

Colney Heath Parish Council



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6 MAR 2008

MINUTES OF THE COLNEY HEATH- FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING **HELD at the VILLAGE HALL on THURSDAY-6TH MARCH 2008-7.30.pm**

Present; - Cllr P Reeves Chair.-Cllr Brazier Vice Chair-Cllr Horner -Cllr Day
(& 1 Vacancy Hill End Ward)

Clerk; Mr J E Dean

Public Attendance- Mr D Becker 95 High Street- Colney Heath
Mrs L Myland Old Barley Mow PH
Mr M Myland Old Barley Mow PH
Mrs G Moody Roestock Lane
Mr L Wilson 43 Tyttenhanger Green

1. APOLOGIES -ANNOUNCEMENTS & DECLARATIONS

Apologies were sent via the Clerk on the day from Cllr Henchley, still in Hospital.
Cllr Crump away on business, Cllr Cloke was not in the area and sent apologies.
There were no declarations on the matters contained in agenda. Cllr Henchley is not at risk of disqualification as he is undergoing continued medical and hospital treatment-(LGA1972-sect 85(1)). He requested that it be known he was hopeful to be better soon.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the Full Council on 7th February 2008

Proposed by Cllr Rump

Seconded by Cllr Brazier

The minutes were signed by the Chairman Cllr Reeves as being correct.

2.1 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Clerk noted the typo error to be changed on the date on then underline heading that should be Thursday 10th January 2008. (Not-2007-as printed) Also to ensure that all members had received the correct version headed up as 10 JAN 2008 (R1)
Having read through the other pages no further corrections or alterations were put forward by those members present. The Chair signed the minutes as correct.

3 MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN MAY BRING BEFORE THE COUNCIL

The Clerk informed the Chair that two particular issues were to come up in 3.with item 3.2 & 3.3 refer to debate in Part II for issues of difficult legal matters he will at this stage confide to members only which he will be starting at 9.30pm sharp.

The Clerk requested correspondence is dealt with now, Chair agreed after;-

Allotments

The Chair said this issue will benefit from the clarification of the council position in order not to create ambiguity, whilst we are looking for allotment land which could or might become available. It needs to be made clear we are not seeking to return to the old allotment site in Tyttenhanger which was sold off by CHPC to SCADC twenty years ago, said Cllr Reeves to fund capital towards extensions to the Village Hall. The Clerk added the item will be retained in the agenda in the hope that some land will become available at some stage in the future. Public enquiries for plots to the office are occasionally being received. The Clerk mentioned some other councils had halved plots in (5 Pole) order to be able to satisfy demand. Allotments have become popular again, costs of food, recreation, fresh air. There weren't enough plots around.

Correspondence

The Clerk requested that we dealt with the correspondence first.

Invitation to Police meeting

Noted in item 10 Community matters Police meeting April 27-29

Ditches in Barley Mow Lane

Noted in Highways item 7

Code of Conduct Training Evening

Available to members 13/03/08-Noted

Stop Stanstead Campaign

Opportunity to have a presentation to Council-Cllr Brazier suggested NATS proposed changes to airspace allocation in the south east was more important. Clerk will post out leaflets in members information.

St Marks Church

Letter of thanks received 20th Feb for removal of dead trees at entrance to car park.

3.1 CHPC offer on land at Gloucester Playing Fields

No further news on the new owners as soon as we can find out the Clerk will write to say we are continuing to maintain to clarify issue, past rents and costs- (L/TAct 1954)

3.2. Council owned Building-Pavilion-Buildings Working Group

On the advice of the Clerk the Chair agreed to defer this to Part II

3.3 Planning Inquiry-Appeal by Mr Robb

Cllr Brazier had information to give to members to which the Chair agreed is more appropriate to deliver in Part II. Cllr Horner provided an interesting document given by a resident copied to the Clerk to be kept confidential until the outcome is known.

3.4 Chronicle Magazine and Web Site upgrade for CHPC

This is expected to be launched at the APM.

3.5 Colney Heath Parish Council 60th Year.

The Chair said in coming to the end of the 60th year we are intending to continue with the theme of public open days such as Larks in the Park and more recent Village Day that we have been asked to make a grant. Exact details not available but expect £600.

3.6 Commons Grazing Group Herts and Furze Field

The Clerk and Cllr Brazier updated members, writing to DEFRA on current issues. Including the recent commons walk with Clerk CHPC, CMS and Natural England on 19th February. This was to assess and view the progress of our management plan.

