

Cowfold Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 11 November 2019 in the Village Hall

Present: Mr S Reading (SR) - Chairman
Mr J Hooper (JH)
Mr D Wilkins (DW)
Mr S Clark (SC)
Mrs D Everest (DE)
Mrs D Neville (DN)
Mrs J Wright (Clerk)

Public: 3
Press: 0

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Chowen, Mrs L Lambert, Mr L Barnard and Ms K Kingshott.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Apart from the following amendment, the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14 October 2019 were agreed by all as a true and correct record:

Item 9, Final sentence should be deleted.

3. Declarations of Interest

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

4. Matters Arising

Mr Reading had measured up the Allmond Centre storerooms and was currently looking for appropriate racking.

Mr Clark was still to draft an advertisement for the Allmond Centre Caretaker position.

(SC)

Approval had been received to the request by the WI to display a banner on the Village Hall railings advertising their table-top sale on Saturday 7 March 2020.

Mrs Wright had written to HDC regarding the possibility of converting the redundant telephone box to a WiFi hub but to date no response had been received.

Funding was currently being sought to create a pump cycle track in the woodland area of the playing field. Information on the progress made was awaited.

5. The Public

Nothing to report.

6. District Councillor Report

Nothing to report.

7. County Councillor Report

Nothing to report.

8. Correspondence

None.

9. WSCC/HDC Strategy on Electric Cars

Further information on progress was awaited from Ruth O'Brien – WSCC.

10. Village Fete Update

Mr Clark reported on the progress made by the new Committee. A website cowfoldfestival.org containing information regarding the fete to be held on Saturday 4 July was up and running and a band had already been booked for the event. A sponsorship sub-committee had also been formed. Steps were also being taken to enable the Horticultural Society to return to the event.

11. Environmental Monitor Positioning

The air pollution monitors sited around the village had recently being moved higher up the posts by Horsham District Council. This was reportedly to stop vandalism but it was considered that this could also improve the readings of the emissions. It was agreed to write to HDC asking for the monitors to be moved back to their original position. Mr Clark and Mr Hooper agreed to liaise to draft a response for Mrs Wright to send to HDC on behalf of the Parish Council.

(SC/JH)

12. Neighbourhood Planning Update

An administration error has been discovered whereby six statutory bodies were not advised of the Regulation 14 Consultation and, therefore, a further six week consultation period is required. This will provide the opportunity for those bodies omitted from the original circulation and any residents who had not previously done so, to provide their representations. The consultation will run from 9.00am on 12 November 2019 and end at 5.00pm on 24 December 2019.

All Members voted in favour of objecting to the proposed new housing development at Buck Barn on the grounds that large infrastructure developments may have a negative impact on Cowfold as a result of increased traffic.

13. The Allmond Centre

Mrs Wright reported that although the hiring on the Allmond Centre was on the increase, there was still currently a significant shortfall between income and expenditure. It was suggested that the facility should be advertised to a wider audience.

14. Representatives' Reports

Planning

Nothing to report.

Finance

Approval for payments was requested and agreed by all.

Mrs Wright asked for suggestions to be emailed to her for consideration by the Finance Committee when they meet in December 2019 to discuss 2020/21 budget.

(ALL)

Open Spaces

Mrs Neville had attended a meeting at Horsham District Council to discuss the content of the digital tourist information boards soon to be installed in the car park. The Members will be updated as more information is made available.

(DN)

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 will be held on **Monday 9 December 2019**.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.