

Colney Heath Parish Council



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13th MAY 2010

MINUTES OF THE COLNEY HEATH- FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD at the Village Hall 83 High Street Colney Heath AL4 0NS St Albans
THURSDAY 13TH May 2010-8.00.pm

Present; - Chair-Cllr D Horner –Vice Chair-Cllr D Crump-Cllr J Day
Cllr C Gowens-Cllr Brazier-Cllr J Henchley.

Clerk; Mr J E Dean

Public Attendance- Mr D Becker-Mrs G Moody- Mr R Stolt-P Barnes K Barnes

1. APOLOGIES -ANNOUNCEMENTS & DECLARATIONS

Apologies from Cllr Cloke-sustained an injury, Cllr Reeves at another meeting, Cllr Brazier at an earlier meeting and attending at 8pm. The earlier ASM Meeting start delayed being not quorate with members not attending and others apologising. The new Chair Cllr Horner elected thanked members for honour and their confidence. He thanked Cllr Henchley for attending after a long spell in hospital, for addressing the council on his retirement decision. He also passed his thanks to Cllr Day past Chair, mentioning we have lost Cllr J Lewis who has resigned from council due to other commitments. He conveyed council thanks to Cllr Lewis for her past work.

2. MINUTES

Minutes of the Full Council-4th March 2010

Proposed by Cllr D Crump

Seconded by Cllr J Day

2.1 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

No matters arising.

3 MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN MAY BRING BEFORE THE COUNCIL

The Chair said members should note that a Part II follows this meeting on various legal and other issues the council must decide upon to-night.

He also noted the changed date due to the General Elections taking place on the same date as our meeting schedule. Having been advised the Clerk that no public meetings may take place at premises used for a Polling Station both this and the June meeting have been rescheduled. The next full council meeting will take place on 13th June now He also added his own tribute we all owed gratitude to the past work and long service of Cllr John Henchley adding his convivial presence will be missed at our meetings. Council fully understood and respected his personal reasons for a making a brave decision to retire from the council making way for another person to come along.

3.1 Review of Rural Transport Grant Plan for High Street & Traffic Calming

Council had received correspondence from Simon Flew about changes to the plan, in particular issues of traffic calming that residents did not wholly agree with. Council support the resident's views and have made clear about revised issues to HHWP.

The Clerk said he will be ordering the two new bus shelters this month now we have the precept in. It is likely the High Street work will take place in August.

3.2 Public Open Space-Gloucester Park-Allotments or Gardens-Highfield

Cllr Gowens reported that up to 9 persons have applied for new allotments, so far all of which are local people. The Clerk explained about general shortage of allotments in the country, how data can be collated by district councils for others waiting on lists.

The water which is a priority needs to be laid before any work is started, the Clerk was waiting for Veolia Water to finalise the quote. He has already asked Mr Paxton to get a quote for the trench and we will lay the pipe to the area designated. The Clerk added preference as to which side of the site was still open for debate, one side has areas of hard standing to utilise for a shed, a water stand pipe and waste composting.

3.3 Legal Issues

Defer to Part II.

3.4 Parish Charter St Albans & District Council

The date for the parish conference is 2nd July at BRS, the Clerk is calling for the members to decide about attending. Cllr D Horner Cllr D Crump, Cllr C Brazier so far have confirmed they will be attending. Clerk and possibly Assistant Clerk also.

If other members can decide as soon as possible so advice on our attendees and any dietary needs can be given to SCADC by the 25th June.

3.5 Barley Mow Lane Pending Closure (Gating Order-Temporary)

General reports indicate not completely resolved with funding matters to deal with.

3.6 Colney Heath Parish Council 2010 Year Events

The APM went off smoothly and Cllr Day thanked the Clerk and Assistant Clerk for the catering, not forgetting Mrs Dean who also helped. Beating of the Bounds was done on 9th May with 23 people, 5 children and various dogs all did the circuit. Lots of sin was found of breaches of by laws on the common! Cllr Crump took notes and photographs. The Clerk wrote a brief report on event to be published in the Chronicle.