3.7 Smallford Station Preservation Orders

Chair Cllr Reeves outlined the preservation- Cllr Crump agreed this is the kind of building we should see preserved. What uses could be found, it was also unclear if it was in use by the firm leasing- is access be possible, said Cllr Brazier. Visit to see?

3.8 Matters of Anti-Social Behaviour

The list was handed out to members 14 reported incidents since start of log in October 2007 these are only the reported incidents. The Clerk had received reports of horses loose Harvesters play area, being threatened with action-swiftly removed by next day. Cllr Crump (absent) had notified about an elderly council tenant being attacked and then robbed in a typical distraction situation with an unknown male and accomplices. With his home ransacked and other issues to get use of CCTV security Cllr Crump requested Cllr Brazier to make contact with the resident.

3.9 New safety Fence for Treasure Tots

We are on standby for a snap OFSTED inspection, the 2007-8 AGM is being held at 9.30am on Monday 17th March in community room. Parents and members welcome

3.10 Rogation Sunday

The date reminder of Sunday 27th April- wet or fine meet at the village hall circa 2pm and walk the boundary of the common to finish at the St Marks centre for tea & cakes at 4pm. A good walk for all-families, dogs, children, walk is easy- do part- or the lot.

4. FINANCE

The Clerk gave information on the following financial matters which was supported by the relevant information and data reports to each member;-

4.1 MONTHLY EXPENDITURE & ACCOUNTS

The Clerk gave information to all members for the March 2008 parish expenditure at £17288.03 Inc VAT element £386.51 after which any questions on finance were answered by the Clerk; the payments were approved by the meeting.

Proposed by Cllr Reeves

Seconded by Cllr Horner

4.2 Audit Preparation 2007-8

The Clerk reminded members the internal auditor was in on 4th March, this time of year and for up to two months is very busy time for the Clerk with year end, payroll end, HMRC requiring employee data by 19th May and APM issues. He advised all members that he will be doing some work from home at least one day per week and possibly more to be able to concentrate. Also after Easter to allow for school holidays enabling Assistant Clerk to bring children in and keep office open. He would always be immediately available by phone by Assistant Clerk on those occasions and willing to respond & come in to the office right away to deal with daily issues and enquiries.

4.3 Audit for 2006-7

Completed and now filed.

4.4 Progress of VAT

Clerk is progressing this as there is a considerable return to claim.

4.5 Budgeted Grant Aid (Section 19 LGA Act-1976-Misc Provisions)

Debate to be deferred to Part II in order that members can consider two grants not so far approved for payment with the usual funding stream paid late May.

4.6 Precept 2008-9 & Other Financial Matters

The Precept;-£141,500 expected to be paid around 24th April, investment option.

4.7 Treasury Reserve & Investments

Clerk had placed £60,000 on Treasury Reserve re-invested-one month-7th March 2008 at 4.7% yielding £224.05 in the period. He will be placing £25,000 on next tranche. Then by returning remaining into current account for year end balances. However the Clerk is reducing TR we may need a reserve for current legal actions in process.

5 PLANNING

Planning Applications

The following applications received since last meeting 10 January 2008 were debated in detail;-

General Comments

Members offered views on the current applications and refusals, the prepared agenda notes covered several details and comments

Major Development

Planning Application 5/07/02230 Former Oaklands College Site Highfield Lane

Demolition is now being carried out on some old buildings-one grade II listed in St Peters Road. This action has attracted a great deal of publicity. Development expected to last three years. Developers Nicholas King Homes owns the site alongside campus.

Tyttenhanger St Albans-Highfield Farm Campus –Erection of 38 Residential Dwellings, & Associated Parking, access, open space and Landscaping.

No further information at this stage-letter sent earlier outlining council opinions-awaiting further responses from SCADC regarding comments made by CHPC, Cllr Brazier confirmed this, further planning discussions with SCADC taking place now.

5-1 Planning Application

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

As listed and received to the date of agenda publication 29th February 2008;-

The Clerk drew member's particular attention to the items in bold type

Number	Address	Application	Decision/Recommendation
5/08/0107	52 Wynches Fm Drive	Convert Garage-habitable room	Please look at parking to ascertain whether this conversion will put cars on the road, if it doesn't we have no objections.
5/07/3081	Colney Heath Farm	Replacement Building	This work should not have been carried out before planning and conversion were consulted. But now the work has been started there is a problem of returning the building to its former state, we

