

# Covingham Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2013  
in Covingham Park Junior School, The Harriers, Covingham

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## **Present:**

Cllr Allen, Cllr Benfield, Cllr Davis, Cllr Foss, Cllr Godbold, Cllr Haigh, Cllr Hayward,  
Cllr Osbourn, Cllr Parry, Cllr Sandle, Cllr Short, Cllr Wichall

## **In attendance:**

Jo Tomlinson (parish clerk), PC Frank Key

## **85. Apologies**

Apologies received from Cllr Thompson, Cllr Haigh, Ward Cllr Heenan & Ward Cllr Price

## **86. Declaration of Interests**

Cllr Parry and Cllr Foss declared an interest in the Covingham Park Primary School grant request (Item 13) because they are governors at the school. Cllr Foss also declared an interest in the application from the Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Movement.

## **87. Police matters**

Cllr Osbourn reported that the Neighbourhood Task Group was being disbanded and the north and south NTGs will merge to make one group in Swindon.

Cllr Short commented on the number of high profile police officers seen in town centre; he asked whether this is something that the police could do in other areas of Swindon. PC Frank Key replied that if it's required the answer is yes; the police will patrol areas where there is the most crime.

PC Key will look into how he can assist the Streetwatch scheme, which Cllr Hayward helps to organise. He will liaise with Simon Evans (Anti-social behaviour Manager) at Swindon Borough Council.

Cllr Sandle reported seeing a car driving across the park at 2am. PC Key will inform his policing team.

## **88. Minutes of the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2012**

The council approved the minutes of 10<sup>th</sup> December 2012 and they were signed as a true and accurate record.

## **89. Matters arising**

77. Cllr Foss stated that he isn't opposed to the council conducting a Lorry Watch survey and he agrees there is a need for one, he only objects to the parish council making a financial contribution towards a Traffic Regulation Order.

77. Cllr Osbourn reported that the broken VAS sign needs to be replaced (rather than repaired). Swindon Borough Council can't do this until April, in the new financial year.

Cllr Short has spoken to George Walker from Swindon Commercial Services. He will arrange for him to carry out a site visit around the parish, and he asked whether parish councillors would like to attend.

## **90. Public forum**

None

## **91. Lorry Watch**

Cllr Osbourn reported that the survey would be carried out between 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> March. He asked that councillors bring the dates and time they are available to the next meeting. Cllr Osbourn will liaise with Cllr Fitchett, who has a list of volunteers. High visibility jackets will be provided by Swindon Borough Council.

## **92. Forward Planning, Recreation & Highways Committee**

Already covered

## **93. Allotments**

Cllr Osbourn reported that Stratton St Margaret Parish Council is progressing with the new allotment site at Gorse Hill. They are awaiting confirmation from Swindon Borough Council.

Cllr Benfield and Cllr Sandle will attend any future meetings.

## **94. Swindon Borough Council Local Plan**

The council had no comments to make on the Local Plan.

## **95. Planning matters**

The council discussed the development of the land next to St Paul's Church. There have been no objections to the application and proposed development. The S106 Developer's contribution is £20,000, with £15,000 towards Education and £5,000 towards "Community & Leisure". Swindon Borough Council can't use it for resurfacing or anything similar. Ward Cllr would like to see the £5,000 go towards the Library since it is next door.

## **96. Financial matters**

The Council resolved to approve the schedule of payments and the financial statement.

The council resolved to request a precept of £38,080, which is a reduction of 2% from the previous year.

The council resolved to change dog waste collection contractors, to one who offers better value for money. The parish clerk has three quotes: from the current contractor, Stratton St Margaret parish council and an approximate cost of carrying out the service in house.

## **97. Grant applications**

### Grant for Covingham Park Primary School

Cllr Wichall requested that the council defer the application until the March meeting. Seven councillors voted in favour and two abstained.

### Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Movement

Resolved to award Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Movement a grant of £250

### Wiltshire Victim Support

Parish clerk to ascertain whether there is still a Swindon branch of Wiltshire Victim Support.

## **98. Matters for consideration**

Cllr Foss reported more damage to the grassed area in the park. The damage looks like it has been caused by a vehicle larger than a car.

Cllr Benfield reported that Partridge Stream, Dorcan Stream and the River Cole have been cleared and they are flowing well.

Close of meeting: 9.45pm.

**Signed:**

**Date:**