

PLEASE BRING TO MEETING
ON 11 JULY 2001

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Colney Heath Parish Council held at the Village Hall, High Street, Colney Heath, on Wednesday 13 June 2001.

PRESENT

Cllr C Brazier (In the Chair)
Cllr D Crump
Cllr Mrs G Cloke
Cllr D Clarke
Cllr Mrs H Falk
Cllr S Ellis

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Alan Cloke - 43 Cutmore Drive
Ms G Moody - Greenleas, Roestock Lane
Mr D Becker - 95 High Street
Maureen Butler - 21 Roestock Gdns
E Williamson - 27 Park Lane
Margaret Nash - 26 Park Lane
Corrine Nash - 26 Park Lane
Mary Kelleher - 37 Knowles Cres. Welham Green
County Councillor Mrs Rosie Sanderson
Kate Maltby - CMS
Debra Mayhew - Clerk to the Council
APOLOGIES- Cllr A Thomas, Cllr J Day

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON AGENDA

None

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held 16 May 2001 and the AGM were taken as read, and signed as a true record.

4. CHAIRMAN'S SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

5. URGENT BUSINESS

5.1 Tyttenhanger Notice Board - Builders working at the site have taken the board down. The Clerk asked Royce to remove and store in the air raid shelter for safety. The Council asked for the Clerk to investigate a new site at CMH with Peter Scott.

6. SPECIAL & NEW BUSINESS

1

6.1 Secondary Schools Transfer - The Council advised the Clerk to Lobby the County Council & the Minister of Education. Cllr Rosie Sanderson would like to receive a copy.

6.2 Foot and Mouth Epidemic - The Common is now open but some footpaths remain closed adjacent to livestock.

6.3 Parking Problems High St Colney Heath - Cllr Cloke reported on developments. The Clerk will write to Ron Felman of the highway agency for his comments from the site visit with Cllr Cloke.

6.4 Three Valley Water Update - Re-instatement has been done. Concerns have been raised over state of turf. The Clerk is getting TVW to lay more turf & members of the Methodist Chapel have offered to water it.

6.6 Compensation for soiled clothes - Cllrs noted the claim has been referred to Zurich Insurance Co. to settle.

6.7 Signing of Hazardous Sites - Councillors had no comment & asked the Clerk to write to acknowledge the letter and ask to be kept updated.

6.8 Resignation of Gardener - The clerk has received a letter of resignation from Mr W Huckle. The Council resolved to accept the resignation & asked the Clerk to write to Mr. Huckle acknowledging his letter of resignation and thanking him for his good service. The post of gardener is to be advertised on the parish notice boards and in the Herts Advertiser.

6.9 WRVS Request for funding - The Council resolved not to give a donation because it is not in the 2001-02 budget. The Council asked the Clerk to write to inform this and advise it can be considered for inclusion in next year's budget by reapplying in November.

FINANCE

7.1 Parish Council Accounts

Members received copies of all emergency and current accounts. The meeting **RESOLVED** that the Chairman's action in authorising the signing, out of meeting, of all emergency cheques be confirmed and that cheques be drawn to cover all current accounts. The emergency cheque for £1000.00 deposit on carpet for CMH was agreed.

7.2 Charity of Charles Morris for Allotments:-Accounts

Debra Mayhew, as Honorary Clerk to the Trustees, presented an up to date financial Report. The Council adjourned any decision until the next meeting on the use of the money by the CMH Committee for the improvement work. The tax was not received until after the agenda was finalised and so the item was not on the June agenda.

7.3 Audit 2000-01 Problems - The Clerk has spent the past month trying to balance the bank account figures with the books and prepare the audit statements. A number of errors in the books occurred during April/May 2000. In the income book there were duplicate entries in May for income of £13685.00 for a grant plus omitting some direct debits for

the football club income from April. In the expenditure book there was an omission to put in the first 2 cheques in April and one DD. The books still show a discrepancy of £49.99 but this maybe a C/F from the 1999/2000 summary where £50.00 is adjusted but the reason unknown. Therefore the Clerk suggested adjusting the total in the books. The draft Audit papers have been given to the Chair for review and emailed to the Auditors to ask for their advise and help in finalising the statements of accounts, at an additional cost.

8.

PLANING

8.1 Planning Applications

Councillors considered comments collated by Planning Applications Officer as circulated since the last meeting.

5/01/0766 Redhall Roestock Lane Colney Heath St Albans
Erection of ten houses with access road and parking (outline)
Members strongly object to this application on the grounds that the site is in the Green Belt and any development would affect the rural nature of the location. The development is too high in density & access to the site is unsuitable due to being a 'T' road.
5/01/0684 Former NHS Stores Hill End Lane St Albans
Member's question why the number of houses planned for this site has increased from 36 to 40. They are also concerned about the lack of amenities such as shops, medical centre and most of all schools as this Parish is already lacking spaces for its children at their nearest school. A reminder of the Councils objections is to be sent to the DC.

5/01/0698 18 St Barts Close Conservatory
No objection
5/01/0737 6 Princess Diana Drive St Albans Conservatory
No objection.
5/01/0738 2 Grafton Close St Albans Conservatory
No objection
5/0768AB Oaklands College, Oaklands Campus Hatfield Rd St Albans
Prior approval - extension to agricultural building
No objection in principle
5/01/0772 102 Hill End Lane St Albans
Two-storey side, single storey front and rear extn.
No objection.
5/01/0885 10 Manston Way St Albans
Elevational alterations and use of garage as store. No objection
5/01/0887 100 Hill End Lane St Albans Conservatory
No objection
5/01/0896 Beech House 530 Hatfield Road St Albans Single storey side extension and attached double garage. No objection as long as this meets Regulations.
5/01/0899CE Smallford Cottage Certificate of Lawfulness(existing) - erection of covered swimming pool and garage. Members are content to let any decision on this rest with Planning Officers.

8.2 Appeals and Enforcement Notices -

Members received notification of the following appeals or enforcement notices issued since the last meeting:
ALM Securities Lt appealed against refusal to issue a Certificate of Lawfulness (Existing) in respect of the use of existing buildings for commercial storage and associated workshops at Roehyde Farm, Roestock Lane, Colney Heath within the statutory time.

CP

NOTICE OF PUBLIC ENQUIRY AT 10AM ON 26 JUNE at the Council Chamber,
District Council Offices. Cllr Falk will attend the hearing to represent the Parish Council.
Coursers Road- awaiting report from Enforcement Officer regarding prosecution. The
Clerk is to chase the DC for any developments.

8.3 Planning Decisions

The Clerk reported on the following planning decisions received since the last meeting.

5/01/0105	Erection of detached garage	34 Springfield Rd Smallford	permitted
5/01/0379	Side and rear dormer windows	94 Tollgate Rd	permitted
5/01/0584	Conservatory	21 Princess Diana Drive	permitted
5/01/0356	Single storey rear extn and covered area	9 Sleepcross Gardens Smallford	permitted
5/01/0664A	Display of internally illuminated pylon sign	R Tec Auto Design Ltd, Lyon Way	Express consent refusal
5/01/0698	Conservatory	18 St Barts close	permitted
5/01/0699	Conservatory	10 Princess Diana Drive	permitted
5/01/0588CP	Certificate of Lawfulness- erection of agricultural storage	Little Gree, 29 Highfield Lane Tyttenhanger	refused

10.

COLNEY HEATH COMMON

10.1 Common Rangers Report - Cllrs noted the Common Ranger's Report for May. The Council resolved that toy powered vehicles are not allowed on the common as per the Common Bylaws. The problem is enforcing this but any one spotted should be advised and if it has number plates reported to the police.

10.2 Fly Tipping Warren Track - The Council resolved to accept the quote from MRS of £386.46 & monitor the situation for future budget requirements.

10.3 Access Road - Planings have been delivered and Royce will action as part of his work schedule.

10.4 Flooding/Trees - Cllr Brazier reported on public meeting with Mr Telford of Environment Agency. The agency are going to carry out a survey on the river for Cllrs to consider later but the maintenance of the river will have to be budgeted for. Kate of CMS advised funding is possible for most of the work by application to English Nature. The Environment Agency will start some work in September to fell trees, which may block river flow but the Council will need to arrange for them to be removed and roots to be

dig out. The Clerk will contact other the other local Parishes along the River – North Minims and London Colney to see what management they undertake.

10.5 Abandoned Car - DC confirm car will be taken away before 30 June.

10.6 Warren Track Enhancement- Commons working party to convene to discuss a Thursday before the next meeting – Cllr Brazier to arrange.

10.7 Common Management Plan - Cllrs noted Mr Becker's comments and Kate Maltby from CMS responded as per the objectives of the Management Plan. CMS advised the thistles and hawthorn would be chemically treated later this year. The Council resolved to review the plan and report back to the meeting at a later date once further advice has been sought.

10.8 Transco - The letter required regarding docks and dead hedges. CMS suggested the hedge be replaced by gorse one, which is more in keeping with the Common. The Council agreed and Kate of CMS will write to Transco asking for help in funding the projects – name to be supplied by the Clerk.

11. RECREATIONAL AREAS/PARISH GARDENS

11.1 The Council noted the **Parish Wardens Report/time sheets**. The swing seats at Sleepshyde need replacing again due to vandalism by dog chewing & Royce is looking at what old seats can be put back on if in better condition. The Council resolved the Clerk to investigate the purchase of replacement seats.

11.2 Parish Gardens - The Council noted the Temporary Parish Gardener's Report. The Council advised that Mr Paxton should not cut the grass around the playground at Tyttenhanger anymore its part of the gardeners duty but can not be done every week due to lack of hours.

12.

HIGH STREET RECREATIONAL GROUND -

12.1 Colney Heath Football Club - Cllrs noted letter received from Mr Paxton regarding extra work. The Council resolved for the Clerk to write to the FC asking for the railings to be taken down for the summer as per the agreement. Cllr Brazier will write the letter.

12.2 Car Park Lines – 17 extra spaces have been commissioned, work done 12th June.

12.3 Tennis Fence Alteration -The Council resolved to accept the quote from Mr Stayton for £655.00 plus VAT. For fitting a wooden skirt.

12.4 Tennis Court Attendant - Cllrs noted comments regarding broken glass. The cause was a private party at the football club with a bouncy castle being used to throw glasses over. The Council resolved to add to the FC letter a reminder that permission should be sought from the Parish Council to use the grounds for bouncy castles and asking if for future private parties plastic glasses could be used. The Clerk advised holes were allowing people in and that Darton Durafencing went out again 12th June to review & will fix any easy holes but this may be vandalised again. The Council resolved for the Clerk to obtain another quote to repair the fence holes at the same time as the wooden skirt to prevent further vandalism.

13. **COMMUNITY PARK** - The Clerk is awaiting a response from Arney regarding the correction of the lease plan and the amount of rent. The expired Lease rental was £5.00 per annum.

14. **ROESTOCK PARK** -
14.1 Fencing - has been installed and invoice paid. Clerk advised that Darten Durafencing should have filled in holes from posts on 12th June. Clerk to check.
14.2 Car park lighting -No response has been received from the Scouting Movement.
14.3 Potholes - Royce to action with road planings.

15. **BOISSY PARK** - awaiting a response from District Valuer.

16. **SMALLFORD PARK & DOG WALK** -
16.1 Play Equipment - The Recreation areas Working Party reported verbally on its meeting to discuss various quotes from the 3 different suppliers, Wicksteed, Lappset & Kompan.
The Council resolved to accept the quote from Wicksteed dated 13th February to supply & install 1 set of traditional swings with 2 flat seats and the woodland multi play badger system both with play bark safety surfaces for £10895.00 plus VAT. In addition to add to this quote the basketball post for £604 fitted.
The Council also resolved to accept the quote from Neptune to supply & fit a Southampton seat & litterbin for £546.00 plus VAT.
Both quotes will have to wait until the Council signs the licence for the park.
16.2 Crossing - Cllrs noted letter received from new Highways Partnership advising a response is awaited regarding other funding.
16.3 Licence and Lease -Cllrs noted the response from Mr Danbury of Ottaways and await the final license to sign.

17. **SLEAPSHYDE PARK & POND** -
17.1 Safety Surface Repair - The Clerk has written accepting Wicksteed's quote £384.50 and the work has been completed.
17.2 Kissing Gate to Pond - Cllr Crump recommends the Aston Gate at £89.00. Royce is happy with this and believes he can easily install it. The Clerk is checking with the Highways Partnership about safety aspect onto Highway before ordering. The Clerk is also to check with the DC regarding health and safety implications of gated access to a pond.

18. **GLOUCESTER PARK** - Royce reported adjacent resident's wall encroaches onto access road he is finding it difficult to get his equipment through.

19. **HIGHFIELD TRUST** -

20. **SMALLFORD PIT** -

21. **HIGHWAYS**
21.1 **Public Transport** - Cllrs noted letter from University Bus regarding withdrawal of County Council Rural Bus Funding. The Council resolved the Clerk should write to the CC asking for this to be reconsidered in light of government policy on trying to get cars off the road and encourage use of public transport. The letter should also be copied to the DC Transport dept, Cllr Rosie Sanderson & MP Kerry Pollard. The Council also asked the Clerk to investigate applying for a grant to fund rural transport as per the £15m for parish transport article in NALC local council review (May).
21.2 **Smallford Trail - Old Station** - awaiting advice from the Conservation Department. The Clerk is to pursue a response.

21.3 **Footpaths and Bridleways** - Cllrs noted Cllr Brazier's report to CMS on Footpaths working Party.

21.4 **Public Highways**
21.4.2 **Smallford Bridge** awaiting guidance from PC Jack Carson re weight limit. Cllr Falk reported that the bridge looks like crumbling and damp. The Council resolved for the Clerk to write to the Highways Agency and ask for a structural survey. The Clerk also to write to the DC asking about clearing rubbish along the access path to the Alban Way from the bridge.

22. **VILLAGE HALL - COUNCIL OWNED (OR TRUSTEE) BUILDINGS**
22.1 **Village Hall** - Village Hall Council provided minutes of the May meeting to note/discuss.
Filing cabinet has been ordered. Delivery will be made after payment - Clerk to chase.

23. **CHARLES MORRIS HALL - COUNCIL OWNED (OR TRUSTEE) BUILDINGS**
23.1 **CMH Improvements Work** - The Council agreed the letter from Peter Scott received on Friday 6th June (which was too late for inclusion on the agenda) will be put on the next month's agenda for discussion. The Clerk stated a new fax had been received tonight which also was agreed not be discussed until on the agenda for the next meeting. The Council resolved the Clerk to pay the £1000.00 deposit requested for carpets but the rest would have to wait further discussion.

23.2 **Paving** - Quotes still awaited from CMHC.

23.3 **Goalposts** - County Supplies (the Agent) say it is unlikely their supplier would take back posts (The were purchased in December 1999 at £234.57 with back irons at

£36.86). They have suggested the Parish advertise the posts at the purchase price less 10% and believe it will be easy to get a buyer & purchase new mini goal posts. The Council resolved the Clerk to investigate the purchase of Junior Goals not mini goals.

23.4 Grass Verges - The Clerk has checked with O'Connors & it has been included on their schedule for mowing.

24. OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

Cllrs noted St Albans Association of District Councils would be holding a meeting in the Community Room on Tuesday 26 June at 7.30pm with Colney Heath to Host.

Hedgehog	Newsletter (Articles on Rural White Paper and affordable housing)
St Albans and Harpenden Primary Care Trust	Organisational Structure/Minutes and invitation to Community Lunch on 21 June/Nomination Forms
National Playing Fields Assn.	Notification of AGM and papers
Herts and Middx Wild Life Trusts	Newsletters and raffle tickets
Shop Mobility Scheme	pamphlet
CPRE	'Voice' Newsletter
London Green Belt Council	Consultation Paper and Revision of PPG13: Sport, open spaces and Recreation
Open Spaces Society and Ramblers Assn.	Newsletter, annual report, Notice of AGM and pamphlet on Rights of Way
CVS	News and Celebration of Silver Jubilee
Aesops Touring Theatre Co.	Flyer

25. ST. ALBANS CITY AND DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Meeting of the Council	Agenda (Includes papers on new style cabinet format)
Standards committee	Cancellation of 20 June Meeting as regulations governing Committee are not yet finalised
Overview and Scrutiny (Enterprise and Civic Environment) Committee	Agenda and report for 12 June meeting.
Planning (Development Control) Committee	Agenda and Report for 22 May
South	

26. STAFF AND OFFICE

26.1 Bus Shelters - Quote received for £275 and £432. The Council resolved to accept both quotes.

Chair
Date