

# Covingham Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2011  
in Covingham Park Junior School, The Harriers, Covingham

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## **Present:**

Cllr P Bennell, Cllr A Foss, Cllr E Godbold, Cllr B Osbourn, Cllr L Sandle, Cllr L Thompson

In attendance: Jo Wheeler (parish clerk)

## **70. Apologies**

Apologies from Cllr D Benfield, Cllr J Day, Cllr P Davis, Cllr D Haigh, Cllr L Kellaway, Cllr S Wichall

## **71. Declaration of Interests**

None

## **72. Minutes of the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2011**

The council approved the minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> November and they were signed as a true and accurate record.

## **73. Matters arising**

The council welcomed Lee Wells, who has been appointed to carry out the grass cutting in the parish from March 2012.

## **74. Police matters**

The council welcomed PC Jack Newman. He reported that the only crimes reported were a few thefts from cars parked at Covingham Square. The police have been patrolling the skatepark and have no problems to report.

## **75. Public questions**

None

## **76. Recreation and Amenities Group report**

Cllr Osbourn reported that Ward Councillor Richard Hurley has offered to assist with the skatepark (including engaging users of the skatepark) and requested a meeting with Cllr Osbourn and Swindon Borough Council Youth Services.

Ward Cllr Heenan is looking into improving lighting around the parks. The council agreed that bright sensor lighting around the edge of the park might make people feel more vulnerable. PC Newman pointed out that bright lighting near residential properties could lead to complaints of disturbance if the light shines directly into homes.

#### **77. Fencing and lighting at the parks**

Lighting already discussed.

The council agreed that fencing around the skatepark would be dangerous and costly. A new skatepark is being built at the Oasis Centre, which means the Covingham skatepark may be used less by children outside the parish.

#### **78. Planning matters**

New planning application for 8 Cole Close: erection of a two storey rear extension and pitched roof over front porch. No objection.

#### **79. Financial matters**

Council resolved keep the precept at £38,800, which is the same as the previous year.

The Finance Committee held their annual budget meeting at 6.30pm and drew up the 2012/13 budget. Parish clerk to send a copy of the budget to all councillors.

The monthly financial summary and cheque list were approved.

#### **80. Matters for Consideration**

Cllr Godbold commented on a van being parked inconsiderately. As the land belongs to the borough council there isn't much the parish council can do. Cllr Godbold to send more information to clerk so she can make the borough council aware.

Changes to bus routes: Service no 2 (Fleming Way to Covingham via Nythe) will be re-routed at Covingham in a one-way loop via Covingham Drive, Merlin Way, St. Paul's Drive and The Drive. Route 2 is the only one that would affect the parish directly. Cllr Osbourn has asked Thamesdown Buses to consult and inform the parish council of any changes in future and expressed dissatisfaction at not being consulted before now.

Grass cutting: Lee Wells told the council that he would cut the football pitch weekly and other areas on a fortnightly basis.

The chairman wished everyone a Merry Christmas and the meeting closed at 8.20pm.

**Signed:**

**Date:**