

Cowfold Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 10 June 2024 in the Allmond Centre

Cllrs Present:	Everest (Chair) Hooper (Vice Chair) French Hansum	Ireland Newman Payne Towle
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Cllr Lambert – Horsham District Councillor
Cllr Knowles – Horsham District Councillor

Public: 5
Press: 0

<p>1. Apologies Apologies for absence were received from Jan Wright (Clerk) Lee Dunkley (Locum Clerk, Cllrs Kingshott has resigned from the PC.</p> <p>2. Declarations of Interest & requests for dispensations None</p> <p>3. Approval of the minutes and matters arising The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 20 May 2024 were agreed by all as a true and correct record.</p> <p>4. Public Members of the public were in attendance and contributions included opinions on Rampion II; planning application at The Smithy; overgrown hedgerows encroaching public access ways; tree opposite the school crossing may have rot; rails in the public car park have been broken; damaged rails in the play area; damage to the skate park – can this be repaired; a post to be added to social media RE ragwort in the village;</p> <p>5. District & County Councillor Reports Cllr Lambert (HDC) and Cllr Knowles (HDC) reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All residents' boys have got their places at Forest Boys • New climate action plan for schools – 'Waste Busters' – online programme to create a climate action plan • SEND improvement plan released • 7 different PCs are getting together RE Champions Gate – Cllr Payne to send information to Cllr Everest • Cllr Lambert will be reviewing progress on the Neighbourhood Plan • Local plan – going to examiner in 2nd week of July – hearing likely to be in December. Highways are happy with transport. Air quality approved by Natural England. 	<p>Add to next month's agenda</p>
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- Cllr Knowles – Horsham Business Planner – new network tackling climate action. Post to go on the village Facebook group

1794

6. Correspondence

Considered a grant request from St Catherine's Hospice. The Council decided that CPC should support given the COL crisis and proposed £100 which is consistent with other donations.

Brook Hill – footpath has encroaching vegetation. Cllr Payne to chase WS Highways as the footpath is not passable.

Concern about tyres left outside the Allmond Centre and recent erection of swings. CPC will review this from a H&S aspect.

Request to book the Allmond Centre and playing field for a charity fundraising event. Assuming all formalities were met and the Allmond Centre is booked then the PC would support.

7. Approval of outstanding payments

A list of payments was approved.

8. Youth Club provision

Received a presentation from 4TheYouth. Issues covered included concerns about provision by YC providers. Questions have been put to 4TheYouth. Agreement between the two parties seems too generic and needs to be more specific. Recommendation to not settle the outstanding invoice until things are resolved.

9. Election matters

Considered a request in principle for the use of Council-owned space for a public meeting prior to the election. The Council considered the advice of the monitoring officer and the caution expressed by the locum Clerk. As the PC must be apolitical, it was agreed that the PC should wait to see whether any candidates request the space. Cllr Hooper to check wording on the website that the opportunity is there for the Village Hall to be booked if required.

10. Oak Tree Adjacent to 14 Acorn Avenue

The onus is on the insurers to tell the PC what the plan is. General consensus is that the tree was there first so if it needs to be felled then the insurers should cover this cost.

11. Rampion 2 Update

The environmental report for Crateman's Farm has been shared.

CPC was represented at the open forum and open hearings.

Public – ecological and visual impact is devastating

No further action required from the PC at this stage.

Statement that water neutrality won't be an issue – Cllr Lambert to research.

Add to next month's agenda

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12. Environment

The Council received a quote for repair works to the skatepark which was approved.

The Council considered tree warden provision. Cllr Ireland will research what is entailed and will report back at the next meeting.

Cllr Towle will map out ragwort hotspots and look at guidance on how to tackle the issue and create awareness.

13. Neighbourhood Planning Update

Nothing to report

14. The Allmond Centre

Nothing to report. Ms Kingshott to provide a monthly report going forward.

15. Representatives Reports

Planning –Nothing to report.

Open Spaces –Nothing to report.

Allotments – Some plots appear vacant and heavily overgrown. Cllr Newman to provide photos of the plots in question.

Roads & Transport – Major potholes on the mini roundabout in the village and access roads. Cllr Payne to request an update on behalf of Cowfold.

- The speed camera recorded a vehicle travelling past at 75mph. Cllr Everest will make enquiries as to whether our present sign can be upgraded to include a camera.

Footpaths – Cllr Payne to request action from WS Highways

Streetlights –Nothing to report.

HALC –Nothing to report.

Website – request from all Cllrs to have CPC email addresses

Youth Activities –Nothing to report.

The next meeting will be held on **Monday 8 July 2024.**

The meeting closed at 21:00

Add to next month's agenda

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