Minutes of a Meeting of Cusop Parish Council held in Cusop Village Hall on 20th September 2017

Present: Councillors J Wesley (Chairman), D Evans, M Hainge, and Mrs P Wordley.

In attendance: I Jardin (Clerk).

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Fryers due a business trip and Cllr Gilbert due to a building emergency.

2. Disclosures of Interest and Dispensations. None.

3. Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 16th August 2017 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

P172791/F - Land at Greenfields, Hardwicke Road, Cusop, HR3 5QX. Proposed new dwelling within the curtilage of an existing property and a replacement 2 car garage.

The Clerk reported that there had been a misunderstanding with the planning department about an extension of time for comments and they had already determined this application. Members agreed to consider it none the less.

Resolved: that the Council considers the application complies with the policies of the draft Cusop Neighbourhood Development Plan and has no objections to it. Proposed Cllr Wesley, seconded Cllr Mrs Wordley. Carried unanimously.

6. Herefordshire Council Rights of Way Improvement Plan Consultation.

It was agreed to respond that the content of the Plan was welcome, but that it was not useful unless Herefordshire Council properly funded the tasks identified.

7. Councillors' Reports

Herefordshire Cllr Price's apologies for absence and written report were noted.

Cllr Hainge reported that he had received positive responses from members of the public about the new footpath gates.

Cllr Evans reported that roadside ditches on Nantyglasdwr Lane had been overflowing (and it was agreed that the Lengthsman should investigate); drew attention to excavations at Upper Dulas (and Members noted that this related to a recent planning permission); and noted that work on the Newport Street housing site extended into the field behind (and the Clerk confirmed that part of that field was within the planning permission boundary).

Cllr Mrs Wordley reported that two salt bins on the road to Cusop Hill were damaged. Members noted that, notwithstanding a comment in Cllr Price's monthly report that replacement bins would be a cost to parish councils, the bins in question belonged to Herefordshire Council and the need for their replacement should be reported to that Council via its website. Cllr Mrs Wordley also reported that parts of the road had been marked up for repair but nothing so far carried out; that a speed limit sign on Hardwicke Road had been obscured by growth (it was agreed that the Lengthsman should deal with this); and that the new Locality Steward was due to attend meetings in each parish (it was agreed that the Clerk should arrange to meet him and then ask councillors for input).

8. Clerk's Report

The Clerk's written report was noted. It was agreed that the owner of the field behind the Village Hall should be asked for his view on installing a footpath gate there and that the matter should be on the agenda of the next meeting. The Clerk confirmed that there had been no further news about the Newport Street affordable housing application since his report. Cllr Mrs Wordley offered to attend the High Sheriff's and Bishop of Hereford's Tackling Loneliness conference.

The Clerk further reported that he had asked Balfour Beatty for safety advice about pedestrians crossing Hardwicke Road by the Michaelchurch turning; that he had put copies of the draft Cusop Neighbourhood Plan and other documents related to the 19th October referendum in Hay Library with electronic copies on the cusop.net website; that he had received the second tranche of the precept; and that Herefordshire planning committee had rejected officers' recommendation and approved an application for an egg production unit in Clifford Parish adjoining the Cusop boundary. Members noted the draft parish newsletter tabled by the Clerk.

9. Finance

Resolved: to make the following payments:

£318.09 to Ian Jardin for Clerk's salary & expenses for August 2017,

£120.00 to Grant Thornton UK LLP for 2016/17 external audit,

£58.60 to Mrs F White for 2017 play equipment safety inspection.

10. Date of next meeting would be Wednesday 18th October 2017.