			should support an agreement with the applicant, conservation and planning that brings about a satisfactory outcome from all parties.
5/08/0173	3 Smallford Lane	Two storey side extension	Opposes- Objections the same, over development of the Green belt. This new application has not addressed our concerns regarding the previous application
5/08/0108	2 Liberty Walk	Rear conservatory	No objections
5/08/0264CP	4 Heathside Church lane	Certificate of Lawfulness	No objections- Officers should confirm that the rear windows do not overlook neighbouring properties Policy 70
5/08/0121	10 Firwood Ave	First floor rear and side extension	No objections- Have the previous concerns been addressed, if officers are now happy that the new application is now acceptable we will support that.
5/08/0139	16 Sleepscrosss Gardens	Demolition of garage and erection of two storey side, part single, part two storey rear extensions	With Cllr Brazier 22/2/2008
5/08/0134	23 Drakes drive	Two storey front, side and rear extensions and widening of existing vehicular crossover	With Cllr Brazier 28/2/2008
5/08/0348	Glinwell Nurseries	Demolition of existing buildings and erection of one single storey building	With Cllr Brazier 28/2/2008
5/08/0367	16 Wynches Farm drive	Conversion of garage into habitable room	With Cllr Brazier 29/2/2008

Note items with Listed Building Status are noted with suffix LB after the plan no- e.g 5/07/000LB
SCADC General Applications List (District) Circulated to all members.

5-2 Planning Approvals

As listed since last meeting

Number	Address	Application	SCADC Decision
5/07/2910	1 Liberty Walk	Front Porch	Planning Permission
5/07/2926	28 Sovereign Park	Single storey side and rear extensions	Planning Permission
5/07/2882	Playing Fields Highfield Lane	Extension of vehicular crossover	Planning Permission
5/07/2867	The Three Horseshoes PH	Pergola at entrance to beer garden	Planning Permission
5/07/3074	Colney Heath Service Station	Change of use from garage/service station to hire/storage centre for vehicle mounted hydraulic platforms	Planning Permission
5/07/3043	43 Russet Drive	Conversion of garage into habitable room	Planning Permission
5/07.0136	Sleapshyde Garages, Sleaphyde lane	Erection of three terraced houses with garden sheds and bin stores	Planning Permission

See Attached Sheet for Planning Approvals- Appendix

5-3 Planning Refusals-Appeals-Inquiries-Enforcements-Other issues

5.3 Refusals and Appeals

5/07/2759	Redhall House, Roestock Lane	New front entrance gate and railings	Planning Refusal
5/07/2888	23 Sattion Road	Demolition of garage and erection of two bedroom dwellings	Planning Refusal
5/07/3004	52 Princess Diana Drive	Rear Conservatory	Planning Refusal
5/07/2817	145 Colney Heath Lane	Single storey side extension	Planning Refusal
5/07/2608	601 Hatfield Road	Single storey rear extension to Veterinary building	Planning Refusal

5.3 Appeals

Appeal-5/07/0646 Forest Town Church-Refusal to change use with unsustainable development and loss of employment in a development area-Dist Local Plan Review.

Appeal-5/06/1655 lodged by BT PLC & Telereal Services Ltd for Development of Trial Site-Cllr Brazier has written for PC objecting.

Appeal-5/07/1457 A Hillier & M Hardman 38 Starlight Way St Albans-Extension of premises with size and GB issues as stated objections.

Appeal-5/07/1305 at 30 Sleapcross Gardens extension of dwelling in GB, also issues of comparison to other allowed development in same area.

Appeal-5/07/0892 Popefield Farm Hatfield Road St Albans

Appeal-5/07/2720 Hearing the Mill House Coursers Road-hearing 24/01/08

Late to Agenda

Appeal-5/07/1406-67 Colney Heath Lane retention of boundary fence-Written applications to Sec of State Kite Wing Bristol. Neighbour objections noted.

Appeal granted to Fairholme Cottage after initial application in 2006-claims to have used as a residence since that time upheld. With evidence and claims it has been used as a separate dwelling between the two separate families going back to 1997.

Note items with Listed Building Status are noted with suffix LB after the plan no- e.g. 5/07/000LB
SCADC General Applications List (District) Circulated to all members.

5-4 Strategic or Planning issues or referred to ODPM/Secretary of State-SEERA
Helioslough-Rail Freight Terminal- Cllr Brazier may wish to inform members
 Cllr Brazier said the Planning Inspectors report expected October 2008.

OTHER TOPICAL ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

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

Gypsy Provision by District Councils

Cllr Brazier offered to assist with our statement. Documents dated 19/02/08 circulated EERA Consultation on Regional Gypsy Sites responses by deadline-15th May 2008. .
Every authority has to provide more pitches by 2011-more in Hertfordshire planned.

5-5 Residents Associations

No matters to report or debate this time. To date the office has not received a petition on closure idea for Barley Mow Lane that was promised.

5-6 Planning Monitoring

Air Quality

Landfill & Quarry

Minerals & Waste

Licences

Local Delivery Framework Policy

Carbon calculator-new category;-see Energy Efficiency Advice Centre-

Noted but no debate on these issues.

Air Quality

Cllr Rump has written to HCC purely as a resident to ask about the figures of air quality monitoring exercise that has or should have continued at Smallford Pits.

CHPC to enquire similarly-letter from Clerk.

Affordable Housing

Occupied now by new residents in Sleafshyde –three two bed units of eco-friendly homes that should allow good energy and cost savings for those who were lucky to be allocated the houses. The new homes are sympathetic in design to the area and fit very well into the semi rural scope of the area. Council members complimented the design.

6 COMMONS OPEN SPACES & PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

The written reports were considered of;-

6-1 Parish Warden Report

Members were circulated with a copy of the reports with usual general tasks removal of litter and FC pitch marking and various village tasks. Mr Paxton had reduced trees outside properties overlooking the common following a request to do so.

6-2 Parish Commons Ranger Report

Report circulated to all members noting the seasonal; changes and wildlife matters. Gorse in flower on Furze Field, reported fence between common and parking off High Street Cottages is in need of repair. Clerk has observed track is in a very poor rutted state and is to get contractor in the scrape surface in case of damage claim potential. Cars are parking at right angles and more are being parked. Clerk recently had a purge as some were preventing access at office opening and meeting hours. Good flow on the river is reported. Posts at Heathside require quote to replacing -protect common.

6-3 Parish Gardner and Tennis Courts Attendant Reports

Report to be circulated to all members at the meeting;-mostly winter maintenance. Tennis court has little or low use now, one good court remaining. Clerk had call from a tennis coach looking for options, no name left he was to visit courts and come back.

6-4 Church & Graveyard Keepers work/time sheet

Nothing that is exceptional to report this time. The Clerk enquired why the parish receives money mostly each year at this time from St Marks PCC for varying sums. It appears after the deceased bequests given for graveyard cleaning and maintenance.

6-5 CHPC Grass Cutting Contract

The season is started and Mr Paxton is beginning the cutting contract, a report of finding evidence-gatherings (under age?) to consume quantities of alcohol in the park. Instances of smashed vodka and Alco-pops left littered around purchased from nearby shop conclude possible underage sales from there. Council will pressure Community

Police. This is becoming a nuisance for local residents as well as a safety issue for the employee who could risk injury. Goggles should be worn when using machinery.

6-6 Commons-Grazing & Stewardship

Completion of felling and thinning on west side of common off Park Corner with some trees and coppicing reducing the growth, to alleviate wet areas and encourage wild flower and grass regeneration.

6.7 Recreation Areas

Gloucester Park

Previously dealt with in item 3.1 plus reports from 6.5 regarding youth drinking there.

Roestock Park/Sleapshyde Park

The issue requires grant funding; Clerk to examine a new and viable option in Part II

6-8 Footpaths P3 and Rights of Way-Bridleways-BOAT-RUPP

Footpath 44 and 23

Works have now been completed by Sentry Farms. Clerk is monitoring surface.

This path makes a DDA access to Roestock Park possible, within use limits of any individual scooter or trolley. Such persons should make their own judgement.

7 HIGHWAYS-TRANSPORT-FOOTPATHS AND VERGES

7-1 Highways & Maintenance & Signs local Roads or major route reports

The Clerk is keeping the three previous month's written format as it is important to maintain the pressure of three key issues. The item discretionary fund allocation following does need some action as it affects the school safety matter that was dealt with earlier in the year by Cllr Brazier. This money is not now to come from a special rural fund it appears to have slipped we have been advised it will not be forthcoming. Three issues being carried over;-

- Smallford Bridge traffic lights proposal
- Agreed £70k spend on safer school crossing
- High Street resurfacing

Less specific for HHWP but still live and unresolved at 7th March 2008

1. Road patching on bend near Long-about-corrugated surface apparently on HHWP plan and waiting closure order
2. Opposite the Grange two area of surface patching-HHWP to assess

The Clerk reported that he was very disappointed to have to advise members that the HHWP had not responded to any e-mails or phone calls to make a date for meeting the Parish Council since November. We have now been informed that a new team is in place and Mr Kevin Williams is not on highways now. The suggestion came from Cllr Brazier to send a complaint to Area Manager Mid West Highways Mr Walmsley with a copy to Mr V Gilbert HHWP at H/Q-WGC.

Meeting 22nd January 2008-Allocation of HCC Discretionary Funding

Cllr Brazier was trying to get funding to start works on School Crossing. A meeting was held at 10am on 22nd January 2008 with CDA & HHWP and Crossing Patrols Service-and Cllr Brazier in an effort to move this on. Since this meeting we have been notified the Schools crossing patrols safety partnership have decided to go ahead to up-grade the signage and road markings at the JMI during Easter. No allocation at this

time exists for any further Rural Funding or that promised with help via CDA for road schemes according to e-mail from Martin Sears HHWP dated 5th February-circulated. Jacqui Grant of CDA had been asked to become involved under the rural funding and a community plan (we have a village plan?) but this has apparently slipped off the agenda now. See meeting report and e-mails circulated to councillors during January. Cllr Brazier said a subject to raise with Association Town & Parish Councils who did suggest the CDA link? However on the positive side CHJMI are to get long overdue improvements. But the £70k he was positively promised last year has disappeared.
Meeting to further crossing issues that was scheduled for 18th March is cancelled

7-2 Paths and Access-attached or adjacent to Highways

Smallford Bridge and Peggys Path remain in a poor state of repair, again parish office have on the list and have e-mailed HHWP for fixing about the condition of Peggy's Path and litter in ditches. Also fencing on the road side of the bridge in a dangerous condition over a sheer drop. Cllr Crump has removed several bags of litter from the area himself by voluntarily spending time to clear it up. He sent a note to SCADC to collect 6 bags of litter he left by the bus shelter following his community action.

7.3 Tollgate Road-Cameras

Safety cameras or VA cameras wanted at Tollgate Lane-still with HHWP for action.

7-4 Transport and Friday Shopping Bus

Cllr Horner gave details of the bus, all is running satisfactory. With the new building works and road changes in Hatfield we might have to look again at the supermarket. He will keep members advised.

7-5 Long –About A414

There are no further matters to report other than we hear the overall priority position realistic plans for improvements awaited.

7.6 M25 Widening starting summer 2008

No further reports other than local papers advising road works will have a wide effect.

7.7 Highway Warning Signs & Mandatory Signs

Again we have noted requirements for HHWP attention-Clerk reported frustration at not being able to get HHWP here to meetings or respond to calls and e-mails.

Members suggested we write to Highways Manager and copy Mr V Gilbert at WGC

1. Signage at entrance to village fallen down
2. VAS Speed sign not working-50mph
3. Need a No HGV Sign at entrance preferably on large sign board
4. Road surface repairs at entrance
5. Gateway bed posts at Coursers Rd need cleaning

Refer to item 7.1

7.8 Verge Parking District Council Highways Panel Meeting 6th March

Cllr Day was late for the meeting making the second half have been required to attend the district meeting earlier that evening. These are important matters to Colney Heath and his representation important to both, details of the minutes will be circulated to all members when received from SCADC.

8 PUBLIC QUESTIONS-8.30

Allotments

Mr Wilson asked again about the allotment issue, there is a misunderstanding over the council position in that we are frequently asked if the parish has provided any plots. It is not the intention of this council to regain the access to previous sites unless the District Council who now own the land offer the lease onto the market. That is a most unlikely prospect, a lease has been granted to a tenant and protection of 1954 L&T act will apply. What the council is trying to find is spare land or set-aside elsewhere in the village that may be available. An advert has since been placed in the Chronicle.

Barley Mow Lane Closure Petition - (Between Riparian Way & Barley Mow Stables-no vehicles)

The Chair was asked about the current position of the council on the petition to close Barley Mow Lane. He said on a personal note and this was probably echoed by other councillors he was not in favour. However this was a valid petition and we have now noted the public concern. Whilst not on the agenda could be in future if members had concerns expressed to them. He also added that he could see the views of the residents had sympathy he also wanted to see the problems dealt with by police arising from the criminal damage many had suffered. This might be a solution, but police were not endorsing this move but ultimately decision rests with HHWP and District Council

Tree issues

Mr Myland asked if HHWP had been advised of the massive growth of common ivy strangulating the oaks and trees on the A414, if not attended to they will die. Clerk mentioned he has already written to SCADC Tree officer.

The Chair reminded all present that he was going into a Part II at about 9.30 and so on if there was any questions on any issues then please speak now.

9 COUNCIL BUILDINGS-ORGANISATIONS & TRUSTEE MATTERS

9-1 High Street Recreation Area Pavilion and CHFC

The minutes of the meeting of the newly formed buildings working group have been circulated to all members under Part II (Blue paper) two issues Cllr Rump delivered were that a further meeting is to be arranged with the club, and we are to go ahead with a lease valuation and dilapidation reports by a qualified surveyor. Cllr Brazier felt we were going in the right direction. The Chair said we can debate more in part II

9-2 Treasure Tots Pre-School.

The Clerk read out the Leader's report to members on behalf of Cllr Crump. Members to note the statutory 2007-8 AGM will be held on Monday 17th March at 9.30am in the Commiunity Room. Main topics of funding and obtaining new members of the committee, and a vice chair. Clerk to give overview on finances, Secretary on the attendance records and fees.

9-3 Village Hall Committee

Clerk has been asked to write to insurers over a clarification of liability issue. Next meeting is scheduled for early May, we should try to attend-Cllr Horner is council representative on VHC and Clerk attends when he can.

9-4 Charles Morris Hall

Fence issue may be solved by intervention by Mr N McCabe Gypsy Officer according to Cllr Day; the County have offered to fence their land to stop horses entering.

Clerk requested to be kept informed as we still may have to get our own estimate to fence boundary if HCC option does not materialise. Cheapest option of chestnut post and barbed wire with a squeeze gap. Cllr Reeves recommended we try contractor who did works on T/Tots play area and Roestock again. Clerk to contact them after Easter.

9-5 Highfield Community Park & Trustees

No further reports other than apologies to Mr Jon Ely for typo misspelling his name

9-6 Other local Organisations-Guides Scouts-Harvesters

Assistant Clerk has received the 2008 rental fee of £55. An application for a £500 grant received late from Cherry Green Trees-to be deferred until May meeting.

9-7 Youth Organisations Locally & Youth Council

No reports-Cllr Brazier said the YMCA had taken this over now at Highfield

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

North Mymms Parish Council

Cllr Reeves try and will attend Civic Service on Sunday 6th April St Mary's Church North Mymms Park @11.15 am-Cllr Reeves to decide and send off form enclosed.

10-1 Fly Tipping Reports & Raised Humps-adjacent to Mr Sturbridge's Land

Copies of list given to all members at the meeting. Still the raised humps issue at the corner of Highfield Lane & farm gate, and Cllr Rump asked this is not forgotten, Cllr Reeves had offered to speak at appropriate opportunity with the farmer, and he added that this may need to be sorted out on a personal visit.

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

Police meeting report 23/01/08 circulated to all members in previous post out. Members were handed out the anti-social-behaviour list- one important note was the instance of a violent assault on a resident at his home in Smallford Lane. Another in a home at Church Lane a local tradesperson & nearby yard, assaulted and cash stolen. Letter regarding PCSO funding, cost £7500.00 members were unanimous that this is double taxation and would not consider funding. Cllr Reeves and Cllr Brazier feel we have lost out on the beat bobby in Colney Heath. Alternatives are not considered to be any where near a sufficient enough replacement. We would like to return to a local beat policeman in the village.

10-3 Twinning

Latest reports circulated to all members, also forthcoming events list. Note this year it is the turn of the association to visit France, we understand the coach is fully booked.

10-4 Reports from Members attending other meetings

No reports this time

Lafarge Liaison Meeting

No date fixed so far this year.

Nomansland Management Committee

Report received –no one attended-circulated for information.

10.5 Fairs Festivals and local community events

Members were asked to consider a one off grant to the Village Day, the Clerk had been contacted by organiser who was suggesting a date for the event of 19th July. A grant was past granted in previous years amounting to £500, this time maybe the event will require £600/700. Clerk has requested a letter from the organiser. Members generally agreed but final decision may need to be left to Chair of Finance by giving his approval to the Clerk this time due to meeting schedules over next two months. The event attracts sponsors and is popular with the village; use of the High Street ground offers a safe enclosed location. CHFC open the bar all day gaining revenue.

Village of the Year 2008

Hertfordshire Village of the Year 2008 Jo Simpson sending invitations to Parish Councils to participate-members did not feel inclined to organise this time.

Fair Trade Fortnight

Notification of SCADC annual event

Children's Pantomime

After huge and popular event for the first time this year, Assistant Clerk would like to have council approval to pre-book next year for either 3rd or 10th January 2009.

10-6 Reports as Listed-HM Govt: Local and National Issues ect: & HCC

Gypsy site allocation consultation, 12 week public consultation out, Cllr Brazier is to draft a letter for the parish to send. We are opposed to further sites in the area. We are already have the largest number of sites in Hertfordshire in the district according to Cllr Brazier, who said the council will challenge any more being sited here.

HCC Waste Development Framework

Consultation-office has this large document;-consultation by 10th March-subject for members attention-advise Clerk of any policy statements by 10/03/08

10.7 St Albans Association of Town & Parish Councils

A plea for more members to attend the four meetings per year, Cllr Horner will try to attend the next on behalf of CHPC. All Meetings start at 7.30-Tuesdays -22nd April Redbourne-8th July-Wheathampsted-7th October- Harpenden. (Parish Office at each)

10-8 Minutes received from other Associations

Members noted the list of committee and other papers.

11-11-1 Members Questions

The Clerk asked if any member wishes to attend the Police Seminar on 27-29 April at WGC HQ invitation copies circulated to all members.

11-2 News Releases

SCADC are still seeking a village tree warden, advert placed in Chronicle.

11-3 Matters received since publishing the agenda

Civic Service for North Mymms Parish Council, Cllr Reeves said he may be able to attend with Mrs Reeves, unclear who is to reply, Clerk or Cllr Reeves.

11.4 Dog Waste Bins

Assistant Clerk to put an extra dog waste bin at Roestock Lane-quotes being obtained, Common bin is frequently being overfilled, possible that we get imported waste left.

11.5 Deleted

12 OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Clerk has submitted a claim for two items on HATPC grants. Bus shelter needs OPP

12-1 Staff and Office Matters

Assistant Clerk has salary upgrade by one spinal point starting April for 2008-9 year.

12-2 Clerk Report on future matters needing attention

No reports this time-deferred

12-3 Notice Boards and Signs & Bus Shelters

Mr Stayton to repair vandal damaged Tyttenhanger bus shelter. Plans required to be sent off for new shelter in Hall Gardens/Grange area. Permission will be required from landowner-possibly Highways. Also 2 notice boards to be refurbished this year.

12-4 Commons Licences & Wayleaves

The Clerk said he had found past fact the revenue from residents on the High Street only generated £30.00 per annum the rate being just £5 per dwelling 2002/3.

12.6 Publicity & Chronicle

Clerk advised members the next issue spring 2008 due out any day now, Clerk reminds members next deadline for June Summer 2008 issue is May.

12-6 Flooding and Encams

We have just received the report from the EA which will be made available to those attending the meeting and residents of Park Lane. Council to convene another flood group meeting of affected residents at a later date.

12-7 Capital Purchases

Clerk to make new purchases of IT equipment and software in order to claim from HATPC Grant of paying up to 75% of cost.

12.8 Tyttenhanger Sign

Dedication plate still required Clerk and Chair Cllr Reeves to get together on this

Strategic Housing Land Availability-SHLAA & DPD's

Still applies see letter dated 4th February 2008 SCADC regarding the above subject, Clerk asks any member wishing to respond either write in their own capacity or notify the parish office sating their information on land sites know to them individually.

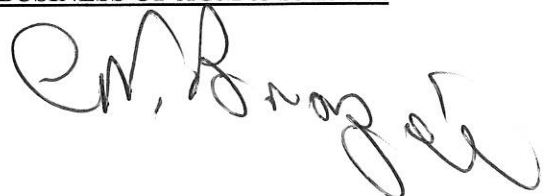
This meeting closed at 10.06 pm



John Dean
Clerk to the Council

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Next meeting APM Thursday 10TH APRIL 2008-NORMAL BUSINESS OF AGM to be held at Christian Centre St Marks Church Church Lane



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06 MAR 2008

06 MAR 2008-Part II-(BLUE PAPER)

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL **MINUTES OF THE PART II FINANCE MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE** **HALL ON THURSDAY 6th March 2008-9.30.-10.06pm**

Present; - Cllr P Reeves-Chair-Cllr C Brazier-Cllr G Rump-Cllr J Day-Cllr D Horner.

Clerk; Mr J E Dean

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1. APOLOGIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS & DECLARATION

There were apologies given for Cllr Henschley regarding prolonged hospitalisation
Cllr Cloke-Cllr Crump.

2. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising the Chair signed the previous minutes of January 10th
The Clerk noted one mistake-date on agenda should read 7th February not 10th

3 THE BUSINESS OF THE PART II

Cllr Reeves mentioned the allotments issue debated earlier and made a statement over how the sale came about. He expressed surprise and concern at the public anger demonstrated against the council, we were not trying to steal any ones genuine land lease. We were openly looking for allotment land. Cllr Brazier asked the Clerk to send Chris Gowans a set of minutes. The Clerk added that copies of the minutes normally get sent once approved in council.

