

Cowfold Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 13 February 2017 in the Village Hall

Present: Mr J Palling (JP) (Chairman) Mr S Clark (SC)
Mr C Collins (CC) Mr B Martin (BM)
Mrs E Precious (EP) Mrs S Parsons (SP)
Mr T Clary (TC) Mrs M Cutbush (MC)
Mrs G Martin (GM) Mrs J Wright (JW) (Clerk)

Mr L Barnard – West Sussex County Councillor

Mr J Chowen – Horsham District Councillor

Emma Edwards, Horsham Matters

Public: 1

Press: 0

Emma Edwards gave a presentation on the community youth work carried out by Horsham Matters, a charity based in the Horsham district. Emma said that she would send more information on how the initiative may work in Cowfold.

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs R Detnon and Mr R Clarke.

2. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9 January 2017 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

Progress made on actions to improve Air Quality was discussed under Agenda item 10.

Alan Hall had been invited to attend the March Council meeting with regard to his request to use the playing field to launch a hot air balloon.

Shaun Stevens had repaired the broken fence at Potters Green.

Mr Clark had confirmed his agreement to both applying for a Public Works Loan and to increasing the 2017/18 Precept to cover the first year repayment.

Mrs Wright said that there would be a penalty associated with early repayment of the PWL, however, this could not be determined beforehand and would have to be negotiated at the time.

Mrs Wright had contacted the Council's insurers with regard to the indemnification clause contained in the licence covering the installation of the village gates, who confirmed that cover was in place.

Details of the fencing work to be carried out round the play area on the playing field were still awaited from Shaun Stevens.

5. The Public

Nothing to report.

6. District Councillor Report

Mr Chowen reported on the following:

- Council Tax increase
- Neighbourhood Planning
- Broadbridge Heath Leisure Centre

7. County Councillor Report

Mr Barnard reported on the following:

- Bill Lucas presentation
- Queen Alexandra Hospital Visit
- Council Tax increase
- Pension Pooling
- Pay Policy

8. Correspondence

The Local Government Boundary Commission - Electoral Review of Horsham: Draft Recommendations. The Commission's draft recommendations can be found at <https://www.lgbce.org.uk>.

St Peter's School - Copy of a letter sent to parents with regard to parking in Thornden. Noted.

Phil Tucker, Parish Magazine Printing – Details of a family-run printing company. Cowfold Parish Council no longer produce a magazine, however, it was agreed that a newsletter of some description could be revisited. Mrs Cutbush was asked to bring examples of what she used to produce to the next meeting.

St Catherine's Hospice: Request for a grant. It was agreed not to award a grant at this time but to put the information contained in the letter onto the website.

(MC)

9. Accounts

Nothing to report.

10. Cowfold Air Quality Committee Update

Mr Clark reported on the last Committee meeting held in January. He had become increasingly frustrated with the lack of any action or responsibility being taken.

Mr Clark had written to Nick Herbert, Sir Nicholas Soames and Client Earth asking for any assistance they could give on the matter and was currently awaiting responses. This item will be left on the Agenda for discussion at the next meeting when hopefully some positive responses have been received. In the meantime, it was agreed to put the correspondence onto the website.

As Horsham District Council was no longer prepared to pay for room hire at the Village Hall for future meetings, it was agreed that the Parish Council would pay for it.

11. Neighbourhood Plan

The next meeting had been scheduled to take place on Thursday 16 February. It will be attended by a representative of Horsham District Council who will be updating the committee on the current thinking with regard to producing a neighbourhood plan. The outcome of the meeting will be discussed at the next Council meeting. Mr Clark said that a grant had been received for £9,000, the conditions of which were still to be determined.

12. Emergency Plan/Village Volunteers

Nothing to report.

13. Pavilion

A meeting was being arranged to agree the heating system to be used in the new building. Once this had been determined it was agreed to negotiate a price with the Consultant to continue with the design work up to a limit of liability of £5,000.

14. Representatives' Reports

Planning

Mr Collins read the planning report for January 2017.

Finance

Approval of the tabled cheques for signature was requested and agreed by all.

Open Spaces

Nothing to report.

Pond Warden

Nothing to report.

Footpaths

Nothing to report.

Allotments

Nothing to report.

Roads & Transport

Mrs Wright said that she would find out when the potholes on the A272 would be repaired.

Streetlights

Nothing to report.

(JW)

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 13 March 2017**.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m