

Cowfold Parish Council
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 12 April 2021 via Video Link

Present: Mr S Reading (SR) – (Chairman) Mr D Wilkins (DW)
Mr J Hooper (JH) Mrs J Knowles (JK)
Mrs D Everest (DE) Mrs J Wright (Clerk)
Mrs D Neville (DN)

Public: 4
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.

2. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8 March 2021 were agreed by all as a true and correct record:

3. Declarations of Interest

None.

4. Matters Arising

Mrs Wright had contacted Horsham District Council with regard to the dumping of soil at Bridge Garage in Henfield Road which had still not been removed. A response had been received to say that the case had been closed and that there would be no further action. Mrs Lambert suggested that the response should be forwarded to her for further investigation.

(JH)

Mr Hooper had forwarded contact details for the person responsible for the management of the Potters Green allotments.

Mr Clark was still to send details to Mrs Neville of the footpath at Picts Lane that the farmer was blocking preventing access to the land.

(SC)

5. The Public

Members of the public were in attendance concerned about the closure of the footpath located near to Littlebrook which although is not a public right of way has been used for many years as Footpath 1755 has been impassable due to a part of it being flooded for most of the year. Mrs Neville was currently having discussions and meetings with both WSCC and the owner of Littlebrook to come to a mutually agreeable conclusion to the problem

(DN)

6. District Councillor Report

Mr Chowen and Mrs Lambert reported on the following issues:

(1680)

- Pausing of Local Plan
- Health & Wellbeing Team

7. County Councillor

Mr Barnard reported on the following issues:

- Fire & Rescue Services.
- Re-opening of Libraries.
- 20 Year Service Award.

Mr Barnard was thanked for his support over the past twenty years.

8. Correspondence

St Peter's School – Request for use of CIL funds to assist in improvement of the outdoor learning area. Parish Councils do not generally provide (community) grants to schools towards an item or activity where the principal aim is to deliver the National Curriculum or for activities that take place during the school day unless in the opinion of the Council, their application is for the benefit of the wider community. With regard to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), in the Neighbourhood Plan submitted by Cowfold, this has been ring-fenced to support schemes that would benefit the whole community. The request, therefore, was refused.

West Grinstead Parish Council – Proposed letter of objection regarding the development of 3,500 houses at Wealdcross (Buck Barn). It was agreed to join with West Grinstead, Shipley and Nuthurst Parish Councils by adding Cowfold Parish Council to the list of signatories.

9. Co-option

Mrs Ann Foley was proposed by Mr Wilkins, seconded by Mrs Neville and agreed by all. Mrs Foley was welcomed to the meeting as a new Member of the Parish Council.

10. Greening Cowfold

Mr Hooper had circulated a copy of the Minutes of the Greening Cowfold meeting held on 7 April 2021. Progress to date was presented by Mr Hooper, Mrs Everest and Mrs Knowles. There were no objections raised to any of the current plans.

11. Future Community Projects

Following publication of the questionnaire, 57 ideas for future community projects had been submitted for consideration by the Parish Council. Mrs Neville had/will be responding to residents where the Parish Council was already implementing some of the ideas and to those who had suggested projects not within the Parish Council's remit. The remaining suggestions will be discussed at the May meeting.

12. High Speed Broadband

Implementation was still thought to be by the end of the year.

13. Speed Watch/Speed Signs

Mr Wilkins reported that the Speed Watch Scheme was up and running and that the first speed watch session was imminent.

One objection had been received with regard to the installation of a speed sign planned for the end of Thornden as it was thought to be too close to the pedestrian crossing. The outcome of this objection is awaited.

14. Neighbourhood Planning Update

Nothing to report.

15. The Allmond Centre

Mrs Wright read out the significant list of duties required to be carried out with regard to the running of the Allmond Centre which was beyond merely employing a caretaker. Mr Wilkins had located some management companies and it was agreed that he would continue to progress these leads with a view to determining the cost of a complete service.

(DW)

16. Representatives' Reports

Planning

Nothing to report

Finance

Approval for payments was requested and agreed by all.

Open Spaces

Nothing to report.

Allotments

Nothing to report.

Roads & Transport

Nothing to report.

Footpaths

Streetlights

Nothing to report.

HALC

The next HALC meeting which Mrs Everest will be attending is due to be held on Thursday 29 April 2021.

Village Hall

Nothing to report.

Website

Nothing to report.

CLC

Nothing to report.

The next meeting will be held on **Monday 10 May 2021.**

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

