Minutes of a Meeting of Cusop Parish Council held in Cusop Village Hall on 18th January 2012

Present: Councillors D Jones (Chairman), A Fryers, J Wesley, and Mrs S Sheldon.

In attendance: I Jardin (Clerk), Herefordshire Cllr Price (items 5-10).

1. Apologies for absence
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Gilbert due to illness and Cllr Wilks due to prior commitment to a PCC meeting.

2. Declarations of interest
Cllr Mrs Sheldon declared a prejudicial interest in item 6 as a trustee of Hay and District Community Support.

3. Minutes
Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 21st December 2011 be approved as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

4. Public participation session
No member of the public was present.

5. Planning Application
DMS/113382/F Old Parish Room, Lower Mead, HR3 5RW. Conversion of former village hall to two-bedroom private dwelling (retrospective).
Resolved: that the Parish Council has no objections to this application, provided that:
(a) it is confirmed that the highway sightlines will be at least as good as those in the design previously approved,
(b) there is a condition similar to that in the permission for the design previously approved prohibiting the installation of gates.

Some Members noted that pooling in the road gutter near the site seemed to have increased. The Parish Council expressed concern that it was not self-evident that the sub-layers of the paving as constructed were of approved design for porous paving and asked Herefordshire Council to investigate as a building matter.

6. Donations
The Chairman invited Cllr Mrs Sheldon to address the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 54B. Mrs Sheldon said that any money the Council felt it could be contribute would be gratefully received. Hay Community Support had recently introduced a befriending service but the funding for it was limited.

Cllr Mrs Sheldon left the meeting at this point.

Resolved: that the Parish Council donates £250 to Hay and District Community Support.

Cllr Mrs Sheldon returned to the room.

4 (resumed). Public participation session
The Chairman reverted to this item. Cllr Price reported on the setting of Herefordshire Council's budget and on his role as councillor and cabinet member. He asked for views on discontinuing free black bin bags. Members noted the difficulty in obtaining retail bags of equivalent quality and expressed concern that people might not use proper bags leading to an increase in street litter. Cllr Price confirmed that there were no plans to change the collection periods or numbers of bins. He reported that the highways section had raised objections to the traffic impact of the Elmsleigh B&B planning application.

7. Councillors' Reports
Cllr Wesley reported that Mr Rice had booked the Village Hall for a Diamond Jubilee lunch for the elderly of Cusop and Hay and that he felt that the Parish Council did not seem very interested. Members agreed that

the Jubilee should be on the agenda of the next meeting. Cllr Wesley also reported that the New Year event had been very successful, that the village hall events committee had decided to continue for a further year, and that the trustees would decide about applying for an IT grant at their next meeting.
Cllr Fryers reported that the Playing Field picnic shelter had been damaged in the recent storm and that 'Plan B for Hay' would be holding a public meeting on 23rd January.

8. Clerk's Report
The Clerk's written report was noted. It was agreed that the Chairman and Vice Chairman, with Cllr Wesley in reserve, should represent the Parish Council at Cllr Price's 30th January meeting on Neighbourhood Planning in the Golden Valley and that the Clerk should attend the 8th February HALC meeting on the Neighbourhood Planning practicalities.

9. Finance
The financial summary and bank reconciliation for the three quarters to 31st December were noted. The Chairman noted that the bank statements tallied with them.

Resolved: to make the following payments:
£328.45 to Ian Jardin for Clerk's salary & expenses for December 2011,
£72.00 to Cusop Village Hall for room hire Jul-Dec 2011,
£36.00 to Getspatial LLP for an online mapping service subscription.

10. Date of next meeting
Wednesday 15th February 2012 at Cusop Village Hall. Members agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting should be on 18th April before the Parish Council meeting.