

Minutes of a Meeting of Cusop Parish Council held in Cusop Village Hall on 16th August 2017

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

In attendance: I Jardin (Clerk), Ms S Bell, Mr B Henderson (items 1-4), Mr J Milner (items 1-6).

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Fryers and Gilbert due to holidays.

2. Disclosures of Interest and Dispensations. None.

3. Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 21st June 2017 be approved as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

4. Public participation session

Mr Henderson asked about developments with the Newport Street affordable housing application and in answer to a question said he was not aware of any. Ms Bell reported that there had been a local Labour Party petition against the application and that there was strong feeling about the application in Hay and Cusop; she was disappointed that Herefordshire Cllr Price had not taken more interest in it.

5. Planning Application

P172691/FH Dingle Cottage, Cusop, HR3 5RQ. Proposed erection of a two storey side extension.

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 Hainge. Carried unanimously.

6. Complaint

In discussion Members noted that the Council had considered the removal of the litter bins over a period of more than a year during which options and evidence had been considered and residents consulted and that the trial removal was itself part of the evidence-collecting process. It was therefore agreed in response to Mr Milner's complaint that the situation should remain as it was and a review undertaken at the end of the year when the evidence of the trial was available.

7. Cusop Parish Development Plan

Resolved: that the Council notes the examiner's report and agrees to proceed with the draft Plan as modified by the examiner. Proposed Cllr Wesley, seconded Cllr Mrs Wordley. Carried unanimously.

8. Herefordshire Council Budget Consultation Questionnaire.

It was agreed that the consultation was a matter for individual residents to respond to and that they should have their attention drawn to it via the noticeboards and website news emails.

9. Councillors' Reports

In answer to a question from Cllr Mrs Wordley the Clerk confirmed that the Council still had an adopted code of conduct. Cllr Mrs Wordley also reported that a pop-restaurant was being held in the old parish room but she understood that it was infrequent enough not to need planning permission.

In answer to questions from Cllr Evans the Clerk confirmed that so far as he was aware there had been no further developments with the Newport Street affordable housing application and Herefordshire Council was waiting for the valuer's report; the new footpath gates were in the process of being installed; and no footpath signs survey had been carried out because the footpaths officer had resigned.

Cllr Hainge reported that some footpath direction signs had been damaged or lost. It was agreed that a new footpaths officer should be sought in the next newsletter. Cllr Hainge also reported that a resident had expressed pleasure at the removal of the litter bins.

The Chairman reported that he had received complaints about the removal of the litter bins and thanks for the distribution of planning application flyers; volunteers had helped with the installation of the new footpath gates; the Village Hall had been booked for 19 October for the neighbourhood plan referendum.

10. Clerk's Report

The Clerk's written report was noted. It was agreed that Ms Pearson should be asked for ideas about suitable locations for the fifth footpath gate. Cllr Mrs Wordley noted that the New House plantation through which the Cefn Road byway ran had been acquired by a shooting syndicate.

11. Finance

Members noted receipt of a satisfactory 2016-17 external audit report, with reference to one minor transcription error.

The financial summary and bank reconciliation for the three months to 30th June 2017 were noted. The Chairman confirmed that the bank statements tallied with them.

Resolved: to make the following payments:

- £647.13 to Ian Jardin for Clerk's salary, expenses & reimbursements for June and July 2017,
- £35.00 to the Information Commissioner for renewal of data controller registration,
- £225.60 to HMRC for quarterly PAYE income tax (retrospective).

12. Date of next meeting would be Wednesday 20th September 2017.