

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Cusop Parish Council
held in Cusop Village Hall on 18th May 2022**

Present: Councillors I Jardin (Chairman items 1-2), M Hainge (Chairman items 3-20), J Whittall and J Wesley.

In attendance: J Stannard (Clerk). Four members of the public.

1. Election of Chairman:

Noted that Cllr Jardin ended his tenure as Chairman and expressed gratitude for his many contributions to the community.

Cllr Wesley proposed, and Cllr Whittall seconded, Cllr Hainge as Chairman. Unanimously agreed.

2. Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office. The meeting received Cllr Hainge's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

3. Election of Vice-Chairman:

Cllr Jardin proposed, and Cllr Wesley seconded, Cllr Whittall as Vice-Chairman. Unanimously agreed.

4. Apologies for absence: Cllr Gilbert.

5. Disclosures of Interest and Dispensations: None.

6. Minutes.

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 27th April 2022 be approved as a correct record and be signed by the chairman.

7. Other appointments:

The following appointments for 2022-23 were agreed:

Honorary parish footpaths officer: Mrs S Marsh

Website administrator: Mrs A Matthews

Playing Field Volunteer Supporters Group representative: Mr A Fryers

The Clerk was asked to thank all of them for their contribution to the parish.

8. Public Participation Session:

A member of the public reported that the Wild World Festival had been cancelled. He also informed the meeting that Fred Spriggs, Principal Licensing Officer for Herefordshire Council had expressed his opposition to Nantyglassdwr Lane as a location for a campsite, and his opinion that a traffic management plan would be needed for any such proposal in the future.

9. Cusop Speed Awareness Group

Thanks were expressed for the continuing work of Julia Whittall and Nick Blayney for the CSAG. A list of costings for the proposed road safety measures had been circulated, and the meeting was informed that the actual costs were likely to be lower, for instance where tasks were to be carried out on both Newport Street and Hardwicke Rd. It was noted that the situation regarding the reallocation of S106 monies had still not been resolved. Now that the costings were available, the council would be able to submit a plan to Herefordshire Council. It was hoped that a walk-through could be arranged before September, but Herefordshire Council had been unwilling to commit to a definite date for this. It was agreed that a letter to Herefordshire Council should be drafted by Cllr Whittall and sent by the clerk without delay. It was hoped that the village entrance basket of measures on both Newport Street and Hardwicke Road might be paid for by West Mercia Police. Bruce Evans of Herefordshire Council had suggested speed tables for Newport Street, and councillors were keen to know whether these would be equally suitable for Hardwicke Road. It was felt that the council should be involved in any discussions regarding the placing of 20 mph zones within the parish.

10. Local Plan 2021-2041 Policy Options consultation. The following responses to the Herefordshire Local Plan Consultation were agreed:

- a) Landscape and Townscape - CPC supports Option LT4.

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Cusop NDP already contains a dark skies policy which complements and draws on the existing dark skies scheme in the adjoining Brecon Beacons National Park. CPC would welcome a scheme for Herefordshire itself with accompanying technical advice and standards.

b) Rural Areas - CPC supports option RPH2 (either alternative).

A specific policy dealing with the growing trend to home-working is needed with the caveats that it should (1) address the possibility that it can be exploited just to gain permission for larger properties than would otherwise be permitted by plan policies, and (2) address not just white-collar "virtual" work, but material works and services such as micro-bakeries that can also be operated from home in some circumstances.

c) Rural Areas - CPC supports option AFOD2.

A specific policy similar to the Welsh government's TAN6 is needed to prevent exploitation of rural workers dwellings policy to build large marketable dwellings in rural locations where they would not otherwise be permitted.

d) The Role of Neighbourhood Planning - CPC strongly supports Option NP1

Housing allocations are central to neighbourhood-level planning and NDPs would be of marginal value if they did not deal with them.

e) Tourism - CPC supports Options TM1 and TM2

These are growing issues in rural areas. For both Options either alternative offered would be better than no policy at all.

11. Accounts. The financial summary & bank reconciliation for year to Mar 31st were noted. The clerk was asked to amend dates that were incorrect.

12. Banking arrangements. It was agreed to postpone this item until September in order to give the new clerk the opportunity to settle into her role before moving the council's accounts from HSBC.

13. Queen's Jubilee. The clerk was asked to create a news item for the council website asking for volunteers to help with Hay Town Council's Jubilee celebrations.

14. Repairs to noticeboard by Rosedale. This item was deferred until June to allow Cllr Gilbert to report back on any progress made regarding the replacement of the perspex and rotten timber.

15. Hardwicke Road sign. It was agreed to ask Balfour Beatty to remove the broken sign.

16. Recruitment of new clerk. Members of the public were excluded for this item. Resolved: to appoint Annie Green as clerk.

Proposed: Ian Jardin. Seconded: Jim Wesley. Carried unanimously.

17. Clerk's duties. Jane Stannard confirmed that she would liaise with the new clerk, Annie Green, to ensure a smooth handover.

18. Councillors' reports. Cllr Wesley pointed out that the sign at Lower Mead inviting dog owners to clean up was faded and broken. Councillors were invited to examine the sign in order to make a decision about it at the next meeting.

Cllr Whittall reported that traffic cones would be on Newport Street from May 27th to June 7th, and that there would be a police presence during that time. Cllr Whittall asked what was happening about arranging the proposed open meeting about festivals. The clerk was asked to contact Cllr Jennie Hewitt and Powys Cllr Gareth Ratcliffe to ask them to take part. Cllr Whittall asked about the ownership of the driveway next to Coronation Terrace. The clerk was asked to contact Herefordshire Council to clarify this.

19. Clerk's report. The Clerk's written report was noted.

20. Date of next meeting. The next meeting would be on Wednesday 15th June, 2022.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 8.50 p.m.

Signed.....