



Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on

Monday 7th June 2021

At 7pm in the former Library room at St Paul's Church and Community Centre, Covingham

Present: Cllr Bates, Benfield, Curtis (Chair), Hawkes, Khan, Ricketts, Sandle, Waywell, Wichall

Also in attendance: Laura Evans (Clerk), a member of the Neighbourhood Policing Team

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Bacon (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 17th May 2021 were approved and signed as a true record.

4. Matters arising from the previous minutes

Speed indicator Device – Cllrs Hawkes, Bates and Curtis visited Liddington Parish Council to gain better understanding and requirements that are needed to maintain a Speed Indicator Device. Cllr Curtis explained that all the Councillors would need to participate and be committed to the work involved. This includes charging and changing the batteries of the device, location moving and data downloading. Cllr Hawkes explained that there has been numerous complaints of speeding vehicles in Covingham and that this device will create a profile for the Police to better understand the times of the speeding vehicles and location, meaning targeted Police Speed checks can then take place. The Neighbourhood Police Team member explained that with concrete data the Police are much more effective and are happy to help with input on the locations of the 4 posts required for the device.

Resolved: The meeting agreed that a Working Party be formed and that a business case be made with the view of approaching Swindon Borough Council to be able to place the posts required by the side of the road.

Action - Cllr Hawkes/Bates/Wichall/Khan

Covid 19 Memorial – Still ongoing, Cllr Waywell to obtain costs for the tree.

Action - Cllr Waywell

5. Public forum

No questions or comments were received from members of the public.

6. Police Matters

The Neighbourhood Policing Team member gave an update on recent activity in the area.

The main concern for the Neighbourhood Police Team is the reluctance of Covingham residents to report crimes no matter how small to 101 immediately, as this intelligence or information can help provide a more targeted approach to what is happening in the area.

The intention is for there to be more of a presence in the area by encouraging Officers to patrol some areas on foot. Cllr Curtis raised concerns over anti social behaviour and vandalism, which is happening regularly in Covingham Park.

An issue was raised regarding 'boy racers' in the area, especially in then evenings. This information will be raised with the Traffic Officers.

7. Chairs Verbal Update

No update given

8. Clerks Verbal Update

No update given

9. Parish Maintenance Engineers

- **Monthly Reports** – The Maintenance Engineers removed 267 N20 cartiridges in the month of May. The Neighbourhood Police Team member explained that should a large amount be found in one area then this should be reported to the Police.

Works Van - The front tyres on the van need to be replaced, at a cost of £98

- **Grounds Maintenance Matters**

The Contractor has now completed the deferred grass cutting from last month.

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

- **Environment Working Party**

Cllr Benfield and Cllr Sandle will be planting the 2 flowerboxes on Kingfisher Drive East, with Dwarf Sunflowers and Geraniums.

- **Data Protection & Governance**

Cllr Hawkes explained that a review of all Data Protection and Governance policies are due to be reviewed to ensure they are still relevant after leaving the EU.

Action – Cllr Hawkes/Curtis/Khan/Clerk

- **Planning Working Party**

Cllrs Hawkes and Curtis attended the NEV Liaison meeting, and the following updates were provided:

North of A420 – Near to completion, the delay with landowners signing.

Symmetry Park – Still awaiting decision from the Supreme Court – not scheduled to be heard as yet.

Former Toys R Us site – no further forward. New access strategy needed due to safety concerns with the entry point into the site from the slip road on to the A419.

Foxbridge North – re-consultation

Foxbridge South – re-consultation

Great Stall East – S106 discussions taking place and legal amendments required.

Lotmead – Outline permission issued. S106 agreement signed. Reserved matters due shortly.

Redlands – trickle of reserved matters applications. Development split up in to 2 phases.

Southern Connector Road – Currently doing offline works prior to commencement of actual works. Survey and archaeological works.

Inlands Farm – Planning Inspector Enquiry 15th June – expected to be 4-week program.
Local Plan – Currently work in progress for next stage. Formal Consultation for the submission version towards September.

Delivery Partners:

Swindon CCG (Healthcare) – Work around primary care delivery for the NEV. Significant review being undertaken for delivery of services. Draft plan and strategies being worked on.

Thames Water – Regular liaison meetings being held. Awaiting additional information for the pumping station and for the provision of freshwater.

11. Planning Matters:

a) To consider any planning applications:

Application: S/OUT/20/0533

Location: Land At Foxbridge Village North, Wanborough Road Swindon

Proposal: Outline application for the erection of up to 220 no. dwellings, commercial facilities up to 300 sq.m. (Use Classes A1/ A2/A3/A4/A5/ B1 & D1) and 2.2 ha land for a primary school with associated parking, landscaping, drainage, and heritage trail; access to Southern Connector Road not reserved.

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

The meeting noted that no comments had been submitted between meetings.

c) To note any decisions

Application: S/HOU/21/0499

Location: 35 Swanbrook, Covingham, SN3 5AJ

Proposal: Erection of a two-storey side and single storey rear extensions – granted

Application: S/HOU/21/0501

Location: 33 Swanbrook, Covingham, SN3 5AJ

Proposal: Proposed two storey side and single storey rear extensions – granted.

Application: S/HOU/21/0549

Location: 5 Swanbrook, Covingham, SN3 5AJ

Proposal: Erection of a two-storey side, single storey rear and single storey front 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 Benfield seconded the proposal and was unanimously agreed

b) To receive the monthly accounts reconciliation

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

13. Handy Mag

To discuss if Covingham Parish Council should continue to submit a monthly article or whether to use an alternative method to communicate to residents.

Resolved: Cllr Bates proposed that Covingham Parish Council keep a presence in the Handy Mag but keep the article simple and change the format, with a link to the Website for more information. Cllr Hawkes seconded the proposal and was agreed with a majority vote.

The meeting agreed that the other methods of communication that were discussed; news blog area on the Website for Parish Council updates and notifications, a monthly update page for the noticeboard and Facebook would also be effective ways of communicating.

14. Correspondence

The meeting noted that no correspondence had been received.

15. Matters for consideration.

Cllr Curtis explained that the Cubs had done a litter pick in Covingham Park and the Cubs Leader said that the Scouts are community minded and if there are any projects they can help with, to contact them.

Cllr Waywell explained that the flower bed in Covingham Square needs some attention, weeding etc. Agenda item for July so a date can be arranged.

The meeting closed at 8:20pm

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