

Minutes of a Meeting of Cusop Parish Council held in Cusop Village Hall on 21st March 2018

Present: Councillors M Hainge (Vice Chairman), A Fryers, P Gilbert, and Mrs P Wordley.

In attendance: I Jardin (Clerk), Herefordshire Cllr P Price, Mr L Harris, and Mr S Street.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Evans due to another commitment and Cllr Wesley due to a holiday.

2. Disclosures of Interest and Dispensations. None.

3. Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 21st February 2018 be approved as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

4. Public participation session

Mr Street expressed concern about the safety implications of the amount of regular parking outside his house; he believed much of it was caused by inadequate parking for houses on the other side of the Dulas Brook and this would get worse because Powys planners had given permission for additional accommodation there without consulting Herefordshire planners about its traffic effects; he proposed that the Parish Council should ask Herefordshire Council to review the options for parking restrictions and for the provision of parking for the houses beyond the Brook.

Mr Harris reported on his raising support among nearby residents to do something about speeding on Hardwicke Road; he was due to meet Jesse Norman MP and had sent the traffic light proposal to the Herefordshire Cabinet Member for Transport and awaited his response.

5. Parking Restrictions

It was agreed that, before considering whether to support any proposal for parking restrictions on the lower dingle road, the Council should obtain Herefordshire's guidelines and procedures for new double yellow lines and should also ask Herefordshire planning for its views on the Park Authority's recent permission for new accommodation on the other side of the Dulas Brook.

6. Speed Control

It was agreed that, as a first step towards judging what if anything should be done about speed control on Hardwicke Road and Newport Street, the Council should obtain up-to-date speed surveys of both roads.

7. Planning Application

P171854/RM - Land East of Newport Street, Cusop. Proposed removal of condition 6 of planning permission 160679 (reserved matters application for 26 dwellings) to allow for a financial contribution to be paid in lieu of the onsite affordable housing provision – latest information.

The Clerk reported that he had received no new information about this application, the revised Section 106 agreement, or the Parish Council's FOI appeal which were all still being processed; that a resident had asked the Parish Council to ask when the application would be refused and when there would be public consultation about the proposed shift from rental to houses for sale; and that Hay Town Council wanted Herefordshire to include Hay as one of the priority communities for allocating the affordable houses. The Clerk advised that Powys / Park Authority policies did include adjoining communities in their priorities for affordable housing even if they were outside Powys.

Cllr Price advised that Herefordshire had turned to houses for sale only because none of the housing associations operating in Herefordshire was willing to acquire the units for renting. Members agreed that the Herefordshire planners had already stated that they were minded to refuse the application and for now it should be assumed that they were processing the case appropriately. However, Herefordshire should be formally asked to reciprocate the Powys / Park Authority allocation policies and include the Powys communities adjoining Cusop in its second allocation tier for the Newport Street affordable housing.

8. Newport Street housing planning obligation contributions

The Clerk reported that he had already received suggestions from residents for using the S106 contributions for footpath improvements, traffic calming, a new kitchen at St Mary's Church, and the Hay sports and recreation ground.

It was agreed that, before considering any further, the Village Hall Committee and Playing Field Volunteer Supporters Group should be asked for their views, the Footpaths Officer and Ms Pearson should be invited to consider possible improvements to pedestrian movement between the new housing development and the rest of Cusop, ideas should be invited via the newsletter and the Annual Parish Meeting, and the Herefordshire planning officer should be asked to clarify other possible sources of funding for speed limit changes on Newport Street.

9. Councillors' Reports

Cllr Mrs Wordley asked when surplus notices were removed from the public panels of the noticeboards.

Members endorsed the Clerk's practice of occasionally removing out-of-date or purely commercial notices.

Cllr Fryers noted that the Parish's minor roads had deteriorated badly because of the recent bad weather and would need substantial work by Balfour Beatty; and also noted that some salt bins needed refilling.

Herefordshire Cllr Price reported on the outcome of two controversial poultry unit applications elsewhere in his ward, Dorstone Parish Council's proposal for creating a package of major works to the B4348 to submit to Herefordshire Council, the 2018/19 Council Tax, and the Hereford Bypass consultation.

10. Clerk's Report

The Clerk's written report was noted.

11. Finance

Resolved: to make the following payment:

£320.57 to Ian Jardin for Clerk's salary, expenses and re-imbursments for Feb 2018.

12. Date of next meeting would be Wednesday 18th April 2018, after the Annual Parish Meeting.