

Covingham Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 11th March 2013
in Covingham Park Junior School, The Harriers, Covingham

Present:

Cllr Benfield, Cllr Curtis, Cllr Davis, Cllr Fitchett, 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, Ward Cllr Heenan, members of the public

112. Apologies

Apologies received from Cllr Thompson and Cllr Davies

113. Declaration of Interests

Cllr Foss and Cllr Parry declared an interest in item 13: grant application for Covingham Park Primary School.

114. Co-option of Val Curtis

The council resolved to co-opt Val Curtis onto the parish council.

115. Police matters

PC Key reported no major incidents in the last month. Cllr Benfield commented that he appreciates the email updates from PC Key.

116. Minutes of the meeting on 11th February 2013

The council approved the minutes of 11th February 2013 and they were signed as a true and accurate record.

117. Matters arising

None.

118. Public forum

Adye Goodenough (member of the public from Stratton) asked whether the council could publish the agenda on the parish council website. Parish clerk agreed to post it on the website.

119. Lorry Watch

Cllr Osbourn reported that the survey would be finished by 15th March. Cllr Osbourn agreed to provide a summary of the findings at the annual assembly. The Highways officer will be invited to the meeting after the results have been received and analysed by Swindon Borough Council's Highway team.

120. Forward Planning, Recreation & Highways Committee

The council agreed to request that the remaining S106 money should be spent on providing drainage at Covingham Park. The parish council have been advised that due to the soil conditions soakaways wouldn't be an effective solution. Cllr Short to inspect the site to advise on suitable action.

121. Allotments

Cllr Benfield and Cllr Sandle will be attending meeting with Stratton St Margaret Parish Council on 12th March to discuss the plans for the new allotment site at Gorse Hill.

122. Planning matters

One new application: erection of conservatory at 28 Ravenscroft (no objections).

123. Financial matters

The Council resolved to approve the schedule of payments and the financial statement. The council resolved to award the dog bin emptying contract to Lee Wells, as he offered a competitively priced quote and has provided an excellent service so far.

124. Grant applications

Applicant	Decision
Covingham Park Primary School	Resolved to award £246.60
Hanover Court Social Club	Resolved to award £250.00
Swindon Downs Syndrome Group	Resolved to award £500.00
Swindon Scrapstore	The council voted against giving a grant as they had been awarded one in January 2013.

125. Matters for consideration

Cllr Foss reported the continuing problem of vehicles driving over the grass in the park. Terry (parish council groundsman) and PC Key agreed to keep an eye out.

Cllr Fitchett said parishioners on Merlin Way wished to thank Cllr Osbourn for organising, and taking part in, the Lorry Watch survey.

Cllr Allen asked about salt bins. Ward Cllr Heenan explained how to apply for a bin: if certain criteria are met you can apply through StreetSmart. The information can be found on the Swindon Borough Council website.

Cllr Haigh noted the good work on tackling the epicormic growth by Swindon Borough Council.

Cllr Benfield asked Ward Cllr Heenan about the community governance review. The report supports the parish council's request to include the small un-parished area in Covingham.

Cllr Benfield also commented on Swindon Commercial Service's statement that they will cut the grass every 3/4 weeks.

Cllr Foss agreed to raise the issue of litter around the school grounds.

Cllr Wichall noted that a sweeper had been around Smitan Brook, and has improved the area immensely.

Close of meeting: 8.45pm.

Signed:

Date: