

Cowfold Parish Council
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 9 November 2020 via Video Link

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

Public: 0
Press: 0

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

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Ms K Kingshott and Mrs D Neville and Mr D Wilkins.

2. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12 October 2020 were agreed by all as a true and correct record:

3. Declarations of Interest

Mr Clark declared an interest in Item 10 Path from Scout Hut to Car Park.

4. Matters Arising

Mrs Everest had attended the Remembrance service on Sunday 8 November 2020.

Mr Hooper had circulated the email relating to increasing commitment for the high- speed broadband project.

As the current lockdown rules prevent the re-opening of the Allmond Centre, the questionnaire to be sent to all existing users has been deferred.

5. The Public

Nothing to report.

6. District Councillor Report

Mrs Lambert and Mr Chowen reported on the following issues:

- HDC Local Plan

7. County Councillor

Mr Barnard reported on the follows issue:

- Fire & Rescue Service update
- Local Government Enforcement Procedures

8. Correspondence

Jo Petty – Request to place a bench on the playing field in memory of Malcom Wilson (Tug). No objections were raised.

Ollie – Request to extend the skateboard park. It was agreed initially to ask Ollie for his thoughts on how this may be achieved. (JW)

Lynne Brennan – Request for traffic calming measures on Bolney Road. Mrs Wright had replied to Lynne's message informing her of the Parish Council's plan to install speed signs.

Dean Sweet – Information on 4TheYouth Ltd's services during lockdown. Noted.

Geoffrey Moffat (Ex Cowfold resident) – Expression of concern that Cowfold no longer had a cricket club, a request to let him know if the PC manage to reinstate one and an offer to donate all his personal cricket equipment if the PC is successful.

9. Pop Up Post Office

The Parish Council had been notified that the pop-up Post Office was going to have to vacate the Smithy and the Reading Room at the Village Hall had been offered as an alternative venue. Possible assistance with funding of the Reading Room for the purpose was discussed and it was agreed that as the service was a valuable asset to the village the Parish Council would fund 50% of the cost, the Village Hall, funding the other, which was expected to be around £750 per year.

10. Path from Scout Hut to Car Park

Neil Ward-Dutton who was in attendance to discuss this item had sent the specification for the proposed path which had been circulated to all Members. The Parish Council supported this project in principle, however, several ways of achieving the best outcome for the village to include the possible installation of a pedestrian crossing at Mercers Mead were discussed. It was agreed to contact Lionel Barnard and WSCC Highways to discuss the possibilities and report back to the December meeting. (JW)

11. High Speed Broadband

Mr Hooper said that there had been a misunderstanding of the Openreach terms and as a result he would have to contact all residents who had committed to the project by email informing them of the issue but was still hopeful for a successful outcome. (JH)

12. Speed Watch/Speed Signs

Mr Wilkins was still in discussion with WSCC Highways with regard to positioning of the signs. No further speed watch training was taking place due to COVID19. (1666)

13. Neighbourhood Planning Update

The Neighbourhood Plan procedure was proceeding satisfactorily.

14. The Allmond Centre

All supplies and equipment to make the facility COVID secure had been purchased, however, opening has been delayed further due to the latest lockdown.

15. Representatives' Reports

Planning

Nothing to report.

Finance

Approval for payments was requested and agreed by all.

Open Spaces

It was reported that the shed erected on Parish Council land by a resident had not been removed. It was agreed to contact the resident asking for the shed to be either removed or cleared in order that the Parish Council can arrange for its removal.

(JW)

Allotments

Nothing to report.

Roads & Transport

Nothing to report.

Footpaths

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 14 December 2020**.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.