

Colney Heath Parish Council



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12TH MAY 2011

MINUTES OF THE COLNEY HEATH-FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD at the Village Hall 83 High Street Colney Heath St Albans -on

THURSDAY 12TH MAY 2011-7.30.pm

Present; - Chair-Cllr D Crump -Cllr C Gowens Vice Chair-Cllr D Horner
Cllr R Solts-Cllr W Huckle and one Vacancy

Clerk; Mr J E Dean
Assistant Clerk Mrs K Parker-Mead

Public Attendance- Mr D Becker-Mrs G Moody.

100. APOLOGIES -ANNOUNCEMENTS & DECLARATIONS

Apologies received from-Cllr Day Cllr Brazier -Cllr Barnes on holiday or attending meetings at the District Council. No declarations-No other matters to announce.

101. MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD 3RD MARCH 2011

The minutes of the Full Council Meeting 3rd March 2011 were approved.

Proposed by; -Cllr R Solts

Seconded by; - Cllr D Horner

102. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MINUTES

Cllr Solts had one issue, he had past rightly made a declaration over a planning issue at no 2 Housefield Way during the 3rd March meeting which had not been written in or noted in the minutes. The Clerk apologised for missing the note and agreed he did remember Cllr Solts had correctly done so and had already declared on the issue.

Is noted as correction- Cllr R Solts made a full declaration on Application 5/11/0021

103 URGENT OR IMMEDIATE MATTERS TO BRING BEFORE COUNCIL

The Clerk reminded members we have started a new agenda and minutes format and the document will look different. In future the agendas will look different and should contain adequate briefing or proposals. The Clerk had listed several issues so the meeting could continue on other matters Chair Cllr Crump then brought to members attention. He added the past serving council members now left A Cloke and P Reeves are formally thanked for their public service.

104 POLICE OFFICER CHANGES & STATION CLOSURE

It was noted Sgt Mark Andrews was leaving the area and taking a new post within Herts Police HQ. Members expressed thanks for his service to the parish and help in resolving a number of long outstanding issues. It does leave the issue of the gating order in Barley Mow Lane still in abeyance. The Clerk to ask the Editor of Chronicle for an article on his service to the parish. Closure of London Colney Police Station is planned on or before 1st June. A new station room facility is being set up at the Sainsbury's at Savacentre-recently announced. CHPC have past suggested it might consider the use of a police facility here within the parish if a place can be found.

105 FINANCE POLICY & RESOURCES

The Clerk reported on several financial issues-

Approval of the cheques for April £19202.00 and May £9887.88 expenditure was agreed;-

Proposed Cllr Solts

Seconded Cllr Crump

Members were informed the two totals combined were in line with monthly forecasts.

The Clerk advised members that some grant aid payments to Twinning and CHFC for the building grant were to be paid and amongst the cheques approved.

The Clerk reported the CHFC changing rooms thermostatic valves have ceased to work correctly and it is essential we replace. Estimates were approved for works via the club person who was also plumbing contractor, therefore is favourably saving some labour costs. The two quotes came in at £660 and £919.00.

Proposed by; - Cllr D Horner

Seconded by;-Cllr W Huckle

Cllr Solts wanted a check on the reserves balance to ensure we were not at risk in the current banking situation of guarantee up to £50,000. The Clerk to check and report.

106 PLANNING

With the absence of Cllr Brazier to explain more fully the applications and decisions the separate planning list on green paper was briefly reviewed.

106 PLANNING APPLICATION & APPROVALS or REFUSALS LIST

Amongst applications a letter from an agricultural firm seeking our consultation regarding an Anaerobic waste treatment to energy facility on Coursers Farm. It is not clear if the use is for the farm or intended to import other animal waste involving transport. Acknowledgment letter has been sent from CHPC. The equipment firm are offering to attend a meeting to explain.

There was some debate on the new proposals for "Planning on Line" and how CHPC can produce adequate public information after paper plans cease. Clerk & Assistant reported their involvement with SADTPC campaigning to get some equipment from the District Council. The next meeting 31st May will be attended by Assistant Clerk.

107 TRAVELLERS AND PLANNING

Members agreed to the advice from Debenhams Ottaway to engage QC to write on our behalf towards the consultation from Secretary Of State Eric Pickles over this issue affecting many local authorities. The deadline 9th May for responses with our cost limitation to £1200.00 maximum.

108 OAKLANDS DEVELOPMENT

A controversial issue locally with resident's campaign- the plans are redrawn and are in contravention to GB policies. Cllr Brazier has past explained the issues, noted that SCADC have given the go ahead.-Check with Chris.

