

Cowfold Parish Council
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 9 March 2020 in the Village Hall

Present: Mr S Reading (SR) – (Chairman) Mr D Wilkins (DW)
Mrs D Everest (DE) Mrs J Wright (Clerk)
Mr S Clark (SC)

Public: 4
Press: 0

Mr L Barnard – West Sussex County Councillor
Mr J Chowen – Horsham District Councillor
Mrs L Lambert – Horsham District Councillor

Alex Raynos updated the Councillors on the work of the fete Committee to date. This year's fete was expected to be a bigger and better event containing a raft of attractions and food outlets. It was hoped that it would continue into Sunday when it was planned to organise a picnic on the playing field.

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs D Neville, Mr J Palling, Ms K Kingshott and Mr J Hooper.

2. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 10 February 2020 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

Dean Sweet and Fay Revell were invited to the meeting but no response had been received.

Mrs Wright had contacted Horsham District Council with a view to using the remaining Section 106 funds of £2,500 held, to assist with the cost of refurbishing the Acorn Avenue play area. An application for completion had now been received.

5. The Public

Mr Chamberlin's questions on the status of the Cowfold Speedwatch scheme and the Parish Council's involvement in objecting to the large proposed housing developments were responded to.

6. District Councillor Report

Mrs Lambert and Mr Chowen reported on the following issues:

- HDC Local Plan
- Drill Hall
- Rookwood Golf Club Decommissioning
- Ecology/Wildlife Grants.

7. County Councillor Report

Mr Barnard reported on the following issues:

- 2020/1 Council tax increase
- Fire & Rescue Scrutiny Committee
- Chris Stark new role
- Next CLC meeting
- Potholes

8. Correspondence

Giles Kolter – Head of St Peter’s School – Information on plans to reinstall a gate from the churchyard to the swimming pool. The Councillors indicated their support.

Horsham District Council – Body Worn Cameras Consultation invitation to comment. Noted.

9. Cowfold Youth Club

As no representatives from the Youth Club were present in was agreed leave this item on the Agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

10. WSCC/HDC Strategy on Electric Cars

Nothing to report.

11. Speed Watch

Mr Wilkins reported on progress made to date on setting up the Cowfold Speed Watch Scheme. He is heading up a team of seven volunteers currently and a resident in attendance at the meeting expressed an interest in adding his name to the list. A starter kit had been ordered and it was agreed to pay for the hire of the Allmond Centre for a couple of hours for training purposes. Mr Wilkins was also gathering information on installing speed signs on the A272 and A281.

12. Neighbourhood Planning Update

Mr Hooper had sent a message to note that the plan was submitted to HDC on 31 January 2020 and that the HDC Regulation 16 consultation is scheduled to take place between 23 March 2020 and 11 May 2020.

13. The Allmond Centre

Dr Williams had requested that a sign is installed at the Allmond Centre asking for no ball games to be played on the patio area as balls were being kicked against the

doors that would in time cause damage. It was suggested that it would be more effective if a note together with photos was posted on the Community Facebook page.

14. Representatives' Reports

Planning

Nothing to report.

Finance

Approval for payments was requested and agreed by all.

Mr Hooper had sent a message containing information with regard to village planting by the Horticultural Society. He was requesting a total sum of £800 for the purchase of sustainable plants. Although the initial cost is quite high, Mr Hooper said that the cost for future years would be much reduced. It had been agreed to fund village planting at a cost of £600 at the February meeting. The additional £200 was agreed by all.

Open Spaces

Mr Reading reported on the gates that had been installed at the back of Saxon Weald properties in Fairfield Cottages that allowed access directly onto the playing field causing the area to flood. Mrs Wright said that she would contact Saxon Weald to get them to rectify the problem and ask why the Parish Council had not been notified.

(JW)

Footpaths

Nothing to report.

Allotments

It was reported that a plot was being divided for use by the Community. This was being paid for by an existing allotment hirer.

Roads & Transport

Nothing to report.

Streetlights

Nothing to report.

HALC

Nothing to report.

Village Hall

The Village Hall Management Committee Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 31 March 2020 commencing at 7.00pm.

Website

Nothing to report.

CLC

Nothing to report.

The next meeting will be held on **Monday 6 April 2020**.

The meeting closed at 9.03pm.