

**Minutes of a Meeting of Cusop Parish Council
held in Cusop Village Hall on 16th February 2022**

Present: Councillors I Jardin (Chairman), M Hainge, P Gilbert, J Wesley and J Whittall.

In attendance: J Stannard (Clerk), and five members of the public.

1. **Apologies** for absence, Cllr D Evans.
2. **Disclosures** of Interests and Dispensations. None.
3. **Minutes.** Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 19th January, 2022 be approved as a correct record and be signed by the chairman.
4. **Public participation session.** A parishioner expressed concern about the How The Light Gets In festival, suggesting that 11pm would be a reasonable time for activities to end each night, and that a shuttle bus between the town centre and the Co Op would reduce the number of pedestrians using the narrow pavement on Newport Street. He was concerned about noise levels, but was informed by Cllr Wesley that these were monitored throughout the festival. Another parishioner said that parking had been a problem during the previous festival and was likely to be so again.
5. **Planning Applications. To comment on planning applications for determination by Herefordshire Council.**

Planning Consultation - 214686 - Trewern Outdoor Centre, Church Road, Cusop, Hereford, Herefordshire HR3 5RF. Application for the installation of 4 no. glamping pods, and associated ground works.

Resolved: that the Parish Council objects to this application because:

- a. the site is well outside the Settlement Boundary, contrary to Cusop NDP Policy 1 and Core Strategy Policies RA6 and E4. Holiday accommodation for car-borne visitors is not sustainable and does not primarily support rural activities such as walking that need to be based in the countryside.
- b. the volume of traffic - up to 16 visitors and 6 cars on a daily basis - would be too high for a narrow winding steep road that currently serves just three dwellings. It would also add significantly to the traffic that has to be funnelled through the lower Dingle road.
- c. it would have a negative impact on the amenity of nearby residents because of increased traffic and noise.
- d. it would have a negative impact on the setting of Cusop Castle Scheduled Monument.
- e. the location and/or extent of ground works for the package treatment plant, water supply, soakaways, and car parking are not indicated and should in any event be subject to archaeological evaluation because of the site's proximity to the Scheduled Monument.
- f. the application form confirms that it would not generate any additional employment.
- g. it is noted that the Senior Landscape Officer's advice on the 2013 application for the BMX track was that "retention and management of the remaining meadow area in the wider paddock is particularly important".

If Herefordshire Council is nevertheless minded to grant permission, it should impose conditions requiring: archaeological evaluation; restriction on external lighting; all pods and associated works to be removed if the site ceases to be used for holiday accommodation for more than six months; and the site not to be sold separately from the rest of Trewern outdoor centre.

Proposed Cllr Hainge, seconded Cllr Whittall. Carried unanimously.

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

6. **Herefordshire Council Local Plan 2021-2041 Spatial Options.** Cllrs Jardin and Whittall reported on the Zoom meeting they had attended. It was decided not to expand on the council's previous response to the consultation.
7. **How The Light Gets In Festival.** It was decided to submit no objection to the application for a premises licence, but to request a meeting with the organizers to discuss concerns regarding noise, pedestrian safety and parking.
8. **Banking arrangements.** The clerk was asked to find out more about Starling Bank and Unity Trust Bank.
9. **Approval of quarterly accounts.** The accounts were noted.
10. **Recruitment of new clerk.** The clerk confirmed that she would be leaving at the end of April. She was asked to advertize the vacancy in the newsletter and other publications, and to contact HALC for advice about finding a replacement.
11. **Communication with the Community.** The Council's communication with the community was discussed. As each councillor was responsible for delivering newsletters and planning flyers to a particular section of Cusop, it was agreed to include information about these rounds in the forthcoming newsletter.
12. **Cusop Speed Awareness Group.** Cllr Whittall reported that she was still waiting to receive prices for the proposed traffic-calming measures. No decision had been made by Herefordshire Council about the re-allocation of S106 monies. The clerk confirmed that the application for a Traffic Regulation Order for double-yellow lines outside Bookers Edge had been submitted.
13. **Councillors' reports.** Cllr Jardin asked the clerk to mention Hay Town Council's Jubilee plans in the newsletter, and to ask parishioners if they would like Cusop to have any extra activities to celebrate the Jubilee.

He also asked her to look further into the ownership of the driveway leading to the playing field.

Cllr Wesley asked the clerk to pursue Herefordshire Council's Building Control Department for a response regarding the precarious slates on the barn opposite the Co Op.

Cllr Whittall asked why the damaged road and PROW signs in the parish had not yet been replaced. The clerk confirmed that Balfour Beatty had been asked to do so.
14. **Clerk's report.** The Clerk's written report was noted.
15. **Date of next meeting.** The next meeting was set for 7pm on Wednesday 16th March, 2022.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 8.55 pm.

Signed.....