

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on  
**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2022**  
At 7pm in the Small Hall at St Paul's Church and Community Centre, Covingham

**Present:** Cllr Bates, Curtis (Chair), Hawkes, Kay, Khan, Ricketts, Sandle.

**Also in attendance:** Laura Evans (Clerk) and two of the Neighbourhood Policing Team.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Bacon (unavailable), Cllr Benfield (unavailable) and Cllr Sumon (unavailable).

**2. Declaration of Interests**

Cllr Curtis reminded Members that they should declare any known interests in any matter to be considered at the beginning of the meeting and during the meeting if it becomes apparent that they have an interest in the matters being discussed.

**3. Minutes of previous meeting**

**Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022 were approved and signed as a true record.

**4. Matters arising from the previous minutes**

Covingham Park extension of lease – no progress

Firecrest play area – no progress

Speed Indicator Device – No response received from SBC to the request to instal the device on one of the posts already in situ. Cllr Hawkes to make contact with Ward Cllr Heenan to suggest covering the SBC signs on the two areas that were objected to but only while the Speed Indicator Device is in use, the covers will then be removed once the device is moved to another post, which will be every 3 months. This will then enable the Parish Council to operate the Speed Indicator Devices correctly, and in the locations that have problems with speeding vehicles. **Action- Cllr Hawkes**

How Healthy is your Parish initiative – Ongoing

Basketball nets – one of the new metal nets vandalised within 6 days of being installed

Toddler Swing seat – spare part ordered, awaiting delivery

Merlin Way – The Police carried out speed checks due to reports made by Residents and the Parish Council about speeding lorries on 20th July, no problems were identified.

**5. Public forum**

No questions or comments received from members of the public, as none were present at the meeting.

**6. Police Matters**

The Neighbourhood Policing Team gave an update on the activity in the area including the recent incidents of Anti-Social behaviour which is actively being dealt with. The youths who started a fire in

Firecrest Play Park have been identified and will be dealt with appropriately. Extra patrols will be taking place around Covingham Square Shops and the Mini Mart to help deter the recent drug dealing activities which are being pushed from another area close by.

Cllr Kay raised concerns over the use of electric scooters. The Neighbourhood Policing Team confirmed these are illegal and are classed as a motorised vehicle and should not be ridden on footpaths.

The Neighbourhood Policing Team are urging residents to report any suspicious/Anti-Social Behaviour via 101 or using the online reporting system. These calls and logs are invaluable and helps to build the intelligence required

## **7. Chairs Verbal Update**

HAF Project – SBC provided more details of those that were eligible to make use of the project and the need for registration in order to obtain a voucher. Due to the openness of the events in the skateboard park, they did not appear to fit the process.

Grass cutting – A scheduled cut was due to take place the week of the excessive heat, which the contractor advised against being carried out. This has been banked and can either be used as an additional cut at the end of the season, other works being carried out or a reduction in payment. To be decided at a later date.

## **8. Clerks Verbal Update**

The Clerk confirmed that the Internal Auditor's AGAR form had been received with no advisories, but not the full Internal Auditor's Report. Once received it will then be added as an agenda item.

## **9. Parish Maintenance Engineers**

- **Monthly Reports** – Graffiti and anti-social behaviour are the biggest issues but the Maintenance Engineers are doing a brilliant job.
- **Grounds Maintenance Matters**  
No matters needed to be addressed.

## **10. Reports from Parish Council Working Parties and Committee's**

- **Environment Working Party**  
Nothing to report.
- **Data Protection & Governance**  
Nothing to report.
- **Planning Working Party**  
Nothing to report.

## **11. Planning Matters:**

### **a) To consider any planning applications.**

The meeting noted that no planning applications had been received.

### **b) To note any comments from the Planning Working Party submitted between meetings.**

The meeting noted that no comments had been submitted.

### **c) To note any decisions**

The meeting noted that no decisions had been received.

## **12. Financial Matters**

- a) To approve Finance Statement and payments approval list

**Resolved:** Cllr Sandle proposed approval of the Finance Statement and payment approval list. Cllr Hawkes seconded the proposal and was unanimously agreed.

b) To receive the monthly accounts reconciliation

**Resolved:** The meeting noted that the accounts were in a good position.

**13. SBC Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) and Dog Fouling in Parks**

This item was withdrawn.

**14. Correspondence**

The meeting noted that no correspondence had been received.

**15. Handy Mag Article**

The meeting agreed to put the following into the Handy Mag article

- Anti-Social behaviour/ Fires
- Reflection on the Memorial Area.

**16. Matters for consideration**

There were no matters raised for consideration.

The meeting closed at 8:05pm

Signed.....Date.....