



Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on:

Monday 3rd March 2025

At 7pm in the Small Hall at St Paul's Church and Community Centre, Covingham

Present: Cllr Bates, Curtis (Chair), Hawkes, Kay, May, Ricketts, Sandle and Wichall.

Also in attendance: Laura Evans (Clerk).

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Bacon (unavailable) and Cllr Walker (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 3rd February 2025 were approved and signed as a true record.

4. Matters arising from the previous minutes

Dorcan Brook Bank – no update

Naming of a footpath – no update

Creation of a natural flood alleviation area in Covingham park – Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Conservation Lead to meet on site in April.

Wanborough Allotments – First meeting of the Wanborough Allotment Society arranged for Thursday 6th March which Cllr Hawkes will be attending.

Thermofisher hoardings- no progress. Cllr Curtis to chase.

Action- Cllr Curtis

Adult Exercise equipment – Caloo to complete remedial works identified during the Operational Maintenance Inspection carried out in January, week beginning 17th March.

Basketball Court- no progress to date.

Trees for climate project – Tree planting started Monday 3rd March in Covingham Park.

Speed Indicator Devices – New batteries installed. Battery life now 7 – 8 days, compared to the 1 or 2 days of late.

Midcounties Co-operative Local Good Causes- Cllr Kay spoke to the Store Manager and explained that the Parish Council was looking for a contribution towards the cost of replacing the noticeboard in Covingham Square. The Store Manager provided a link to Cllr Kay to apply for the funding opportunities that Midcounties Co-operative currently has available.

The original supplier no longer sells noticeboards and no suitable alternatives can be found to make use of existing posts. A new noticeboard and posts can be purchased at a cost of circa £900. SBC Highways to be asked for advice of any conditions that would apply if existing post sites to be used. The Grounds Maintenance Contractor can install the noticeboard.

Resolved: Once confirmation is received from SBC Highways, the meeting agreed for Cllr Kay to proceed with the funding application. **Action- Clerk/Cllr Kay**

Cole Close Noticeboard noticeboard can be easily replaced at a cost of £617.00 + VAT. The business owner is happy for the Parish Council to replace the noticeboard.

Resolved: Cllr Hawkes proposed the purchase of the replacement noticeboard. Cllr Wichall seconded the proposal and was unanimously agreed. **Action - Clerk**

The Store Manager at Covingham Midcounties Co-operative made Cllr Kay aware that the store colleagues have an amount of volunteering hours to use within the community, should any volunteering opportunities arise that they can help with.

5. Public forum

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

6. Police Matters

No Police personnel were present at the meeting so no update provided.

7. Chairs Verbal Update

Nothing to report.

8. Clerks Verbal Update

Nothing to report.

9. Parish Maintenance Engineers

- **Monthly Reports** – four fires at the old play area at Sandpiper Bridge have been reported to the Police.
- **Grounds Maintenance Matters**
A replacement dog bin is needed on the corner of Kestrel Drive and St Paul's Drive at a cost of £132.00 + VAT.
Resolved: Cllr Kay proposed purchasing the replacement dog bin. Cllr Hawkes seconded the proposal and was unanimously agreed. **Action - Clerk**

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

- **Data Protection & Governance**
Nothing to report.

11. Planning Matters:

a) To consider any planning applications:

Application: S/HOU/25/0157 (6th March)

Location: 1 Linnetsdene, Covingham, SN3 5AG

Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension and associated works.

Resolved: The meeting agreed there were no objections to this proposal.

Application: S/HOU/25/0164 (10th March)

Location: 15 Peregrine Close, Covingham, SN3 5BJ

Proposal: Erection of two storey side extension.

Resolved: The meeting agreed there were no objections to this proposal.

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:

Application: S/HOU/24/1495

Location: 29 Dovetrees, Covingham, SN3 5AX

Proposal: Erection of a pitched roof over existing garage to create bedroom and en-suite with velux windows – Granted.

Application: S/HOU/24/1438

Location: 4 Tealsbrook, Covingham, SN3 5AU

Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension and first floor side extension – Granted.

Application: S/LDP/25/0009

Location: 2 Firecrest View, Covingham, SN3 5LS

Proposal: Certificate of Lawfulness (Proposed) for the erection of a single storey side extension-Granted.

Application: S/LDP/25/0031

Location: 15 Tealsbrook, Covingham, SN3 5AU

Proposal: Certificate of Lawfulness (Proposed) for the erection of single storey rear extension – Granted.

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 Wichall seconded the proposal and was unanimously agreed.

b) To receive the monthly accounts reconciliation

Resolved: The meeting noted that the accounts were in good order.

13. The Handy Mag

The meeting agreed that the following should be included in the article;

- Trees for climate- planting
- Replacement of noticeboards
- Repairs to adult exercise equipment
- Street sign cleaning

14. Matters for consideration

Cllr Wichall raised concerns over the footpath opposite the bus stop in Cornmarsh Way as it is in a bad state of repair. The Clerk to report the footpath to SBC. **Action- Clerk**

Cllr Kay is beginning to clean the street signs in her road and wished to encourage residents to do the same in their roads.

Cllr Bates raised concerns over the grey cabinet opposite Cornmarsh Way. It has been confirmed that the utility supplier has removed all wires and is not a danger but looks unsightly.

Eight of the Yew trees in the arc behind the memorial tree in Covingham Park appear to be dying due to excessive water and need replacing. The Contractor suggested that a French drain is created to manage the excess water.

Resolved: The meeting agreed for the Contractor to proceed with the proposed drainage suggestion and plant replacement yew trees.

The meeting closed at 7:57pm

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

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