

**SUBJECT TO APPROVAL**

**Minutes of a meeting of Cusop Parish Council  
Held in Cusop Village Hall on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

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

**In attendance:** N Howard (Clerk) and 4 members of the public.

- 1. Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs A. Fryers (work commitments) and M Hainge (holiday).
- 2. Disclosures of Interest and Dispensations:** None were declared.
- 3. Resolve to exclude the public from Item 4:** Resolution passed, and public left the meeting.
- 4. 4.1** Report from Interview Panel given to council regarding post of new clerk.

4.2 Resolution to appoint new clerk proposed by Cllr J Wesley and seconded by Cllr Mrs P Wordley. Resolution passed unanimously.

4.3 Employment contract signed (in duplicate) by Cllr J Wesley and Nigel Howard (new clerk).

- 5. Minutes:** Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2018 were a correct record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

**6. Public participation session:**

The validity of a road sign by the junction of Cusop Dingle and Three Ways Lane was questioned, and it was agreed that this would be investigated. The Council was asked to investigate whether The Dingle could be included in the 'prohibited parking area' during the Hay Festival. The subjects of 'on street parking' and the condition of the road and pavement surfaces were discussed. It was decided to hold a Parish meeting to investigate the problems, and any possible solutions. Traffic problems on Newport Street were discussed, but any further action was postponed until after a meeting has been held with Herefordshire Council. A question was asked about 'How The Light Gets In' event licencing arrangements for 2019. It was agreed that this will be investigated.

- 7. Planning Application:** P1853286 – Plot 1 Meadowland, Thirty Acres, Cusop, HR3 6RF. Resolved, but the Council has no objection. Proposed by Cllr Wesley, seconded by Cllr Mrs. P Wordley, and carried unanimously.
- 8. Newport Street Traffic.** A meeting is to be arranged with a representative from Herefordshire Council during w/c 5<sup>th</sup> November and the outcome(s) will be reviewed at the next meeting of the Parish Council in November.
- 9. Footpath Gates and Footpath Grant.** Monies were raised through generous charitable donations for "better access gates". We were most fortunate that these gates were supplied 'free of charge', and the donors have very kindly agreed that the original sum may be used on any future expense for footpath improvements. Cllr Evans reported that a number of 'Dog Fouling' signs had been put up in relevant places.
- 10. Green Waste Sacks.** Hay and Brecon Farmers (HBF) have agreed to act as a retail outlet for the sale of these sacks to local residents. The Clerk will contact Herefordshire Council to ascertain minimum order and costs etc, and then speak with HBF.

**11. Councilors' Reports:** Cllr Wesley reported on a number of items:

- He was in receipt of the Bank Statements.
- The spreadsheet and manual accounts book will be passed to the new Clerk.
- The 2019/2020 Budget and Precept needs to be discussed in the near future.
- There was no news from HC on ownership of the plot of land at the playing Fields.
- Cllr Gilbert has the 'road salt'. This needs to be 'housed' to remain dry and usable.
- The Parish Council is awaiting news from Sharon Marsh (Footpaths Officer) on 'dog fouling hotspots'.
- Further details awaited from Sharon Marsh on possible spend in relation to the footpaths grant.
- Cllr Fryer to hand over 'Safety Records' in connection with The Playing Fields, for filing.
- Cllr Wesley warned of the potential costs of next May's elections, should there be a 'contested election'.
- The Planning Application for New House Shepherds' Huts had been refused.
- Advice has been given by Lynda Wilcox of HALC stating that the Parish Council (for use by the Clerk) should have a dedicated computer (laptop) and printer for council business, in light of the recent GDPR regulations and for security purposes. The Council agreed unanimously, and it was agreed that the Clerk should procure these items.
- Lynda Wilcox also advised that the Council should have its own .gov.uk website rather than 'piggybacking' on the Cusop.net site. The new Clerk will look into this.
- Cllr Wesley handed out recently received 'Keep Warm, Keep Well' leaflets issued by Herefordshire Council. It may be that more are obtained and appended to the next Newsletter (see below).
- An invite to Hereford Cathedral in connection with the New University was discussed, but there was no uptake to attend.
- Planning for Plot 2 Meadowland had been granted.
- Regarding Lengthsman's duties, there are believed to be no outstanding issues at the present time. Cllr Wesley will speak with the Lengthsman about the future.
- The closing date for comments on Highway Maintenance is 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018. There is to be a review on the mismatch between 'policy' and 'practice'. The Council agreed that no response was required.
- Dropped Litter. There is a 'Stop the Drop' forum on 27 November 2018.
- The new Clerk and Cllr Wesley will work together on producing the next 'Newsletter'. This will include contact details for the new Clerk.
- Cllr Wesley suggested that it would be good to convene a 'Parish Meeting'(December?) giving the opportunity to discuss issues such as parking, speeding, lighting, litter, any overhanging trees/bushes in Cusop Dingle. This will give the opportunity to gauge strength of feeling, and to convey the fact that we should all be working together for common goals.

Cllr Mrs. P Wordley raised the issue of Remembrance Sunday, particularly in light of the fact that the British Legion Club in Hay was now closed. She would seek to obtain contact details for the Branch Secretary from the previous Clerk.

Cllrs. Gilbert and Evans had nothing to report.

**12. Date of Next Meeting:** 21 November 2018.

The meeting closed at 20:39 hours.

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