

Covingham Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 14th May 2012
in Covingham Park Junior School, The Harriers, Covingham

Present:

Cllr D Benfield, Cllr D Fitchett, Cllr A Foss, Cllr E Godbold, Cllr D Haigh, Cllr L Kellaway,
Cllr B Osbourn, Cllr L Sandle, Cllr S Wichall

In attendance:

Jo Wheeler (parish clerk), Ward Cllr Hurley and Ward Cllr Price

1. Election of chairman

Cllr Wichall nominated Cllr Osbourn. Council resolved to appoint Cllr Osbourn as chairman.

2. Apologies

Apologies from Cllr L Thompson

3. Declaration of Interests

None

4. Police matters

PC Jack Newman had sent his apologies.

Council discussed the installation of play equipment around Swindon, including a kick wall game, called street snooker, in Stratton. This will take some of the novelty away from the skatepark.

The council will explore options from Community Speed Watch in Covingham once the trial in Blunsdon has been completed.

5. Minutes of the meeting on 16th April 2012

The council approved the minutes of 16th April and they were signed as a true and accurate record.

6. Matters arising

None

7. Roles and responsibilities

The council resolved to appoint the following committee:

Responsibility	Persons agreed
Vice chairman	Cllr Wichall
Allotments	Cllr Benfield & Cllr Sandle
Finance Committee	Cllr Benfield, Cllr Haigh, Cllr Sandle & Cllr Wichall
Forward Planning, Recreations & Highways Committee	Cllr Godbold, Cllr Fitchett, Cllr Haigh, Cllr Wichall Cllr L Thompson & Cllr L Kellaway
Planning Committee	Cllr Haigh, Cllr Sandle, Cllr Wichall & Cllr A Foss
Press officer	Cllr Benfield

8. Public forum

None

9. Recreation & Amenities Group

Members of the parish council met an engineer from Drain Master to assess the area in Covingham Park that is prone to flooding. He reported that digging out ditches around the school land would be too costly (for the parish council's budget) and would have health and safety implications. The most cost effective option would be installing a number of soak-aways in the area.

To determine how feasible soak-aways would be the engineer will carry out a survey of the soil in the area. The council are waiting on his report.

10. Planning matters

One new planning application for a two storey extension at 2 Merlin Way: no objections

Ward Cllr Hurley reported that the outline plans for the vicarage site have been submitted.

11. Financial matters

The monthly financial summary and cheque list were approved.

The 2011/12 annual return was agreed and signed.

12. Matters for consideration

Cllr Sandle reported that the streets and paths need sweeping.

Cllr Haigh reported that some pavements are slippery because of mulching leaves from overhanging trees.

Cllr Kellaway expressed concern for some parishioners about the risk of flooding from the un-adopted stream by Dorcan Business Park. Ward Cllr Price and Ward Cllr Hurley agreed to look into this.

Cllr Kellaway started that despite the noise barriers on the A419 the noise seems to be getting worse.

Cllr Fitchett discussed her on-going work with Ward Cllr Heenan on the lorries using Merlin Way.

Council resolved to send Wynn Reddaway a gift of £30 in garden centre vouchers as a thank you for her long service on the parish council.

Cllr Foss reported the nuisance caused by work vehicles being parked overnight at the bottom of Swallowdale. Ward Cllr Hurley has been contacted about this. The Enforcement Officer has spoken to the owner of the vehicles.

Cllr Benfield provided some copies of the no 21 bus timetable to be displayed in the noticeboards.

Council discussed the fact that Patheon is closing down and that the new Morrisons will offer employment.

The parish council agreed to reply to Martin Hambridge, Engineer at Swindon Borough Council to thank him for consulting the parish council on the problem of people parking on the grass verge near the school. Martin suggested wooden bollards, but the council discussed the fact that this may make create additional problem parking.

Close of meeting: 9.20pm

Signed:

Date: