

Covingham Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 8th November 2010
in Covingham Park Junior School, The Harriers, Covingham

Present:

Cllr D Benfield, Cllr Y Bennett, Cllr J Day, Cllr P Davis, Cllr D Fitchett, Cllr A Foss, Cllr E Godbold, Cllr B Osbourn, Cllr W Reddaway, Cllr L Sandle, Cllr S Wichall

Parish clerk: Jo Wheeler (parish clerk)

53. Apologies

Cllr P Bennell, Cllr D Haigh

54. Declaration of Interests

None

55. Presentation to previous parish clerk

Cllr Osbourn welcomed Glyn Harris to the meeting. Glyn was presented with a gift from the parish council and was thanked for all his work as the parish clerk.

56. Minutes of the Meeting 11th October 2010

The council approved the minutes of 11th October 2010 and they were signed as a true and accurate record.

57. Matters arising

The parish clerk reported that Cllr Haigh would carry out a survey of dangerous foliage in private gardens around the parish in due course. Cllr Godbold asked that one house in Turncliff be contacted before then, as a matter of urgency.

Cllr Osbourn has requested that Swindon Borough Council examine the trees around Covingham to inspect the roots, reduce some of the crowns and the remove epicormic growth around the base of the trees.

Cllr Foss reported that contractors have started work on overhanging trees at the school.

58. Chairman's update

The chairman provided an update on the following matters:

Covingham Square

The car park surface has had remedial action taken and shows a vast improvement. The planting of the spring bulbs has carried out on the green. Swindon Borough council have confirmed that additional seating and a cycle rack have been ordered.

Proposed Skate Board Park

The council discussed the proposed Skate Board park at Covingham Park. Councillors viewed brochures of some of the various equipment available. The council agreed to progress this further by arranging a meeting with the Recreations and Amenities Group and a few manufacturers that specialise in this equipment; this will enable the council to write its specification and advertise the invitation to tender.

Smitanbrook Park

An agreement has now been reached with Swindon Commercial Services regarding the surface of the Basketball Court. They have confirmed that the new post and rings have been delivered and will be erected soon.

Meeting attendance

The council had not heard from Cllr Ruddle about whether she wishes to continue as a parish councillor. Some councillors thought she was going to resign. Parish clerk to write to Cllr Ruddle.

Parish council website

The council thanked Cllr Day and Cllr Wichall for their hard work on the website. The council agreed to continue with developing the site; Cllr Day asked everyone to send their information, articles, pictures and ideas to her. Parish clerk to send the minutes and other council information on a regular basis.

Swindon Borough Councillors

There was no update from Swindon Borough councillors. The council was disappointed that not one of the ward councillors were able to attend.

59. Public questions

None

60. Recreation and Amenities Group report

Cllr Bennett asked councillors to help students from Dorcan School to plant more bulbs around the parish. She will contact councillors to inform them of the agreed date.

61. Planning matters

Neither Cllr Benfield or the parish clerk have heard from the Planning Enforcement Officer regarding 1 Brind Close. Both to chase up.

Council agreed no objection to the planning application for 8 Honeybone Walk.

62. Financial matters

October financial summary and November cheque list agreed.

63. Matters for Consideration

Cllr Benfield asked that the salt bin at Covingham Shops be topped up. Parish clerk to request.

Cllr Benfield informed the council that he would include information in his next news article that Swindon Borough Council will not empty waste bins if they are too full.

Cllr Wichall thanked Cllr Godbold for helping Terry to fix the vandalised tree.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed:

Date:

DRAFT