undertaken and the signs to be replaced.

(JW)

6. District Councillor Report

Nothing to report.

7. County Councillor Report

Mr Barnard reported on the following issues:

- Highways and Transport Contract Renewal
- No.17 Bus Stop Issue at Picts Lane
- 2018 Chairman Reception

Mr Barnard had spoken to Matt Davey following his visit to Cowfold with regard to traffic problems in the village and a response from Matt was awaited.

Mr Barnard appeared not to be familiar with the map produced by WSCC detailing strategic lorry routes. Mr Palling said that he would send him a link to it.

(JP)

8. Correspondence

Mayfields – Document setting out the vision for how a new market town could be delivered. Noted.

St Catherine's Hospice: - Request for donation. It was agreed not to make a donation but to put the information onto the website.

British Legion – Request to support the British Legion in thanking the First World War generation and all those who served by purchasing a 'Silent Soldier'. It was agreed to

purchase a 'Silent Soldier' at a cost of £250.

Roy Holden – Concerns regarding vehicles parking on verges and issues with broken bollards. Also, thanks to Steve Rolfe for the excellent job he does in keeping the village free of litter. Mrs Wright said that she had contacted Roy to say that to report illegally parked vehicles, at least the registration number needs to be available but would report broken bollards to WSCC Highways.

(JW)

9. 2018/19 Annual Budget/Accounts

Mr Collins presented the 2018/19 budget for approval following the Finance meeting that had taken place on Wednesday 3 January 2018. It was agreed that a portion of the contingency could be used if necessary to make up any shortfall that may occur in producing the Neighbourhood Plan. The 2018/19 budget was approved by all.

Mrs Wright tabled the Quarter 3 budget statement.

10. Neighbourhood Planning Update

The Call for Sites period which ended on 5 January 2018 had produced nine sites for potential development. The next task was to agree a set of criteria.

11. Cowfold Air Quality Update

Nothing to report.

12. Emergency Plan/Village Volunteers

Nothing to report.

13. Newsletter

Mrs Cutbush was currently preparing the Spring edition of the Newsletter which would contain an article on verge parking, overgrown hedges and potholes.

14. Bus Questionnaire

42 completed questionnaires had been received. Mrs Cutbush would now liaise with West Grinstead/Partridge Green Parish Council to determine the next steps.

15. Sussex Day

It was agreed to purchase a flagpole and flag. Mr Collins said that he would look at sourcing a supplier.

16. Allmond Centre Management Committee Update

A meeting of the Management Committee is to be held on Wednesday 10 January 2018.

It was mentioned that the Cowfold Social Committee would probably expect to use the new facility for the annual fete. However, none of the repair work to the field had been carried out, the promised bench had not materialised and no information with regard to the proceeds of the 2017 festival had been reported on and, therefore, it was agreed to ask that representatives of the Committee attend a Parish Council meeting to report

The 2017 event and their intentions for 2018.

(JW)

17. Representatives' Reports

Planning

Mr Collins read the planning report for December 2017.

Finance

Approval for payments was requested and agreed by all.

Open Spaces

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

The next meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee will be held on Thursday 18 January 2018.

Website

Nothing to report.

CLC

Nothing to report.

The next meeting will be held on **Monday 12 February 2018**.

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.