APP/B1930/A/07/2035098-Nuckies Farm, Coursers Road Colney Heath. **PPS 25 IS THE PLANNING STATUTE;- OF ALLOWING/NOT ALLOWING** **BUILDING OR DEVELOPMENT IN A FLOOD PLAIN**

Parish underwriting of legal action

Cllr Brazier gave members an overview of the legal issue and progress so far, we have exchanged various papers and Cllr Brazier presented to the Clerk the full case book statement copy as given to lawyers. This will be kept in confidence at the parish office for record purposes. Our legal costs so far are £7,000 we had £2,000 in donations.

The Chambers Legal firm chosen by Ottaways (Mrinalini Rajaratnam) is Jeremy Pike of Francis Taylor Clerk for the Statutory Appeal-Nuckies Farm.

The Clerk is receiving the sequence of legal papers from Cllr Brazier and the legal firm for the record but not circulating this time. However members are able to read them in the office if they wish to do so. The solicitors have advised that it is unlikely we will see this case come before the Judge until September 2008. It is understood that Secretary of State has referred her issues to the departmental Leading Counsel.

Trespass Damages Costs and Legal Charge on Land

Other legal advice had been obtained after the Clerk wrote to Ottaways regarding the claim for charges on the issues surrounding trespass and other expenditure between May 2005 and January 2007 of costs unnecessarily incurred by the parish council. Members had little time to debate this item and it will be deferred to a later meeting. It should be decided at such a meeting if members wish to have two legal issues in tandem or overlapping at the same time. Within that issue there may have to be a consideration about time scale. We do not want to run out of any legal time on the recovery potential of a charge if opinion was granted in our favour.

P2-02 Lease of Pavilion

Members have already been copied with the minutes of the 18th February meeting with representatives of the football club and working party. It was very amicable. The Resolution last meeting-this council gives the working party authority to begin the format of a new revised lease for a suitable Tenant to the Pavilion Building and attached grounds. This may be the present or it could be a consortium, or another completely renewed tenancy from an operation wishing to run a bar lease. All options available to CHPC were being examined. The new Tenancy may be referred to a tender process if more applications come forward. We had met the Club on 18th Feb and the issues had been clearly explained. This council has to reduce the yearly costs on the building and reach a point where the lease equals the income at least. Also a regime of safety controls proper management within a statutory legal framework and adherence to the lease. In conclusion the meeting set out the following criteria:-

1. Building changes must be notified
2. What is the status of the Rugby Club in the constitution of the club and lease
3. Costs relating to insurance and rent
4. Lease free year ends March 2008 after which a fee is payable
5. Insurance is payable at current premium

Members were advised by the working group that a second meeting will be set up with the club by Cllr Rump and the Clerk to advise the outcome of our decision.

The delivery of

- a) A dilapidation report
- b) District Valuer report
- c) A section 25/26 notice will have to be served at some stage to change lease

The Clerk is to arrange at an appropriate time after the proposed meeting.

P2-03 Grant Aid review and Section 137 Payments

The remaining business of this part of agenda was deferred on the grant for CHFC

P2-04 Treasure Tots Pre Scholl Accounts

Presentation deferred to a future meeting

P2-05 Staff Contracts including Treasure Tots

Presentation deferred to a future meeting

P2-06 Recreation & Play Area Funding

The Clerk asked members to consider the opportunity to purchase special discounted play equipment from Safe & Sound Ltd. The bundle of play equipment offered was at least 50% off fully up to specification and would in his opinion provide an instant solution to the Sleafshyde play area. This had been devoid of play equipment for over 18 months now and earlier replacements had been costed at £35-40,000. This kit will be available at about £10,-11,000 including installation. (Clearly a bargain one-off.) Members agreed this was an opportunity not to be missed and gave the Clerk the full authority to get the project sorted out keeping members informed. The Clerk accepted the members confidence and will get a quotation to be sent round to members in their post out to be view and finally consider over the Easter Holiday. If there is no general disagreement order will be placed immediately after the holiday.

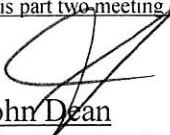
Action was agreed

Proposed Cllr Rump

Seconded Cllr Brazier

This was supported by all members present.

This part two meeting closed at 10.06 pm



John Dean

Clerk to the Council