

subject to approval
**Minutes of a Meeting of Cusop Parish Council
held in Cusop Village Hall on 4th December 2019**

Present: Councillors J Wesley (Chairman), I Jardin, A Matthews and M Hainge.

In attendance: PC Jeff Rouse.

1. Apologies for absence. Cllrs Evans, Gilbert and Ward Cllr Hewitt.

2. Disclosures of Interest and Dispensations. None.

3. Minutes

Resolved: that subject to the addition of the words “and to approve the 2021 budget” at the end of sub-para 15d, the minutes of the meeting held on 8th November 2019 be approved as a correct record and be signed by the chairman.

4. Public participation session. PC Rouse introduced himself as the most recent arrival in the Golden Valley policing team. He drew attention to the latest telephone scam, where a caller impersonates a police officer and invites the victim to hand over large sums of cash. 130 such calls have been reported in the past 4 to 5 weeks, 10 have been successful resulting in the theft of around £70k.

5. Community Working Group. Cllr Wesley reported that he had had little response to his earlier emails. The format of this working group would be reviewed in the New Year.

6. Road Closures, Footpaths and Communication. No progress to report.

7. Parish Council Laptop. It was agreed to wait for the new Parish Clerk to give their view on what software to use on the laptop.

8. Councillors' Reports.

- a. Ward Councillor Hewitt's written report was noted, with thanks.
- b. Cllr Jardin reported that he had gone to the NDP workshop in Hereford and found it quite useful. Since Herefordshire Council would be reviewing their Core Strategy soon it was felt that Cusop should wait to see how that work goes before reviewing our own NDP.
- c. Cllr Matthews gave feedback from attendance on the Leading Lights course. Cllr Wesley agreed to ask HALC to set up refresher training for all Parish Councillors on the 5th Wednesday in January.
- d. Cllr Wesley reported that the light bulb in Private Road had been replaced at a cost of £109. Herefordshire Council's planning enforcement officer will be visiting sites in the Parish. The monthly playing field safety checks were in hand and the annual safety audit would take place early in the New Year.

9. Clerk's Report. None.

10. Finance. It was resolved to buy the latest edition of the LCA Clerk's Guide for the new Parish Clerk. It was also resolved to (a) approve retrospectively the expenditure of £2030 on the construction of a village hall boules court and purchase of boules sets, and (b) to note that the cost will be funded by S106 payments from Herefordshire Council, except for £13.34 unreclaimable VAT which will be funded by the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr Wesley, seconded by Cllr Hainge and carried unanimously.

11. Next Meeting. The next meeting would be held at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 15th January 2020.

12. A resolution was passed to exclude the public from the rest of the meeting.

13. Recruitment of New Parish Clerk. Cllrs Wesley and Jardin had interviewed applicants for the post of Parish Clerk and they presented their findings. The appointment of Jane Stannard was proposed by Cllr Jardin, seconded by Cllr Matthews and carried unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.21 pm.