

Cowfold Parish Council
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 12 September 2022 in the Allmond Centre

Present: Mr S Reading (SR) (Chairman) Mrs C Towle (CT)
Mr J Hooper (JH) Mr S Clark (SC)
Mrs D Everest (DE) Mrs J Wright (JW) (Clerk)
Ms K Kingshott (KK)

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

Public: 15
Press: 0

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Everest.

2. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8 August 2022 were agreed by all as a true and correct record.

3. Declarations of Interest

None.

4. Matters Arising

Mrs Wright had contacted WSCC again with regard to the faulty traffic lights in The Street.

The speed sign testing and set-up was complete and it was ready for installation.

5. Public

The owners of the property in Acorn Avenue who look after the two protected Oak trees that are in danger of being felled under Planning Application DC/22/0971, were in attendance to update the Councillors on progress made towards saving the trees.

Mr Rolfe said that the play area on the Playing Field was in need of some attention.

Most of the members of the public were in attendance with regard to Agenda Item 9. Cowfold Verge Rewilding.

Fairfield Cottage residents informed the Councillors that they were upset with the proposal to redevelop part of Fairfield Cottages as they had been given notice to

leave with little consideration as to where they were to be rehoused.

Kent Street residents attended with concerns regarding the Delspride Planning Applications.

6. District Councillor Report

Mr Chowen and Mrs Lambert reported on the following issues:

- Water Neutrality
- Horsham Skateboard Park
- Capitol Theatre Plans
- Horsham Park Pond Refurbishment

7. County Councillor Report

Mrs Payne reported on the following issues:

- Electric Charging Points
- A281 Removal of Ash Trees
- Verge Cutting Staff Redeployment

8. Correspondence

Cowfold Football Club – Request for the Parish Council to fund the Allmond Centre costs for their 125 years of football celebration. The request was discussed together with the subject of the possibility of the Parish Council supporting local organisations where they are celebrating a significant event provided that there is a clear benefit to the community as a whole. It was, therefore, agreed that the Football Club be asked to provide a list of the day's activities to ensure that they would benefit the whole village before a decision be made. Also, to ask if they were intending to advertise the celebration as a village event and, if was to deemed to be a village event, and the Football Club were intending to allow use of the toilets, then they would be liable for additional cleaning costs.

(JW)

Mia Motter – Request to use the Playing Field and erection of a 2-hat tepee for a wedding reception on 23/24 September 2023. No objections were raised to the request.

9. Cowfold Verge Rewilding

Following considerable discussion on this subject, it was agreed to locate a suitable spot away from the road to rewild in order to demonstrate what could be achieved and to revisit the subject of verge rewilding in 2023.

10. Cowfold Road & Traffic Issues Report

The Cowfold Road & Traffic Issues Report produced by Mr Hooper was approved and it was agreed to publish it on the Parish Council website and send it to Mrs Payne with the request that she use it to further the Parish Council's application for the installation of a pedestrian crossing at Mercers Mead.

11. Speed Signs

Ready for installation.

12. Outdoor Gym

The survey had been completed and Mrs Towle will now ask Proludic to collate the results.

(CT)

Mrs Towle had surveyed some of the more senior members of the village; however, in the main, they were not interested in using outdoor gym equipment.

13. Lower Beeding and Cowfold Parish Magazine

The majority of the village had received their complimentary copy of the magazine. To date there had only been five residents wishing to subscribe.

14. Neighbourhood Planning Update

A referendum date was still awaited.

15. The Allmond Centre

Mrs Wright said that after four and a half years of managing the Allmond Centre bookings on a voluntary basis, she wished to hand over the task. Ms Kingshott who had recently taken on the job of caretaking and facilities management expressed an interest in taking it on. Mrs Wright said that she would produce a job description to determine the amount of hours that would need to be paid for.

(JW)

16. Representatives Reports**Planning**

Nothing to report

Finance

Approval for payments was requested and agreed by all.

Mrs Everest had suggested that the Parish Council pay for a commemorative wreath, to be attached to the pole outside the Village Hall, on behalf of the people of Cowfold to mourn the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. It was agreed to purchase a wreath at a cost of £50.00.

Open Spaces

A quotation had been received from Shaun Stevens to replace the palisade fencing in The Street. It was agreed to accept the quotation at a cost of £450.00.

Allotments

Nothing to report.

Roads & Transport

Nothing to report.

Footpaths

Nothing to report.

Streetlights

Nothing to report.

Greening Cowfold

Nothing further 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 10 October 2022**.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.