The result is the council requested a meeting on 24th May to review the issues some of which are about the common land and will have to be corrected. Obligations under various Acts of Parliament demand the Council seek a resolve, legally if necessary.

The next event is the Larks in the Parks on 20th June, earlier this year. All volunteers must attend the briefing on the safety issues, with the 6 usual volunteering group and councillors we have required target to act as marshals. The 15 piece band has been hired as past and other acts and events supplied by SCADC Festival of Arts Council. Publicity the final information will be on notice boards in June. Cllr Horner added hopefully a good family day out for the parish and blessed with good weather.

Separately Trestle Theatre are holding their own event as well within the parish but arranged direct with SCADC Festival of Arts. Also worth noting and within the parish various family days/events are planned for Highfield Park via the Trust Management.

3.8 Matters of Serious Anti Social Behaviour

No other reports of issues, monthly report was available.

3.9 Oaklands Lane-Area of Land being used for grazing

The residents association (SRA) is resolved in obtaining more details of ownership. Council final decision but generally are in agreement on helping with limited funds.

3.9 School Allocation in Colney Heath

Debate about local JMI feeder issues, Cllr Brazier promised support with a letter.

4. FINANCE-(Clerk & RFO J.E.Dean to report)

Financial Report

The Clerk gave details about our current financial situation & monthly report

4.1 Finance & Accounts

The Clerk handed out copies of council financial statement & excel reports to each member;-April & May 2010 expenditure including HMCR in April-£7908.01 & Vat £198.18-May -£8450.54 & VAT £65.43 Clerk explained the details and answered member's questions or queries.

Proposed by Cllr J Day

Seconded by Cllr D Crump

4.2 Investments & Banking Matters

The Clerk past reported current banking situation regarding quite poor investment percentages currently on offer for short term investments. Explaining how the parish funds are now converted into a special Nat West loyalty Savings recommended by the bank Manager with monthly access and draw-downs possible for us without a penalty but sufficient to feed regular cash flow expenditure.

4.3 Progress of VAT

This next claim for 2009-10 is to be processed by shortly for submission.

4.4 Other Financial Matters

The Clerk confirmed the receipt of the Precept and could now pay the grant aid.

4.5 Audit Approval 2009-10

The Audits papers and report were approved in council and duly signed by Chair of Finance Cllr J Day. The Clerk will now write documents and enclosures to submit by required deadline this month to BDO Stoy Hayward LLP.

Proposed Cllr D Horner

Seconded Cllr D Crump

4.5-1 Notices to Inspect

Legal notices are out for inspection.

4.6 Estimates of Various External Ground Works for approval

Defer-Again reported outstanding works-some held over to next financial year.

This concerning works to renew posts on the Common and at the car park area in Roestock Park. Important works not to be overlooked, but with current costs and commitments it is decided to retain the plans and defer into next municipal year.

4.7 Charles Morris Recreation Area-Ditching works

Clerk reported having met Damian Higgins & Mr J Page owner of property and HCC land agent on site regarding this council's goodwill action against any flooding risk to properties-at Charles Morris Hall recreation area. Mr Paxton is to do works with hired digger. HCC Details to follow. The meeting concluded action and discussion with the Oaklands land agent pending.

4.8 Requests for Grant Aid Charles Morris Hall

Council approved with proviso that CMH meets two thirds of cost with support from other grants CMH will secure, totalling £6515 and CHPC meets £2172 one third of the cost. Works are to be carried out by Safe & Sound with project managed via the Council and details approved by council prior to any start.

4.9 Parish Vacancy

The Clerk stated that notices will go out during w/c 24th May for 21 days. Cllr Gowens introduced a candidate sitting in the public area who is considering standing for the impending vacancy-a Mr Russell Stolt of Church Croft.

