

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL  
**Minutes of a meeting of Cusop Parish Council**  
**Held in Cusop Village Hall on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018**

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

**In attendance:** N Howard (Clerk) and 14 members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs A. Fryers (work commitments), M. Hainge (holiday) and Mrs P. Wordley (recovering from illness).
2. **Disclosures of Interest and Dispensations:** None were declared.
3. **Minutes:** Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018 were a correct record and were duly signed by the Chairman. The stated date of the meeting on the 'Subject to Approval' minutes having been amended from '18<sup>th</sup> October 2018' to the correct date of the '17<sup>th</sup> October 2018'.
4. **Public participation session:** There was lively debate, by way of objection to Planning Application P183552/F (Item 5 below), with several members of the public quoting from the Representations already posted on the Herefordshire Planning website. Should permission be granted there was concern over the disruption in Cusop Dingle once construction began. Further concerns were voiced in connection with the nearby fuel pipeline and possible impact on the sewerage system and rainwater run-off. There was general agreement amongst members of the public that the supporting documents to the application were poor, with emphasis on the lack of detail and quality of the plans. The main objections centred around the contraventions to the Cusop Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP), and it was felt that this was somewhat of a 'test case' for the robustness of NDP's generally. A comment was made that it had been difficult to find the Application on the Herefordshire website as Cusop had been incorrectly spelt and read 'Cussop'.  
Footpath(s) improvements. It was suggested that some remedial work was needed to (access to) the two gates on Nantyglassdwr Lane leading onto Councillor Gilbert's land. Simply some hedge cutting and laying down of 'scalpings'. Discussion ensued on the building of a bridge across the brook to help with access from the bottom of the parish to the top. This has been spoken about previously. The estimated cost would be in the region of £20k. Could (a portion of) S106 money that has been pre-allocated to Cusop be used for this project, even though it is 'ringfenced'? Ward Councillor Price explained that any S106 money not spent within ten years of having been granted has to be paid back to the developer.  
The issue of traffic on the B4348, Hardwicke Road was raised, but the (low) volume of traffic warrants no action. This led on to discussions regarding the need for 'traffic calming' in Newport Street. Councillor Wesley read from an email sent by Yvonne Coleman (Herefordshire Council's Planning Obligations Manager) in respect of the allocation of Transportation Monies from the S106 'pot' and the potential cost/benefit of 'fast tracking' a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). The potential cost to the Council is £8k-£9k, which is deemed unaffordable. Ward Councillor Price suggested that there are ways to emphasise the current 30mph speed limit, and the Council (Clerk) should approach Balfour Beatty to put 'red road' and 'dragons teeth' in place and put a speed indicator device (SID) in place a little further out, to encourage motorists to slow down as they reach the 30mph zone.
5. **Planning Application:** P183552/F. 'Brynglas' Cusop Dingle Hay on Wye. Application for planning permission to build a three-bedroom house. The Council resolved to object to this application on the grounds that it contravened Policies 7, 12 & 16 of the Cusop NDP. Reference was also made to the 'poor' documentation that accompanied the application and the lack of input from Fischer German, Welsh Water, Herefordshire Transport and the custodians of the fuel pipeline. The resolution to object was proposed by Councillor Wesley, seconded by Councillor Evans and was passed unanimously.
6. **Newport Street Traffic.** Councillor Wesley stated that a positive meeting had taken place with Yvonne Coleman (see above) in connection with the allocation of S106 money. Ward Councillor Price commented that it was permissible for the Council to discuss its preferred options on where to spend this money with Yvonne Coleman, who would then negotiate with the developer. He undertook to approach Ms. Coleman on the Council's behalf, to get some maneuverability with the S106 money.

- 7. Footpath Gates and Footpath Grant.** Clerk to ascertain the amount of unspent 'footpaths' grant available. It was agreed that the suggestions made under the public participation item were good and should be investigated/actioned. Sharon Marsh (Footpaths' Officer) is happy to meet/liaise with the new lengthsman (when appointed).
- 8.** It was resolved to contract out 'Payroll Administration' in connection with the Clerk's salary. This was proposed by Councillor Wesley, seconded by Councillor Gilbert and passed unanimously.
- 9.** It was resolved to approve the costs of the Clerk's training. This was proposed by Councillor Wesley, seconded by Councillor Evans and passed unanimously.
- 10. Lengthsman.** The current lengthsman has agreed to stay on until a replacement is recruited. Clerk to approach potential new lengthsman and arrange meeting/interview.
- 11. The Playing Field.** Councillor Wesley reported that Herefordshire Council has made an offer to Cusop Parish Council to obtain the freehold of this site together with the 'corner plot' that has been the subject of a 'land swap' with an adjoining neighbour. Councillor Wesley has enquired as to whether a portion of the S106 money can be used to cover the associated legal fees under the Playing Fields heading. A response is awaited.
- 12. Budget and Precept for 2019/2020.** The proposed budget was discussed; then a resolution was passed to adopt it as drafted. This was proposed by Councillor Wesley, seconded by Councillor Gilbert and passed unanimously.
- 13. Hay Dial-a-Ride.** To consider a request for a donation. In consideration of a potential request from an additional organisation, it was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.
- 14. Councillors' Reports.**
  - Councillor Wesley asked if the salt had been moved from Councillor Gilbert's farm. As this had not happened the clerk will contact Balfour Beatty and ask them to collect.
  - Councillor Wesley had received an email from Balfour Beatty in connection with 'grit bins'. As the telephone box had been removed from the Dingle this left a potentially ideal site for the placement of a grit bin. The Clerk will contact Balfour Beatty to ascertain the viability of this site and the associated costs.
  - Reference the October meeting Councillor Wesley reported on the Clerk's investigation into creating the Council's own website. The costs make this a prohibitive project at the current time.
  - Councillor Wesley reported that The Globe have informed him that they will be applying for a 'Premises Licence' for their 2019 festival.
  - Councillor Wesley reported that Councillor Mrs. P Wordley had attended the November Remembrance Service and had placed a commemorative wreath.
  - Councillor Gilbert reported on an incident where several undesirable characters had been seen in the area. This appears to have been an isolated incident, but it is advisable to remain aware and cautious.
- 15. Clerk's Report:** The Clerk presented his report.
- 16. Finance.** Councillors Evans and Gilbert signed cheques for payment.
- 17. Date of next Meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018 and will take place at Cusop Village Hall starting at 1900 hours.

The meeting closed at 21:20 hours.