109 CERDA PLANNING

A firm who sent a letter (circulated) offering planning services-noted.

110 NICHOLAS BREAKSPEAR-PLANNING APPLICATION-

Residents do not agree with counter arguments put forward by developers.

111 STREET NAMES-BT TRIAL SITE

The council sought our approval for the naming the BT Trail site which will be 1-13 Pasture View.-New homes to be built on site formerly a training centre.

112 RADLETT INCENERATOR PROPOSALS

This was noted over the proposal in media and local speculation to build a private operation at Harper Lane-lots of opposition expected

113 HIGH STREET CAR WASH-5/2010/2903

Members noted the e-mails from residents aggrieved by the continuing issues-pending application decision SCADC due shortly. CHPC have past raised concerns on change of use to this site and detailed several issues of planning policy.

114 SMALLFORD NURSURIES

Seeking approval, nothing heard yet from PINS (Information Service of Planning Inspectorate-at Bristol-Home page & guidance on planning inquiries etc)

115 COMMONS OPEN SPACES RIGHTS OF WAY & ALLOTMENTS

Lead member Cllr Gowens gave a brief report on the success of the allotments, some chasing of holders with so far undeveloped plot, but most were flourishing with the growing plants. A water main not yet completed by VEOLIA the Clerk has been sending e-mails but it is proving challenging to get a sensible response. Cllr Gowens is satisfied the temporary water supply is saving everyone money and VEOLIA losing any revenue Cllr Gowens reported concern at vehicles going on the site via footpath suggesting a form of barrier might be required. The Clerk has researched a secure post type (Rhino) that recesses into the ground with solid features about £450 plus fitting.

116 ALBAN WAY

After the consultation the suggestion by owners to allow Horses was briefly debated. A letter in support has been received, whilst recognising the possible use by horses the council could not write in support as part of mixed use if SCADC decided against The Clerk was asked to seek clarity from the head of leisure and open spaces before any letters of CHPC support are sent.. The decision of council needs to enlist views of other stakeholders.

117 COMMONS

The Ranger and Warden reports are available to members. The clerk has estimates out for weed wiping the hawthorn on the common via a firm recommended by CMS and Sentry Farms, it is urgent work and needs attention soon..

A willow tree has fallen in high winds across the river; responsibility will probably be the riparian owner-CHPC. At this stage it is not causing danger to water flow as the trunk bridges the two banks. Mr Paxton has agreed to cut it up and clear away with help on transport to remove. We might need to look at waste legislation on this. The Warden reported and photographed a works vehicle possibly connected to M25 works regularly using the Warren Track to park. The firm have been contacted and asked to dissuade the driver as it is our land with no parking over 6 hours allowed.

118 RUBBISH BINS ON HIGH STREET

Cllr Huckle mentioned difficulty in access to the rubbish bin since the garden planters have been installed. Hilary Brazier reported theft of plants from the new planters

119 HIGHWAYS TRANSPORT-FOOTPATHS VERGES

The VAS in Tollgate Road remains an unresolved issue, CHPC have reserved a budget to part fund the stumbling bloc is permission and agreement from Highways.

120 LONGABOUT

Cllr Brazier has put forward a written suggestion to Herts Highways Partnership to have double roundabout configuration as a replacement to reduce the speed and make it easier to exit from the feeder roads-Station Road-High Street- Colney Heath Lane since the fatal accident in March.

121 TRANSPORT PLAN-HCC PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The consultation invited all parish councils to respond. We continue to campaign to better and more frequent services and after 6pm and week ends.

122 HIGH STREET ROAD WORKS

Cllr Brazier had informed the Clerk of a number of complaints regarding start and finishing times and changes to traffic notices. He has relayed this to HHWP.

123 BUS SHELTERS

The Clerk informed members the position change of the Wistlea Crescent shelter was wrong, HHWP were supposed to place it on the newly created platform but had put it on the base at the Richardson Place side. The Clerk suggested it be left as passengers are likely to have more requirements to go to the City than get on towards the end of the route at Wistlea Crescent. The two new High Street shelters will be delivered and positioned by mid June. The Clerk also reported the damage to the base at the Queens Head end by the fair. It was agreed to charge them £150 towards the cost of rebuilding the levels. The Clerk needs to discuss the promised claim on HHWP for the original works with Cllr Brazier, an agreed refund of some costs is promised

124 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No questions

125 COUNCIL OWNED BUILDINGS-HALLS & TRUSTEE MATTERS

Various issues debated.

126 LAND ISSUE AT CMH RECREATION AREA

The Clerk is to meet soon with legal advisors, a letter has been sent.



127 HIGHFIELD PARK TRUST-LEAD MEMBER

The changes in Highfield Trustee position with CHPC Mr Peter Reeves is replaced by Cllr R Solts as trust representative, the Clerk to advise HPT about Cllr Solts elected lead member as Mr Reeves can no longer represent CHPC in parish issues having left the council membership. However Mr Reeves continues a registered Board Trustee.

128 PAVILLION BUILDING-LEASED TO CHFC

The essential repairs were reported in Finance. Cllr Solts made a plea for more local contractors to be given opportunities to quote for electrical works. The reason for our engaging the current preferred contractors was given and gained a degree of support as to the past reasons of a difficult building and past statutory safety reports. Cllr Solts asked for a copy of the lease, the Clerk search the archives and will forward a copy.

129 COMMUNITY REPORTS & OUTSIDE BODIES

The Clerk reminded members of the need to decide and formalise our representations.

130 COMMUNITY BUS

Lead member Cllr Horner explained we have decided on a new bus and time, in order to save the procedure of changing seats and travel to Marshalswick. The new bus will be hired from London Colney which will be easier, the day changed to Thursdays in future. He has also obtained a standard V641 & PSV 372 passenger licence through the parish office and Clerk is in process of obtaining a community disabled badge to make parking easier.

131 HCC ENVIRONMENT & WASTE

A report from the District Council to encourage more recycling was noted.

132 SCADC APPLICATION FOR LORD MAYOR STATUS

The District council have consulted all parish councils, along with other community organisations to support the request as part of the Queens Diamond Jubilee Awards in 2012. The date of 2nd June 2012 will be a significant event with a bank holiday being suggested. Perhaps early reminder about the possible celebrations & street parties.

133 TREASURE TOTS

Cllr Horner was voted on as new the Chair/Lead Member and gave a brief prepared report; adding new Deputy Manager is settling in and making progress. Council wished to register thanks to Cllr Brazier on his providing £2000 from his Community Budget at HCC to provide up to three new qualifying places at Oaklands on nursery training for staff. The Secretary said the numbers are average but we have to respond to the new funding arrangements in HCC for our allocation towards the pre school education grant. We have also one special needs requirement for a child attending. A one to one bank staff assistant has been taken on to look after one special child. Cllr Horner said a vote of thanks should go to past Chair of T/Tots Cllr Crump since 2004.

134 FRANCIS BACON-CHANGES

Changes noted in a letter sent to CHPC consultation out until 28th June- do members have any comments to put forward. Please advise office.

135 LATE BUSINESS OR OTHER MATTERS

Fly tipping log available to members

Anti Social Behaviour list available

Rangers Report-May

Wardens Report-May

Parish Gardener Report-May

Graveyard Gardens Keeper Hours worked received-this month on leave to 10/06/11

Smallford Station-Clerk has past made suggestions to council-it requires further debate to decide a CHPC strategy. The building is clearly at risk. It would make great parish office!

136 NATIONAL CENSUSES

The Clerk said we have received a letter of thanks for providing the room at the village hall for about 5 or 6 times over past month for the officers to meet and plan the local Census here-CHPC underwrote cost of £10 after VHMC reduced the rate.

137 CHRONICLE-PARISH MAGAZINE

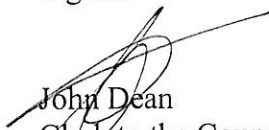
The Clerk reported he was meeting shortly with Editor regarding the next issue due out early June, reminding members of parish matters and any other content.

The meeting with Mr Rodway to look at content and web site management has been put back to July meeting because of half term.

In summing up and closing the meeting the Chair said about the proposed changes to agenda and minutes adding we should not forget the other matters on past agenda's and minutes. It was with all members in deciding ding to bring forward any past issues or other matters we have not fully dealt with at past meetings. If an item is to go on the agenda the Office/Clerk needs notifying 5 days before the meeting date. He also reminded the Annual Beating of the Bounds Ceremony takes place on Sunday 22nd May all welcome to participate. Start 2pm from the Villager Hall.

The meeting closed promptly at 10.00 pm

Signed


John Dean
Clerk to the Council

Signed-approvedChair

Dated.....

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File-CHPC-MINS-MONTH-FULL-MAY-2011-12-DOCS FILE-MINS & stick 1+ D/Share- Word count -2477- 6. Pages- E&OE-

John Dean
9/6/11