5 PLANNING

Planning Applications-since last meeting-as-& at 01.05.10-listed;-

The Weekly list of planning applications from St Albans City and District Council with members to consider comments collated by the District Planning Applications Members noted the comments made in each case and offer any additional planning comments if applicable or to be forwarded after this meeting to SCADC

Planning List received

Printed list circulated to all members;-

As sent	From SCADC	
	Weekly lists	Circulated to members

Major Development *See Bold Type.*

5-1 Planning Applications:

As listed below and received up to the date of this agenda publication-**bold= topical**;-

Number	Address	Application	Decision/Recommendation
5/10/0341	4 Smallford Lane	Two storey side extension	No objections
5/09/2362	67 Colney Heath Lane	Single storey rear extension	No objections
5/10/0404	72 Firwood Avenue	Garage (retrospective)	No objections
5/10/0426	6 Church Croft	Conversion of front canopy to porch	No objections
5/10/0310	50 Starlight Way	Rear conservatory	No objections
5/10/0425a	1 Alban Park	Display of five internally illuminated fascia signs, one detached double-sided totem advertisement comprising eight non-illuminated signs and nine internally illuminated poster boxes	Opposes – Illuminated signs are wrong in a green belt! We continue to oppose them but you continue to ignore us and allow them, yet you oppose modest extensions in this area using the Green Belt policy. Where is the consistency?
5/10/0339	Units W1 and W2 Lyon	Demolition of existing	No objections

	Way	building and replacement 2 st building & alterations to parking layout	
5/10/0239	57 Puddingstone Drive	Single storey rear extension including the insertion of roof lights	No objections
5/10/0486	24 Puddingstone Drive	Demolition of garage and erection 2st side ext and hard standing to rear	No objections- But concerns over loss garage. Is land capable of space -2 cars parking off road.
5/10/0511	Colney Heath Service Station	2.4m high mesh panel security fence to replace existing 1.8m high chain link fence/timber fence	No objections
5/20/0512	145 Colney Heath Lane	Two storey side extension and front entrance porch	No objections
5/10/0726	500a Hatfield Rd	First Floor extension	No objections
5/10/0757	4 Ivory Close	Garage conversion to create additional habitable accommodation and erection of part single, part 2st rear extension including roof light	No objections
5/10/0864	Rear of Rainbow Garage North Orbital Rd	Change of use from Class B2 to class suit generic and demolition of existing and erection of two storey garage and workshop building	The site is already industrial and on large ground area-no objections
5/10/0690	The Honey Pots 500 Hatfield Rd	First floor front extension, first floor rear extension, single storey side and rear extension, garage conversion, enlargement of existing chimney and alterations to openings	Are the officers satisfied that the previous reasons for refusal have been addressed? If not refusal should be the only decision on this application and we will support the officers.
5/10/0744	94 Tollgate Rd	First floor rear extension	No objections
5/10/0820	28 Maslen Road	Single storey side and rear extension with rooflights and loft conversion with two rear dormer windows	No objections
5/10/0961	The Hyde Bungalow, Sleepshyde	Two single storey detached dwellings following demolition of existing dwelling	Same comment as S10/0990/CA
5/10/0930	72 Firwood Avenue	Garage retrospective	No objections
5/10/0990ca	The Hyde Bungalow, Sleepsyde	Conservation Area Consent – Demolition of existing bungalow and garage	No objections-property is fairly dilapidated now and re-build will improve area visual aspect

Note items with Listed Building Status are noted with suffix LB after the plan no- e.g 5/07/000LB

Application 5/10/0930 & 05/10/0990ca

Some debate on various matters and finer points put forward by members, Cllr Crump on the issue of two dwellings replacing one and GB issues, Cllr C Brazier was to take forward. The resolve was no objections remain. It was also noted a conservation area

SCADC General Applications List (District) Circulated to all members.

Land at The Dak Colney Heath Lane

Members debated issues of this site-in OPP consideration. (David Lane Associates)

2 Pitt Drive

Debated application by Kingswood Design-

LDF and Core Framework Strategy-Shaping our Community

No further reports arrived yet or debate to continue.

