



Cowden Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COWDEN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 11 JUNE 2018 AT COWDEN MEMORIAL HALL

PRESENT: Councillors: Valerie Bishop, Glyn Henley, Andrew Saunders, Lorraine Millgate.
Also present: Caroline Bizios (Parish Clerk), Councillor Matthew Dickins (Sevenoaks District Councillor).

Public Question Time:

Councillor Dickins reported on the following matters:

Sevenoaks District Council had confirmed in writing to the Parish Council that Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds could be used to cover the cost of the new footpath on the Recreation Ground.

The drainage issue in the High Street continued to be investigated by Kent County Council's drainage team.

There was no update available in terms of the planning enforcement matter at Waystrode Manor. Councillor Dickins would follow this matter up with the planning enforcement team.

Councillor Dickins advised the meeting that he is drafting a communication to residents of Chantler's Mead in respect of parking issues.

Leefest was now the only festival at Wilderness Farm that would be taking place, with plans for other festivals at the site having been dropped.

In terms of planning matters, the draft Local Plan for Sevenoaks District Council was due to be published and would be submitted to the Planning Advisory Committee for approval prior to consultation. The Wealden Special Protection Area policy has changed and the changes may be relevant to Cowden in terms of planning. This is because the current 7 kilometre Ashdown Forest protection zone may be extended to 15 kilometres which would extend to a large part of Cowden. The consultation regarding this will be monitored.

Finally, with regards to parking issues at Cowden Station, the proposed marking of yellow lines opposite Wickins Lane is to be considered at a meeting of the Joint Transportation Board. Councillor Dickins has requested that the proposals be put out for consultation and said that he will keep the Parish Council advised.

Councillor Saunders advised that meeting dates were still to be agreed with Openreach.

Note: The above notes do not form part of the Minutes.

MINUTES:

1. **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies for absence received from Councillor Boakes.
2. **Declarations of Interest**
There were no declarations of interest.
3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**
Resolved: The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 14 May 2018 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.
4. **Clerk's Report**
The Clerk's Report was circulated and noted.
5. **Highways**
Highways Report previously circulated and noted.
6. **Aircraft Noise**
Councillor Saunders had provided the Clerk with a draft of the response to be sent to Gatwick Airport Ltd regarding the data obtained from the noise meter.
7. **Financial Matters**

(a) **Accounts for Payment:**

Resolved: Payments approved as set out below:

Payee	Description	Amount (£)
Mrs C Bizios	Reconciliation Payment & Expenses	363.42
HMRC	Tax & NI	246.15
Cowden Memorial Hall	Hall Hire	48.00
SLCC	Annual Subscription	147.00
TOTAL		804.57

- (b) **Budget Report:**
Budget Report circulated and noted.
- (c) **General Data Protection Regulation:**
The Clerk reported that work continues in respect of the Data Audit.
- (d) **Request for Contribution – Village Christmas Get-Together Event**
Resolved: £100 contribution towards the Village Christmas Get-Together Event approved by Members.
- (e) **Future Grant Requirements:**
The condition of the Parish Council's maintenance equipment to be assessed in order to establish if any new equipment is required that could be supported by a grant.

The Clerk was requested to source quotations in respect of repairs to the climbing frame equipment in the Children's Play Area and to infill shrinkage to the wet pour surface.

8. Recreation Ground

Play Area Safety Inspection:

Councillor Millgate had undertaken the Parish Council's internal safety inspection of the Children's Play Area prior to the RoSPA annual safety inspection being undertaken. The key points to be actioned as a result of Councillor Millgate's inspection were:

The Clerk to request Les Putman to cut back overgrown vegetation in the play area.

The Clerk to source quotations in respect of repairs to the climbing frame equipment and to infill shrinkage to the wet pour surface.

The Clerk to request W Smithers & Sons to provide costs associated with repairs to the footpath running through the play area.

Tree Planting:

Members noted that a number of trees had been planted on the Recreation Ground boundary. The Clerk to make enquiries as to who has planted these trees on land owned by the Parish Council.

Fees for Use of the Recreation Ground:

The Clerk confirmed the payment had been received from Cowden Cricket Club in respect of fees due for use the Recreation Ground.

Request for Parking – Cowden Lawn Tennis Club:

As in previous years, a request had been received from Cowden Lawn Tennis Club to use the Recreation Ground to park twenty cars in a roped off area for its annual charity tennis tournament. The Tennis Club had confirmed that its request was subject to the ground conditions being dry.

Resolved: Permission granted to Cowden Lawn Tennis Club to use the Recreation Ground to park twenty cars in a roped off area for its annual charity tennis subject to dry ground conditions.

9. Allotments

The Clerk reported that one allotment rental payment remained outstanding. A final payment reminder letter had been sent to the allotment holder.

10. Burial Ground Matters

The Clerk reported that further work is required to clear rubbish and debris from the spoil heap in the New Burial Ground. Councillor Henley agreed to visit the New Burial Ground with the Clerk.

The Clerk was requested to contact the landowner of the field adjoining the New Burial Ground to see if there a possibility of spoil being deposited close to the fence in the field as had been the arrangement several years ago.

11. Asset Repair and Maintenance

The Clerk reported that an order had been placed for the two new village notice boards and that a delivery date was awaited.

12. Correspondence Received

Nothing to report.

13. Reports from Councillors on Outside Bodies

Nothing to report.

14. Matters for Reporting or Inclusion on Future Agenda

No matters for inclusion requested.

15. Dates of Future Parish Council Meetings

Monday 9 July

Monday 10 September

Meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Chairman:

Date: