

MINUTES OF THE FULL COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY -6TH OCTOBER 2005

Present;- Cllr's G Rump Chair- Cllr C Brazier-Cllr Corley-Cllr Hall
Cllr J Day-Cllr-Cllr P Reeves.-Cllr Henchley-Cllr Crump

Clerk; Mr J E Dean

Members of the Public-Mrs G Moody Mr D Becker in part-Mr Forgham-Bailey & Ms Rhiannon Hussey-residents, re-public question time.

Note there was no Part 2 Agenda

1. APOLOGIES

No apologies-Cllr Day had phoned to say he would be late, the Clerk added he had not heard from Cllr David Clarke before the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST- ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

No specific declarations. The Clerk notes Cllr Henchley role as President of CHFC. He has a non pecuniary interest in matters-member accepted to abstain from voting on all matters connected with CHFC. Being allowed- to remain to offer a viewpoint without suggesting of or bearing due influence to, on the matters debated following.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the 8th September were approved and accepted as correct-

Proposed by Cllr Reeves

Seconded by Cllr Corley

The minutes were signed by the Chairman as correct.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE AGENDA

It was noted on the minutes some small typo errors-Minutes were seconded by Cllr Crump was omitted and Cllr Reeves page 2-on line three from foot of page.

The date of the Highfield Official opening was not correct, but is noted in agenda item

4 MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN MAY BRING BEFORE THE COUNCIL

The Clerk advised the Chair that there were several issues that had come in since the last meeting in July in the form of documents or correspondence with such details that members should be aware and may he advise the meeting. It was also suggested that many of the items on the agenda drifted into other subjects and that time was wasted in covering twice. He would move on quickly in such circumstances. The Clerk said that he was already trimming the agenda, but there was room for more pruning.

Granada Screen

The Clerk had news of a Film Hire for the village hall on Monday 10th October, a fee of £500 donated to VHC via P/C with inconvenience to Old Friends Club who agreed to re-schedule. (Worthy of a donation from VHC) The Clerk had to agree this quickly and had consulted Cllr's Corley and Hall also VHC Chair to advise. Some disruption would also be necessary to roadway parking on access road, residents to be advised by Film managers beforehand. Obstruction and inconvenience likely 2-7pm

S Hall

4 continued

Police Initiative

A meeting scheduled for 2nd November at 7.30pm invitation only to all Councillors and local interested parties, details circulated and covered in Crime Report.

Mayors Civic Service.

Invitation to attend a Youth encouragement theme church service at St Albans Abbey extended to all Councillors- on Sunday 16th October 2005. Cllr Corley is going.

Fireworks and Bonfire at Charles Morris and Tyttenhanger Recreation Ground

Cllr Rump had a late item concerning the above and sought the approval of members, there was no objection, and a ticket event is scheduled for the 5th November with 300 people expected. The Clerk added the organisers should see to the insurance, safety and management of the event, the Council in giving permission could not be liable.

Cllr Reeves requested the grass be cut in the next week or so to prevent any grass in the building, the Clerk will inform Mr Paxton about the cutting. Cllr Reeves was also keen to see the area restored/seeded after. The Clerk said that often deep earth scorch after bonfires prevented good growth but he would discuss the matter with Mr Paxton.

5. URGENT BUSINESS AND MATTERS ARISING

5.1 Pre School-Treasure Tots a Parish Council & Community Partnership.

Cllr Corley said that the Grant for £7000 had been received and work was almost complete on the play area, just waiting for some additional surface play equipment. There was to be an open day on 18th October to feature the new play area, it was hoped the Mayor Cllr Macmillan would attend the ceremony. Two more new local children had started and the school was able to take more now with up to 130 sessions available per week. The Clerk had given members details of the operating costs, and a review at Budget time might be appropriate. Cllr Corley also mentioned that a lunch club had started last week which provided additional scope and funds.

5.2 Coursers Road

Cllr Brazier gave members an overview of the High Court events to which he had details of indicating that damage had been done to the mobile home confiscated into storage by SCADC. There was dispute in this accusation and Barristers were seeking affidavit reports to present to the Judge. Hence a further hearing is to be fixed once this is done. (Probably in November) Cllr Brazier also added that Messrs Robb and Daniels were offered two separate homes in the district and had turned them down. The Clerk asked members to refer to his *draft letter to Robb & Daniels which after consultation and legal approval would be sent to the above at the last address warning of the costs involved. The Clerk was also seeking approval from the members now to go ahead with a Charging Order on the land owner for recovery of the public money. Details are contained in the letter of 30th August from Ottaways Solicitors. The Clerk added that all our removal costs so far could fall within £5-£7000 and that it was agreed by members that it was beyond any turning back, and had to be recovered. The Clerk had also arranged to send a Solicitors letter (Ottaways) to Legal Services SCADC asking for financial assistance, the Solicitor acting for us had called to say it was not possible to help us in the complexity of Legal Aid relative to this HC action. It was proposed to give the Clerk authority to go ahead with the Charging Order and approve the draft letter 6th October presented to members to be sent after this meeting.

Proposed Cllr Crump

**sent recorded del'y*

Seconded Cllr Henchley

5.3 Highfield Trust and Park

Highfield opening-date given was not correct; the right date is November 19th 2005

5.4 Lafarge-High Street Recreation Ground-Entrance & Access

Matters were now virtually concluded, payment was of our first instalment authorised

5.5 Crime Report

Extracts of September issue of Police Magazine circulated, with other more general comment and a specific report from Cllr Brazier that there is a possibility of County Forces merging. This would inevitably lead to loss of identity for Herts Police and not considered by him as a good plan. Areas in Bedfordshire are much more noted crime hot spots and we might not get the attention deserved or even lose community police.

5.6 Transport moved to heading 22

5.7 Tyttenhanger Sign

The Clerk mentioned his visit to the works of Signs of The Times and said he was so impressed with the quality and workmanship that there was little point in looking any further; he encouraged Cllr Reeves and any other members to go and see themselves. Cllr Reeves raised the point of getting additional quotes and gave a further contact. The Clerk said that having seen their work in hand for Govt Departments, Embassies and Royal Warrants he was satisfied that they had similar scrutiny, but knew where the right quality could be obtained. He added that having a budget for £2200, it might be possible that we could try for some grants, or add more from next year's budget. With the other works to assemble and build we are about 40% (£800) short. The designated spot is the Green near p/box. A long lead time would suit S.O. Times. The Clerk agreed to provide Cllr Reeves with details of the firm and contact.

5.8-Deleted

5.9 Commons Stewardship (See 10.5 now)

5.10 Vehicle Intrusion on to Colney Heath Common

Details of a Public Meeting on November 17th being considered with final agreement to be made at the October meeting, concerning the agenda topics and time to allow the notices to be published. Mr Paul Claydon the consultant and Commons Legal expert is expected to be invited.

5.11 Draft Statement of Community Involvement

The Clerk mentioned that the deadline of September 30th had been reached, and there had been no comments noted.

6 SPECIAL AND NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Smallford Landfill Site Methane Levels Monitoring

Cllr Crump said he had nothing further to add. Previously noted that this is managed by Lambert Smith Hampton-Mr Lawrence Slater-01727-896221.

6.2 Vital Villages Plan-Published November 04

The Executive Committee had met on 14th September, the Clerk noted the comment about no progress on the Travel Plan, (sect 4) this had been given attention in sect 2 of their minutes but it was not the Council's intention to promote commercial advertising on bus shelters. This idea was presented two years ago from SCADC, but was firmly turned down, against keeping the rural look to the council owned bus shelters.

6.3 Youth Club

Cllr Brazier said we had lost the qualified youth worker, resulting in the Monday evening youth club not being able to function. He was looking out for another person.

Other Youth Issues-Skate Park suggestion

Cllr Brazier was also looking into the e-mail received from a Mr Will Duffey on the skate park request at Roestock Park.

6.4 Smallford Residents Association

Cllr Brazier had met on the issues on the Planning matters concerning the potential new development that may see up to 800 new homes at various sites in the area; he has assured residents that he will oppose any such developments. There was no support for Oaklands move, but the BT site could get 50 houses on what is considered brown field land. Both Cllr Corley and Brazier mentioned the Smallford Community bus had started a service to ASDA directly after the Colney Heath run on Fridays.

7 FINANCE

Investments had produced additional revenue of £1230 during the earlier 90 day fixed period; the Clerk re-invested £50,000 in Treasury Reserves to November 3rd at 3.78%

7.1 Payments and Income

The Clerk presented the financial statements showing the expenditure in August and October was £13,139 with Income revenue at £1393.34.

The figures were accepted;-

Proposed Cllr Henschley

Seconded Cllr Brazier

Bank Movements and Finances

Bank Transfer from Reserves to General Account-at 06/10/05

Bank Statement Capital Reserves	£98343.69	Reserve Account	£631.66
---------------------------------	-----------	-----------------	---------

Bank Main Reserve Account	£5044.41	Current Account	£15240.94
---------------------------	----------	-----------------	-----------

This is the position of the accounts according to latest statements received.

Income from Wayleaves-Commons Land Issues outstanding.

This has been temporary postponed with the outcome from our Legal Expert as the meeting on Commons and Vehicle intrusion. Provisional date set for 17th November but may have to change to Wednesday 16th November-notice to be considered on next full council agenda 3rd November.

7.2 Audit 2003-4

The Clerk has submitted this to Lubbock Fine and has discussion with Lubbock Fine requesting further information and details. The Clerk was certain we will get our certification shortly; the new audit commission regime was tough and thorough.

Audit 2004/5

The audit for 2004-5 was completed on 3rd and 4th October in conjunction with RBS with a two day all day sessions and November with a view to finalising by year end. This will then hopefully bring us up to date once these are submitted next month after advertising the accounts are available for public inspection for the statutory period.

7.3 VAT Claim-Current Audit year-2004/5

The Clerk advised the position that along with the accounts this will be submitted to HMCR shortly once processed. There is a claim of about £ 5452 to process once the statutory notice is posted and the office can work on the details

7.4 Banking and Signatories

The Clerk asked members to consider a change to the Wages Account, to allow the facility where the Clerk and Assistant Clerk can as at present sign cheques and use this account for small sums. The proposal is to re-name Wages and Administration account with a maximum single cheque limit of £1500. It will assist any emergency payments virtually instantly if members cannot sign soon enough. The Clerk will put a proposal to members at the next meeting.

7.5 Pension

Clerk has charges for 2005/6 funding to HCC Pensions

7.6 Payroll & Budget

Clerk again noted that there is further information on the pending SLCC/NALC new salary guidelines this can be brought to member's attention at the Budget Meeting in December, suggesting that we might dedicate time on the 1st December meeting for discussion on 2006/7 Budget. Or deal with general business up to 8.30 declaring a part 2 for the Budget after. The usual members of the public can be made aware.

8. PLANNING

Details of the planning applications were given on the agenda notes, debate on those considered to needed further study followed here as noted:-

8.1 Planning Applications

Debated:-

05/05/1670	HTC Fastenings 7 Lyon Way	Demolish existing store-erection of det two storey storage at rear	No objections
5/05/1686	121 Colney Heath Lane	Two storey side extension, single storey front ext ext+ rear dormer window	No Objections
05/05/1714	Buckland Bungalow Sleapshyde Smallford	Two storey side ext-and f/floor ext	No objections
05/051718	1 Claughton Court	Three illuminated display signs +two external other	No objections
05/05/1721	24 Park Lane	Single storey front ext	No objections
05/05/1724	14 Boissy Close	Single storey side ext +ext to detached garage	No objections
05/05/1749	Hatfield Aerodrome	Renewal of 5/99/2274 – change of use of land to agricultural or open space	No objections
5/05/1779	The Three Horsehoes 612 Hatfield Road	Access ramp and extension to patio area	No objections
5/05/1778L	The Three Horsehoes 612	Access ramp and	No objections

B	Hatfield Road	extension to patio area	
5/05/1810 A	Community Centre 59 Russet Drive	Display of three non-illuminated wall mtd signs	No objections
5/05/1804	Allotment site Hixberry Lane	Erection of metal office/storage building	No objections
5/05/1805	329 Camp Road	Two storey rear extension	No objections
5/05/1787	6 Roestock Gardens	Second storey side ext with garage conversion	No objections
5/05/1862	8 Starlight Way	Resiting of boundary fence	No objections
5/05/1882	145 Colney Heath Lane	Single storey side and two storey rear extension and vehicle crossover	No objections
	Spar – Unit 1 Highfield Lane	Justice Licence	3 rd November 2005
5/05/1936	Land between 106-116 Tollgate Road	Detached dwellings	With Cllr Brazier 29/9/05
5/05/1922	The Oak House 14 Starlight W	First floor front extension	With Cllr Brazier 29/09/05

PLANNING-Special notes specific.....

05/2038/4-Wychlands Crescent-Construction of new Children's home-now altered to retain trees; -matter is in hands of HCC-probable approval.

05/04/2765 Oaklands- Houses on the site with changes to College buildings as outlined in SCADC Development Control bulletin. Proposals noted. Objections have been put forward. Cllr Brazier has said he is very opposed to the development as it is. The PC is to send a letter asking the college about their intentions on future developments.

Cllr Reeves raised the matter of Home Farm as well.

05/04/2838 Belgrave Land Ltd Smallford Garden Village

315 Houses proposal on G/Belt Land plus community facilities and school.

5/2005/0679 BT Trial Site-100 Dwellings by RDS Developments Ltd again GB Land Cllr Brazier said it is likely to go ahead and get permission.

8.2 Appeals & Enforcements

Notices circulated and as details delivered to the attention of the meeting

8.3 Planning Decisions

Members noted applications that had been refused-also Planning Policy Panel meeting 22nd September reports- Portfolio Holder Cllr Brazier includes Housing capacity study

	No decisions received		
--	-----------------------	--	--

REFUSALS

8.4 Glinwell/Smallford Garden Village site proposals

Previously noted-as over development and Green Belt

8.5 Affordable Housing & Lettings

Cllr Brazier said members had agreed to maintain the lettings discussions with the Council Officer- three new homes to be built at Sleapshyde on an old garage site.

8.6 Planning on the Web

No debate this time

8.7 Statement of Community Involvement

Members noted the SCADC document dated July 2005 received 22 August (SCI) regarding Local Planning Guidance (LPA) strategy includes input from P & TC.

8.8 Licences-Alcohol Sales-Bars- Clubs- Pubs- Hotels- Off Sales-Occasional.

No applications this time.

Members agreed with the Clerk decision- it is prudent to only state the applications from within the Village in this section.

8.8 Air Quality Action Plan

This remains on agenda-but no comments this time

9. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME- 9-9.10

An issue of parking on the Village Hall Car Park-by adjacent residents who have problems with street parking and vandalism. Cllr Brazier remarked that parking was not allowed overnight on the village hall car park, it should not be taken as a right and the landlord knew this fact and should have advised any tenants. It was suggested an approach be made to Scholars Court property/flats with it's large car park.

10 COLNEY HEATH COMMON-(POS)

public open space

10.1 Commons Ranger Report

Members were circulated with the latest report which noted amongst other items the damaged Warren Track sign, already known to the Office intending to improve the wording with a new sign concurrent with the legal requirements for a bridleway.

10.2 Three Valleys Water Pipeline across the Common

The Chair has signed for Ottaways-£1600 will follow as agreed for payment.

10.3 Monitoring of Transco Pipeline

There is no report this time.

10.4 Common Stewardship

The Clerk reported that a further second flail this year of the Furze Field area had been done by the contractor. He was looking to re-do again in March 2006. As reported-fencing tenders out and the final RPA detail by end October to DEFRA.

This tender has been put out to six companies, a meeting had been held with CMS to review regarding the other work, stump grinding, and coppicing, weeding, trimming. The application is required by 31st October for past year expenditure, regaining 60%.

10.6 Grass Cutting Contract.

Reported previously, Mr Paxton has option to use additional fuel surcharge if Diesel goes over .50p litre on agreement made with extended contract. Cllr Reeves requested that CMH recreation area be cut before bonfire night to save grass cuttings in the hall

10.7 New Bridge

Defer-no additional comments from members, item kept on agenda-date 2006?

10.8 Fly Tipping

List circulated to members, responses also noted from Cllr Henchley and Cllr Day regarding new DEFRA legislation (Elliot Morley) and higher fines and launching the new "Flycapture" to database registrations and details of persistent tippers. It is the general feeling that SCADC are not responding to requests for CCTV in the key problem areas such as Barley Mow lane Highfield, Warren Track, and Lafarge land off local by-way and RUPP. Cllr Brazier mentioned he wrote to Lafarge Mr Brian Butterfield about issues in the ward concerning illegal fencing especially A414 area. The Clerk has also previously written to DEFRA and had reply from Ben Bradshaw on 10th August, additionally also letter to Mr Robertson, to date no response received. In six months this year the fly tipping log (started April 2004) has to date so far 29 instances, roughly in line with last year in the same period.

Lafarge Liaison Committee

Cllr Brazier attended the newly re started meetings on 15th September and reported to the members. The Clerk to London Colney has raised the matter of Dudley Wood and is to send more information to CHPC on a proposed lease transfer to LCPC.

11 RECREATIONAL AREAS

11.1 Parish Warden Report

General report, made available to members at the meeting.

11.2 Parish Gardens Report

Circulated, members remarked how well the parish gardens had looked this year.

11.3 Park Inspections

There were no reports this time, office to order pine bark required for Charles Morris Hall recreation area see item 20

11.4 Signs

The Clerk advised signs progress with some already done.

12 HIGH STREET RECREATION GROUNDS

12.1 Colney Heath Football Club

Works now virtually completed, however the Clerk reported that unfortunately the builders had passed incorrect information to the shutter/door plate security firm and have agreed to compensate for the loss of time and materials. The final account will be adjusted accordingly. Cllr Henchley said the CHFC were pleased with the work.

12.2 Tennis Court Attendant Report.

Nuisance continues to be reported on vandalism cutting of the court Penfold Fence wire according to Cllr Brazier.

12.3 Lafarge Land Issues

No further reports.

13 COMMUNITY PARK & POCKET PARK

Cllr Corley has requested for CMS to find an opportunity to offer a report on this area intending to make provision for a children's nature walk. Funding for the works will need consideration as there are quite a lot of scrub and dead wood to clear. Members agreed this is a good idea and are supportive to the scheme in principle.

14 ROESTOCK PARK**14.1 Inspection Report & Play Equipment & Graffiti**

Cllr Corley is trying to obtain a BIFFA Award to refurbish the play equipment at this park, application is lengthy. Meanwhile Mr Paxton has been requested by the Clerk to get a contractor he uses to carry out some weed-killing in the isolated areas of recent clearances. Other sapling removal is required as well.

14.3 Signs, Gates & Equipment

Signs, add to Clerk list.

15 Deleted**16 SMALFORD PARK & DOG WALK**

The Clerk had no further reports for the Chairman-noted and moved on

17 SLEEP SHYDE PARK**17.1 Inspection Report**

Clerk has no further report to offer the Chairman-noted and moved on

18 SLEEP SHYDE POND**18.1 Inspection Report.**

Clerk had no further reports for the Chairman-noted and moved on

19 GLOUCESTER PARK**19.1 Inspection Report**

Clerk is to pass more details to Ottaways regarding trying to obtain title to this land and suggested he might require some historic documents from Cllr Reeves.

20 TYTTENHANGER FIELD & PLAY AREA

There were no reports this time, office to order pine bark required for Charles Morris Hall recreation area at a cost of £1480 + vat

Proposed Cllr Reeves

Seconded Cllr Brazier

21 HIGHFIELD PARK & TRUST

Opening event correct date Saturday November 19th -all Councillors invited

22 HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

22.Parish Paths Partnership (P3 Agreement)

No reports other than that stile at rear of Common Footpath 36 needs replacement. (This item on footpaths needs separation from highways issues next agenda.) The Clerk advised that our CMS involvement was renewed recently to qualify for assistance and grants. He added and endorsed by Cllr Brazier that help with Commons Stewardship had been very professional and particularly interest and advice from Ms R Keene.

22.1 Public and Community Transport

Cllr Corley had previously reported in item 5 -this heading used this time. This is more appropriate place under item 22 in future deleted under item 5. Cllr Corley advised of the new Tesco bus to Hatfield on Wednesday's 10-.30-12.45. Along with our community bus on Fridays to ASDA. Cllr Corley advised members about the review with the Disabled Access Group, and that the bus will require funding from CHPC of about 40% of costs. The most recent fees were £293 for the start date up to 30th September. The plan was to continue until Christmas.

HERTFORDSHIRE-TRANSPORT PLAN PROVISIONAL 2006/7-2010/11

Published, a large document, does any member wish to loan copy, no comments noted at this meeting, Clerk to Agenda in November-any final responses by 2/12/05.

22.2 Smallford Trail

No reports this time.

22.3 Disabled Access to Countryside

Cllr Brazier has to explore some ideas for this project.

22.4 General Highway matters

Cllr Henchley was concerned that he had little to report as he felt that CH were being neglected in the aspect of works to be done in the village. He was very critical of the situation we found ourselves in with respect to follow up's and conclusion of jobs. He blamed the contractors and supervision issues for the current prospects of little being completed. Cllr Crump was pleased at the outcome of the campaign for a Zebra pedestrian crossing being approved now and notification of installing at Hill End.

It was generally agreed that in view of the poor performance of Highways in getting a focus on the issues of Colney Heath a more sustained campaign would be generated if necessary involving Highways Partnership. It was felt that issues of safety were being overlooked, the Clerk would be contacting officers to get replies to long outstanding matters such as ditch cleaning, flood risk, and other minor works left.

23 VILLAGE HALL (COUNCIL OWNED BUILDING)

The Clerk reported that the Village Hall was to be used for a film production team on Monday 10th October for 6 hours. The £500 fee he negotiated from Granada Screen Leavesden Studios was to be paid to the VHC this time, we were also grateful to the Old Friends Club for changing their dates. The Clerk said he would be in attendance

all day to lock them in and out of the hall. There had been one e-mail regarding the inconvenience to a resident on hearing about the filming.

24 CHARLES MORRIS HALL (TRUSTEE BUILDING)

An application for Grant Aid of £1250.00 towards a sound and hearing loop system Refurbishment of Play area-letter from management committee.

Decision on both remains deferred until the Budget review-

25 OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

No reports this time.

St Albans & District Access Group

Cllr Corley said that she will attend on 10th October

Community Services Environment & Health

Clerk advised we have minutes of Environmental Forum meeting-(Trevor Brennan) held on 27th September, promoting Cleaner Greener St Albans. Officer presentation.

26 ST ALBANS & DISTRICT COUNCIL

This listing shows mostly Licensing applications for the SCADC Sub Committee to consider as part of the new application structure deadline on 6th August. The large number of applications are often not relevant to the village premises. It is prudent to consider only noting Colney Heath applications in the heading in section 8 of the agenda leaving members to view these general area applications at or from the office.

27 OPERATIONAL MATTERS-STAFF & OFFICE

27.1 Risk Assessments

Two members of staff are requested to complete their forms matter ongoing with Clerk needing to review policy and purchase a software package.

27.2 Notice Boards and Bus Shelters

Sign is ready contact was made to planning; Cllr Brazier said he had agreed with SCADC that no permission was required on this occasion, and we could go ahead and install. The Clerk said it was very good news and whilst not doubting at all, he would need to see that permission supported with a written approval if at all possible. Cllr Brazier also said we should think of another placing in Highfield near the shops.

27.3 Warden Training

Date to be arranged-matter ongoing

27.4 Twining 50th Anniversary

No reports

Important Correspondence/Late Matters to note-

Meeting 20th October Parish District Liaison Committee- re-Parish Charters-ongoing

Letter sent to Cllr Crump-from Peter Acroyd regarding aircraft noise from light planes and helicopters, also aerobatic flying from a bi-plane-comments noted

Sustainable Communities Bill-Cllr Rump agreed to sign on behalf of the Council to support the bill in parliament. support

Reminder to members to note the invitation to the Police meeting 2nd November 7.30

Reminder that the next meeting of the full council is Thursday 3rd November at 7.30

Reminder that the meeting of 1st December will dedicate the most time to budgets and be a mainly as a part 2 if members wish

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.10 pm

John Dean
Clerk to the Council