THE FUTURE OF HERTFORDSHIRE WASTE

Documents and consultations noted-no further reports or debate

5-2 Planning Approvals

As listed since last meeting

Number	Address	Application	SCADC Decision
5/09/2450	7 Lynch Court	Part single part two storey side extension including rear dormer window and rear rooflight	Planning Permission
5/09/1958	Smallford Trial Site	Extension of time limit for implementation of planning permission for the demolition of existing buildings and structures and erection of thirteen dwellings and open space	Planning Permission
5/10/0057	30 Highfield Lane	Two storey side extension and roof alterations	Planning Permission
5/10/0201	55 Russet Drive	Variation of condition 3 of planning permission for a two storey rear extension to include roof alterations and two roof lights	Planning Permission
5/09/2492	23 High Street	Rear conservatory	Planning Permission
5/09/2362	67 Col Heath Lane	Single storey rear extension	Planning Permission
5/10/426	6 Church Croft	Conversion of front canopy to porch	Planning Permission
5/10/0045	Andrew & Suter Ltd	Reconfiguration of existing internal layout at ground floor and mezzanine level, insertion of windows and fire exit, and partial redecoration cladding	Planning Permission

See Attached Sheet for Planning Approvals- Appendix above.

5.3 Refusals and Appeals- Enforcement Notices

5/10/0282	23 Roestock Gardens	Demolition of existing detached garage and erection of single storey side extension, including the insertion of four roof lights and part single, part two storey rear extension, including the insertion of one roof light	Planning Refusal
5/10/0341	4 Smallford Lane	Two storey side extension	Planning Refusal

5.3-1 Appeals

Appeal P/APP/05/08/2483-Land Smallford Nurseries Hatfield Road –appeal against SCADC refusal to planning permission of new building in Green Belt.

5.3-2 Enforcement Appeal Notices

APP/B1930/C/09/2104156-601 Hatfield Road-served 01/06/09

Use extension-intensification and design of outbuildings used as Vet practice in GB-is this resolved.

Street Naming -Corrys End-Off Tollgate Road was accepted and approved.

OTHER TOPICAL ITEMS FOR INFORMATION-following

5-4 Strategic or Planning issues or referred to ODPM/Secretary of State-SEERA

No further detail-kept on this time re SCADC options on housing growth-see LDF.

5.4.1 Govt announcement IPC-Infrastructure Planning Commission

Government to change the planning rules for major infrastructure applications

5.5 The Planning Inspectorate Bristol-Regional Strategy Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation in the East of England-Final Policies.

District Council wish to see a more even distribution of extra pitches to other districts

5.5-1 BA Stanstead Airport Noise Action Appeal

Various notices past received from ACTION GROUP-members may wish to note.

5.5-2 Helioslough Rail-Freight Terminal-SRFI-Park Street/London Colney

Outcome of Legal Challenges and Public Inquiry due by June 2010.

5-6 Planning Monitoring

Matters the Clerk may wish to inform or members have reports to bring if applicable

Air Quality-(Contained in HHC report)

Landfill & Quarry-Next Lafarge Meeting to be advised

Minerals & Waste -New suggested plans to build incinerator on land near Shenley.

5.7 Smallford Station Preservation order

Clerk and Cllr Horner unable to enter site over safety issues.

5.8 Section 106 Money to be used in Colney Heath

The debate centred on the section 106 list and what was on it. Cllr Gowens seeks some assurance the Highfield Crossing is on list, Cllr Brazier is convinced it remains. Conjecture, highways officer is not so sure, we will ask next HHWP Meeting 1st June.

OTHER TOPICAL ITEMS FOR INFORMATION-following

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment for SCADC

Details of legal challenge noted

London Green Belt Council

Cllr Crump-is parish representative.-any reports

Harlow North Any new issues noted.

New Barnfield Waste Site

Reminders and e-mails from MP Grant Schapps noted.

The remaining debate examined the thoughts of members relative to the change in Coalition Government and if the planning and infrastructure will be a casualty. This will have considerable impact in the district if many of the imposed housing targets on GB land and other Quangos such as SEERA and past unpopular Labour Government plans for imposing unwanted sites, airport expansions are abolished or abandoned in this area. It may also affect the Stanstead and Harlow North issue as well.

6 COMMONS OPEN SPACES & PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

The written reports were considered of:-

6-1 Parish Warden Report

Report was available to members at the meeting including village works.

6-2 Parish Commons Ranger Report

Comments noted

6-3 Parish Gardner and Tennis Courts Attendant Reports

Spring plants doing well and gardens beginning to look good.

6-4 Church & Graveyard Keepers work/time sheet

No further reports, Cllr Horner said he observed the employee was doing good work. He was careful in his approach to wild flowers and preserving natural species.

6-5 CHPC Grass Cutting Contract

Grass contract continuing and no further reports. We are maintaining Gloucester Park cutting regime until allotments works goes ahead later.

6-6 Commons-Works -Grazing & Stewardship & River Colne p reeves

Both Cllr Brazier and Clerk spoke about the promised road planings with Lafarge at the meeting on 11th May. We were asked to confer with Mike Pendock outside the meeting who is still catching up with past pledges made.

6 -7 Footpaths P3 and Rights of Way-Bridleways-BOAT-RUPP F/path 44 and 23

No reports

6.8 Access Track on Common

Separate issue in Part II

6.9 OPEN SPACES Play & Recreation Areas. CHPC land or playing fields

At the request of members this heading will appear in the "6" category of the agenda each time and listed as herewith-comments if applicable will be noted & subsequently in the minutes of each meeting if a debate or comment is received or tabled.

- 1. High Street Play Area;-** No Reports
- 2. Community Park;-**New dog bin installed but causing problems with wedding photos being possible to avoid in frame shots. Clerk to move to another place.
- 3. Roestock Park;-**Work remains-to do after parish year end-Requires new waste bin and gate returning to hinges RP to do also Basket Ball net and return of goal is requested by Cllr Crump. Cost £400 a decision to purchase a single fixed goal or moveable to be made. Theft problem possible if mobile.
- 4. Gloucester Park;-**Cllr Gowens reported.
- 5. Sleapshyde Recreation Area;-**Cllr Reeves wants railings painted. RP asked to do with quick drying paint asap. RP to do & reminded-job still outstanding.
- 6. Charles Morris Play Area;-**New Wendy house quote sought from Safe & Sound to go in small space between swings/frame-CMH need to secure grant. Members past debated the details asking for more information from CMH
- 7. Harvesters & Smallford Dog Walk;-**No reports other than past suggestion of swap idea to other open space- if it becomes available-made by Cllr Reeves.
- 8. Smallford Pond & Triangle;-**no reports-near time for hedge cutting.
- 9 Play areas -Highfield Park Estate/Area-(There are 4)**
Clerk to do-council may consider about plans for funding new equipment required in the future. Clerk rescheduled appointment with HPT-Anna Cohen.

7 HIGHWAYS-TRANSPORT-FOOTPATHS AND VERGES

7.1 Highways Maintenance improvements local Roads or major routes

Notice received resurfacing of High Street is to take place over half term.

PETITION-PARKING IN HIGH STREET

A petition from residents 96-106 High Street was sent direct to the District Council regarding parking problems in the cul de sac off the High Street near school and entrance to Recreation Area and Football. We have not had any resolve so far. .

7-2 Paths and Access-and verge ditch works attached or adjacent to Highways

No reports.

7.2-1 OTHER HIGHWAY MATTERS

Safety Issue-Nicholas Breakspear School

Complaints referred to local police regarding coaches mounting the pavement when parking outside the school. No reports on resolve.

HCC Road Traffic Orders Past Received-(important to retain information)

Details copied to members of latest lists circulated to members and on Notice board

Rural Transport Grant for-High Street & Tollgate Road Improvements

Previously noted this is a main topic reported elsewhere.

Colney Heath Traffic Calming Petition

No further reports on the petition Clerk still unsure if in existence.

Adoption of Roads-Abysmal performance of Herts Highways

Ongoing issues and remains unsatisfactory-Still not completely resolved with HCC.

Improving the Visible Street Scene

Application for a grant was awarded-need input from members before grant expires

Cycle Way round about Colney Heath

A topic to remain under review also connected to S106 money.

HGV in Wilkins Green Lane

Resident's complaints remain unresolved about misdirected HGV's letter sent to HHWP and SCADC requesting better signs. This needs resolving permanently.

7.2-2 TRAFFIC ORDERS

Recent copies of any traffic orders circulated to members.

7.3 Path Access Verge and Ditch issues Highfield

No further reports.

7.4 Tollgate Road VAS Speed Cameras-and Highfield Area

All agreed needs SCADC conclusion of S106 monies.

7.5 M25 Widening started summer 2008 remaining into 2010

No further reports.

7-6 Transport and Community Friday Shopping Bus

Cllr Horner said he was still looking for more volunteer drivers having lost two who have stopped being available. One Friday bus per month might be a problem to run in not being able finding a crew.

7-7 Long –About A414

No further reports.

7.8 Highway Warning Signs & Mandatory Signs

Noted and suggest keeping as a reminder

7.9 Adoption of Roads in Hertfordshire

Reported earlier -Independent councillor continues to campaign

PUBLIC QUESTIONS -Item 8

No public questions this time.

9 COUNCIL BUILDINGS-ORGANISATIONS & TRUSTEE MATTERS

9-1 High Street Recreation Area & CHFC meetings

The poplar tree issue remains with need to ascertain funding following report.
Cllr Brazier and Clerk have said this might not be easily possible in this parish year
The costs might have to be spread due to high cost and funding issues. New light will
need priority once club has excavated trench this should be done before autumn.

9-2 Treasure Tots Pre-School.

A short report on the staffing and operational matters was made by Cllr Crump.

9-3 Village Hall Committee

Report of May meeting available.

9-4 Charles Morris Hall & Council owned Field & Access

Defer Part II

9-5 Highfield (Community) Park & Trustees

With Cllr Reeves attending meeting elsewhere a report was not available.

9-6 Other local Buildings/Organisations-Guides Scouts-Harvesters/other

No reports this time

9-7 Youth Organisations Locally & Youth Council

No reports this time. Staff availability is a county wide problem.

9.8 Sheltered Housing-Review Newsletter

SCADC Publications are available regularly every two weeks in the office.

9.9 Residents Associations.

Highfield Park Residents Association-HPR

No reports.

Barley Mow Lane Residents Safety Group

Reported elsewhere

Smallford Residents Association

No reports but past issue where residents continue to have concerns about the field.
Again CHPC have agreed to pay for LR when enough evidence is forthcoming.

Other residents associations

Opportunity to have your comments raised at council meeting-contact the office

10 COMMUNITY REPORTS-Members reports Outside Bodies and reports from Committees and other Organisations

10-1 Fly Tipping Reports

Copies of reports available to members-new BML info-reports to be passed to Clerk

10-2 Police and Community Matters-Police Ward Meeting & ASB List

Recent Police Meeting on 11th May was poorly attended.

10-3 Twinning

Twining grant paid ahead of trip.

10-4 Reports from Members or attending other meetings

No reports

Lafarge Liaison Meeting

Lafarge-next meeting will be at Colney Heath on 12th October.

10.5 Flood & Environment Agency Reports

No reports

10.5 Fairs Festivals and local/or Community events

St Albans Arts and Festival 2010-Details circulated to all councillors of the events calendar 11th June 27th July 2010.

Amer Fair on the Common from 7th-11th May fee £150 paid. The Clerk checked all Showman's Guild licences and Insurances and a notice was published for the stay.

12 OPERATIONAL MATTERS

With the limited time left no reports this meeting.

12-1 Staff and Office Matters

General matters reported.

12-3 Notice Boards and Signs & Bus Shelters

No reports

12-4 Commons & Licences- Easements or Wayleaves

Past reported in March Minutes, a meeting was scheduled for 24th May at 10.30am.

12.5 Publicity, Web Site & Chronicle

Next issue is summer Chair speech included-next edition due out by June 1st.

This meeting closed at 9.54 pm where a PartII followed


John Dean
Clerk to the Council

Copies available on the parish web-site;-Note no responsibilities accepted for errors typos or mistakes or statements until approved by council @ May 13 Mtg-Published-24 May / 2010 © Jed/full-CHPC- mins May 10-@ 24.05/10-No copies to be made or alterations without permission of Clerk-file-CHPCMINS-MONTH-FULL-MAY-2010-11-DOCS FILE-MINS & stick 1-Daia Shure -FILE-JED-CHPC MINS-13 MAY 2010-MSW-& TRANSFER BLUE STICK- Word count -4040-11. pages- E&OE-