

Colney Heath Parish Council



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5th FEBRUARY 2015

MINUTES OF THE COLNEY HEATH FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT COMMUNITY ROOM VILLAGE HALL 83 HIGH STREET COLNEY HEATH AL4 0NS ON THURSDAY 5th FEBRUARY 2015 at 7.45pm

Present:- Cllr K Barnes Chair-Cllr M Nash-Vice Chair-Cllr D Crump-*Cllr C Brazier- Cllr P Cook-
*Cllr J Day-Cllr R Solts Cllr D Horner-Note-Currently in Council there is one new member Vacancy

*(District Council members also)

Clerk: Mr J E Dean-Present at meeting

Deputy Clerk-Mrs Kim Parker-Mead

County Members attending; - Cllr D Gordon

Public Attendance: Jeff Lewis-Project Manager-Mr M Rawlins-Mr Mrs Falk

1620 APOLOGIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Cllr K Barnes welcomed everyone to the February meeting whilst adding there will be a Part II to the procedure at about 9.30pm. There was no apologies for this meeting item the Clerk added with apologies agenda item 1631 is a numerical error, no topic.

1621 DECLARATIONS

No declarations on this agenda, an opportunity remains for members if appropriate in the topics presenting at this meeting.

1622 APPROVAL MINUTES FULL COUNCIL MEETING 8th January 2015

Minutes were read by page and were accepted, the document was subsequently approved as correct and **resolved**.

Proposed; - Cllr R Solts

Seconded; -Cllr D Crump

1623 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cllr Nash wanted to know more about Swans Pit, a reference to Boissy Park. A letter from the open spaces Society had indicated it was in London Colney and had caused confusion and delay in responding. The location now known is connected with some land issues that members briefly debated. The letter had gone missing in the parish files; the Clerk intends to send a reply indicating that we have known about issues raised on footpaths over this site regarding a HCC document dated 7th November 2014. The footpaths in question on Boissy Park are not so far recognised or numbered in county. Any matter or objection on this is best taken up direct with the footpaths officer at County, as this not a parish matter.

1624 PLANS FOR THE LONGABOUT TRAFFIC SURVEY IN MARCH 2015

The County Highways Officer had decided that he could not attend the parish meeting to give members and the public an overview of the safety issues. In place of which Cllr Gordon addressed the meeting on the latest news from Highways assuring the survey is planned to go ahead in March on the A414. Cllr Gordon said the Highways Officer in charge intends to contact the parish office once the dates are known so we can inform the public.

1625 THE PARISH WEB SITE

Cllr Solts wanted to see if we could drill down further into the particular hit items that people were looking at when visiting. The Clerk agreed to speak to the site webmaster again about obtaining this update. Other items were up to date or about to be submitted for inclusion. Cllr Cook wanted to see more details about planning process and the committee structure on the site for public guidance.

FINANCE

1626 APPROVAL OF CHEQUES AND PAYMENTS JANUARY 2015

The Clerk presented a report to members and explained the financial details to the meeting. The Cheques this month amounted to £14,001.75

Proposed by; - Cllr D Crump

Seconded by; - Cllr R Solts

PLANNING COMMITTEE

1627 GENERAL PLANNING REPORT

Cllr Nash reported to the meeting, Cllr Cook wanted to know more about how the process of applications were dealt with and which members were on the planning committee. The Clerk confirmed Cllrs' Nash, Crump, and Horner stood on the committee but it was open to other members if they wished to join. It was agreed the weekly list be distributed to all members at the beginning of the week and after it is published. The District Council web site is always available to members with a simple download process. Cllr Solts felt it important to alert members as the planning numbers were necessary to identify applications in the parish.

1628 PLANNING LISTS APPLICATIONS-RECOMMENDATIONS & REFUSALS

The application 5/2015/0121 regarding use of a warehouse in Alban Park for an activity centre did bring some comment regarding noise and opening hours, particularly when hosting parties. It was agreed council could offer a no objections to this type of development.

1629 CURRENT PINS APPEALS & PUBLIC INQUIRY LISTED

Cllr Nash reported about Application 5/2014/1871 The Oak House 14 Starlight Way-AL4 0JP Enforcement notice quashed. At this time, there were no other reports to present.

