

# Covingham Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2013  
in Covingham Park Junior School, The Harriers, Covingham

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## **Present:**

Cllr Benfield, Cllr Davis, Cllr Godbold, Cllr Haigh, Cllr Hayward, Cllr Osbourn, Cllr Parry,  
Cllr Sandle, Cllr Short, Cllr Thompson

## **In attendance:**

Jo Tomlinson (parish clerk), PC Frank Key, Ward Cllr Heenan, Ward Cllr Price

## **99. Apologies**

Apologies received from Cllr Foss, Cllr Wichall and Cllr Allen

The council welcomed Viv Curtis, who is interested in joining the parish council. Viv has lived in Covingham for twenty years and is interested in becoming involved with the council and contributing to her local area.

## **100. Declaration of Interests**

None

## **101. Police matters**

PC Key and Cllr Benfield attended the recent Localities meeting, where the Police Commissioner's report was presented. Parish clerk to distribute the Police Commissioner's report to all councillors in March.

Cllr Davies reported a van causing an obstruction and agreed to send the information to PC Key.

## **102. Minutes of the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2013**

The council approved the minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> January 2013 and they were signed as a true and accurate record.

## **103. Matters arising**

89. Cllr Short suggested that councillors email him directly about attending a meeting with George Walker from Swindon Commercial Services.

95. Concerns were raised about a cut in library opening hours. To be discussed at the next meeting.

#### **104. Public forum**

Ady Goodenough from Stratton informed the council that the survey was complete and Oxford Highways are planning to fix the pipework. The location for the new tunnel has been surveyed. It will stretch across the Eastern Area Development site.

#### **105. Lorry Watch**

Cllr Osbourn reported that the survey would be carried out between 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> March.

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

Cllr Sandle presented a report from Swindon Local Plan Eastern Development meeting; agreed that she would submit her comments on behalf of the parish council. Report attached.

#### **107. Allotments**

Cllr Benfield and Cllr Sandle will be attending meeting with Stratton St Margaret Parish Council to discuss the plans for the new allotment site at Gorse Hill.

#### **108. Planning matters**

One new application: replacement sign for the Messenger public house (no objections).

#### **109. Financial matters**

The finance committee had identified further savings in the 2013/14 budget. The Council had resolved to set the precept at £36,330.85. This means no increase for Covingham parishioners, in the parish part of their council tax.

#### **110. Grant applications**

##### Grant for Wiltshire Victim Support

Parish clerk confirmed that there is still a Swindon branch of Wiltshire Victim Support.  
Resolved to award £250

##### Grant for Swindon Re-Store

Resolved to award £250

### **111. Matters for consideration**

Cllr Godbold asked who will be emptying the dog bins around the parish. Parish clerk confirmed that Lee Wells from All Build (who provides the grasscutting service) will empty the bins weekly until the council comes to a decision on who will provide this service. The parish council is seeking a quote from Stratton St Margaret Parish Council, as well as a quote from Lee Wells. The council commented on the excellent service Lee provides and thanked him for helping so quickly after Merlin Waste's sudden departure.

Cllr Sandle asked about the damaged slide in the play area. Parish clerk confirmed that Kompan (play equipment manufacturers and installers) will be providing a replacement slide, and will install it in March.

Ward Cllr Heenan informed the council that Swindon Borough Council is looking at a Parking Restriction Order to prevent the continuous obstruction caused by cars at school drop off & pick up time. This will be pursued if it is supported by the community.

Close of meeting: 8.30pm.

***Signed:***

***Date:***