

Colney Heath Parish Council



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27 MAY 2009

CONFIDENTIAL-27th MAY 2009-Part II-(BLUE PAPER)

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PART II SPECIAL FINANCE MEETING HELD AT THE
VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 27th May 2009-7.30pm

Present; - Cllr J Day-Chair- Cllr Cloke-Cllr C Brazier-Cllr P Reeves

Clerk; Mr J E Dean

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1. Apologies Announcements & Declarations

There were apologies given for Cllr Henschley-Cllr Horner-Cllr Crump-Cllr Lewis
There were no matters arising members wished to add this time.

2 The Business of the Part II

This was outlined and explained by the Clerk who reminded members present that confidential matters of pay and employment issues were to be debated and discussed.

3 Way leave Issues at Charles Morris Hall

Cllr Reeves had several points including a statement to bring from residents regarding use of the land strip in Tyttenhanger Green. It seems the varied use of this land strip is not in keeping with the rightful use of parish land in the way it has evolved in recent years. It is also being used as a base for vehicle parking, if not on this site commercial vehicles are left on the road not conducive to a residential area. Cllr Brazier who had previously sought a resolve, but since however it was not working to the satisfaction of all residents. He agreed the issue must be finalised. Cllr Day after debate accepted that a draft letter be seen at the next full council prior to sending. Cllr Brazier & Clerk to prepare. The Clerk said the land should be cleared made secure and newly re-gated with secure locks and be under the total control of the council. The Auditor wanted it included in the asset list and this precluded any commercial or private activities. He also added that some other gate openings directly onto the field had been noted from some other properties. That was not acceptable without council approval onto CHPC land. This was after all community land in trust, as such should be under control of the Parish Council, it was valid to secure the land as a requirement in the asset file. On other way-leave issues the Clerk raised about the commons access road behind the office and High Street that might need member's opinions another time, he had ideas.

4 Legal Action Secretary of State & Nukies Farm

The Clerk requested that a recent offer of costs put to Cllr Brazier and Clerk by e-mail should be approved by the members. Cllr Brazier gave details of a solicitors meeting disclosing the value £9000.00 being put forward to settle the matter and conclude the issue of court costs but likely to increase to another £2000.00 to pursue a legal risk to try and claim more. He and Clerk recommend we settle, it was agreed to accept.

Proposed;- Cllr.P Reeves

Seconded;-Cllr.A Cloke

Other Costs

The ongoing pursuit of other individual court costs owed to CHPC it was agreed to an Inquiry Agent be commissioned to trace key elements of information to allow any carry forward individual costs still owed to this council as part of the overall claim. The reputable and legitimate claim on Legal Aid is likely to be a key factor in any CHPC continuing the action, not being a bottomless pit of costs. Members questioned the individual's assets in being qualified to continuing public funded free law advice. This exposure might show validity of council to challenge and take forward owed legal costs that might be currently being constructively avoided by the individual.

Proposed;- Cllr .J Day

Seconded;-Cllr. P Reeves

5 Treasure Tots

1. The Clerk explained the issues surrounding OFSTED report, Cllr Brazier said it was not a good report if compared with last time. It was agreed that further monitoring via Chair of Pre School Cllr Crump, the Clerk advised about a meeting -11th June 4.30pm with Sue Tranter EYS for further training and tests. It was agreed the T/T matter will be closely monitored to the end of term.
2. Staff had not had any pay rises since 4 years and the Clerk said it was causing some dissention. He asked for 5% now back dated to April and further sum of 5% after autumn term in September. He added the funding costs will be paid in a different way next year after attending a special HCC meeting in March. He also added that we should increase the fees to non funded to £8 at least
3. The Clerk said we need to carry out T/T staff appraisals, he will speak to EYS about this on the 11th June, it is open to Cllr Crump to become involved if able
4. Other issues were briefly debated
5. Clerk advised over the issues of door safety that the committee had accepted at the last meeting, the meeting was attended by Cllr Horner, now Vice Chair.

This part two meeting closed at 9.06 pm


John Dean
Clerk to the Council

MEMBERS CONFIDENTIAL

LETTER COPY-passed by a parishioner to Cllr Reeves wishing to remain in confidence and only for member's attention within Part II. Clerk has re-typed.

Peter

Regarding the Lorries and small trucks which continue to be parked on the path to the community field. I would appreciate the fooling request be made to the Parish Council;-

- 1. No way leave be granted to anyone**
- 2. To install gates at the entrance to the entrance to the path which would stop any vehicles being parked there**
- 3. A sign attached to the gate stating that it is Parish Council Land.**

No signature.