1630 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Project Manager Jeff Lewis reported that a meeting had taken place with Chris Briggs and Struan Power of Forward Plans at SADC with Jeff Lewis and the Clerk. Jeff reported the meeting was both informative and factual in that it clearly defined the options open to the plan regarding "as he put it having crosses on maps to show what is wanted". Mainly in terms of future growth, businesses, leisure, & other requirements to enhance the plan adding if the plan did not produce this it would fail. This all comes under the heading of "Planning Policies and Proposals" noted by four defined headings, that council must focus upon. Jeff Lewis presented his reports with a copy to each member, prompting councillors to think about the future planning issues. Cllr Cook sought more detail over the planning issues with regard to Green Belt and Brownfield sites, Cllr Brazier added it was the policy of the District Members that GB land is not to be easily sacrificed for development. But that future parish developments are inevitable, it is up to us to try to control it. Future sites will inevitably come

about with developer activity in the area. We represent a growing district with good links to London, popular with commuters. Infrastructure has to be in place first according to Cllr Brazier. Jeff Lewis commented on the second survey but no date is decided yet. He also mentioned the dates of the visit to BRE where our parish and Sandridge are to visit to find out more about sustainable communities. Two separate visits are planned and the idea is to see if such an idea can fit in with any future developments in the parish that may come about. Finally, the mention of the Smallford Station Project and Alban Way, Jeff was pleased to report about setting plans in October for 150 years celebration of the station with celebratory event over a weekend in October. Advance publicity will start in the Chronicle next issue and build up towards the event.

1631 was not a topic-a numerical error

1632 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions save one from Mrs Falk regarding continuing nuisance from a bird- scarcer on a nearby farmland upsetting some elderly residents in Springfield Road Advice was given on how to try to resolve the matter.

1633 PARISH REPORTS AVAILABLE

Copies of the parish reports for members to see were made available at meeting of Parish Warden and Ranger.

1634 HIGHWAYS GENERAL REPORT

Cllr Gordon indicated that a county Highways officer might be able to attend a future council meeting to go over the plans for the proposed Pedestrian Crossing in Highfield. After a short debate, it was suggested the APM on 16th April might offer a good opportunity. Cllr Gordon is to speak with the highways officer concerned about the grants option & get back to the Chair or parish office to confirm. Other matters concerning the parish grant award for the project still remains undecided with members at this stage. Highways are pressing for decision

ENVIRONMENT

1635 OPEN SPACES & ENVIRONMENT ALLOTMENTS and BUILDINGS

With the allotments, the Deputy Clerk has sent out notices to all plot holders asking them to verify if they wish to keep their plots, deadline to respond 13th February. The office had a site meeting with Mark Carter Ground Work at the end of January to quote for some ploughing and weed killer on the overgrown and possibly now vacant plots. The Office is waiting response from the contractor to give a quote with a plan to do works in the spring.

The Clerk suggested we obtained more quotes for the pathway, and approached HCC for a grant under either P3 (Julian Thornton) or other. Cost estimates so far are to do 65m of 1.4m wide of tarmac and type one pathway taken back to 6" deep with tarmac rolled topping.

1636 COMMON LAND RECREATION LAND & PUBLIC OPEN SPACES

The work Cllr Cook had undertaken on the Pavilion lease issues (to 2021) was carefully considered by council, it was agreed the need to meet with the club and go through the list of facts the list had produced as soon as a joint meeting can be arranged. Clerk was delegated to raise the matter when attending the next meeting of the club later in the month. A working group is set up to deal with this once all parties can agree a joint meeting date in March.

The Clerk updated members on the common's matters with our Section 38 request at PINS for approval. Public consultation is past and we await the outcome. Cllr Nash has promised to try to make early contact with a local farmer on nearby land about a possibility of a flock of hardy breed sheep for grazing there once we have fencing and permission in place.

The debate regarding an application for grants under landfill tax and Lafarge wishing to see local projects thrive. It was clear the plans for fencing were of more immediate importance

and that we could return to the High Street Recreation project later once cost estimates are in place to move or refurbish the area. The Clerk was delegated to begin a grant application towards the fencing on Furze Field via Lafarge and landfill.

1637 HIGHFIELD PARK TRUST

Cllr Barnes spoke about the possible transfer of the play areas to the parish council; he had spoken with the Clerk who had advised a plan could be possibly worked out with SADC co-operation so we don't have disproportionate maintenance costs. No date or time scale for the transfer was being examined yet other than an idea at this stage from HPT trustees.

COMMUNITY REPORTS

1638 COMMUNITY BUS

With time, pressing Cllr Horner gave a brief report.

1639 VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Horner gave his report, the insurance issue was debated, and Cllr Solts added the parish council were correct to have on their insurance as the building is down as a public asset on the audit papers. We could not do any other, it was agreed to keep the property insured by this council. The CHVHC has requested that an extension to the car park on common land can be looked into. The Clerk pointed out that works to common land need to be authorised by the Sec of State. Also there were no plans as yet as to what is proposed, some ground engineering may be required to produce safe levels. It was suggested the CHVHC offer plans and measurements to the council following on from a future CHVHC committee meeting. This council will process the authorisation on delivery of a such a plan as it is on common land registered and in the care of CHPC. Note we have a similar S38 currently running and it might be better to clear this first. S38 applications take a long time.

☛ *At this point, the Chair called the Part II at 9.33pm the following are reports for information from the Clerk of issues important to members but do not form part of a debate or resolution.*

1640 TREASURE TOTS

Cllr Horner did not present his report due to deferment.

1641 ADMINISTRATION-INFORMATION-CORRESPONDENCE-& REPORTING INFORMATION & PARISH REPORTS AVAILABLE IN APPENDIX 2

Members had noted the reports, none of which has any further issues.

1642 CHRISTMAS BISCUITS

Cllr Nash was looking into this but asked for more time to conclude a report members gave their approval to wait for the report.

1643 MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL

Cllr Brazier and the Clerk had a meeting with Lafarge, Rights of Way and others on 20th January regarding trees on the A414. A felling of the poplars will take place in early spring part of which is to prevent fly grazing on that part of land and bridleway. A meeting is to be arranged by Paul Bland on flooding here and London Colney. The Clerk has been in touch with LC over where the venue should be held-here at our parish hall or in LC. Members after debating the issues of a venue agreed that the larger benefit would be in London Colney and deferred to them. Whilst requesting we be advised of detail and the time and venue so those of our residents who wish to can attend. More details will follow by next meeting.

1644 CORRESPONDENCE

Other than issues raised there was no further correspondence to bring to members attention.

1645 PARISH MATTERS OFFICE AND CHRONICLE

The Clerk is meeting with the Editor on 11th February members were asked if any items should go in that might have been overlooked. Cllr Barnes has agreed to do Parish Matters. Publication is expected around first week March with distribution following soon after.

The publisher has requested a small increase due to material costs and after a brief debate, the matter was set aside until the next meeting. Beating of the Bounds will take place at 2pm on 10th May starting from parish office. All welcome, cakes and tea after in community room.

1646 LARKS IN THE PARKS

This is now being organised by Cllr Brazier, he had attended the last organisers meeting with Jo Askam and reported progress to council. The theme this year is an English Country Garden with opportunities for many good ideas. The date is Sunday 26th June and will be held in Roestock Park from 12-5pm. All are welcome to join in and have a great day.

1647 MEMBERS QUESTIONS OR LATE MATTERS

No matters to report this time.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next full council meeting takes place at 7.45pm Thursday 5th March 2015, the Chair thanked everyone for attending. There now begins a Part II.

The meeting closed at-21.30hrs

John Dean



Clerk to the Council

Note-Planning listing is not included in the minutes-please refer to the appendix list

Disclaimer-The Minutes are in draft- format until agreed and approved at the next full council meeting. No facts or expression matters here in any way so noted considered final until the Chair signs the document. Our publication of the minutes are in good faith for public information and should not be taken as a full statement of fact unless properly supported by evidence or documentation-No copies can be taken without the written permission of Chair or Clerk. No electronic scanning or transmission allowed other than by the office or produced on our web site. **NOTE**-Appendices that were already part of the agenda (are not repeated here) -Planning Appendix 1 In addition, Papers for member's attention Appendix 2 available on request to the office