

PLEASE BRING TO
MEETING ON 14/5/97

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of Colney Heath Parish Council held at the Pavilion, High Street Recreation Ground on Wednesday 9 April 1997 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT

Cllr. C. Brazier (Chairman)

" D. Crump
" F. S. Ellis
" Mrs. H. Lynch

" Mrs. M. Nash
" S. Parish

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs. G. Moody Greenleas Roestock Lane
Mrs. J. Jeffrey 18 Roestock Gardens

Mrs. C. Pluck (Clerk)

APOLOGIES

Cllr. Miss Thomas (work commitment)
" Mrs. S. Defoe (work commitment)

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 12/3/97 were taken as read, approved and signed as a true record.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Page 2 - Common Land to West of Church Lane

Received a letter from Shell Mex reporting that the company had not been responsible for erecting the fencing or barbed wire across the area of Common land adjacent to the Shell land and that any horses grazing on the Shell land were in fact trespassing as no permission had been given by Shell for them to be kept there.
The Common Ranger had now removed the wire and Shell had agreed to remove the heavy chain across the footpath stile.

Received a letter and accompanying plan from Jarvis Holdings of Harpenden who were in the process of purchasing the land and looking to develop it for leisure use. They proposed to site a bowls and tennis club on the site with the remaining land to be for public recreation in the form of various sports facilities and community woodland. The Parish Council's comments were sought on the precise use of the land.
RESOLVED i) to ask the CDC Planning Dept. whether they considered the proposed plans to be low intensity leisure use and whether it was likely to be approved when a planning application was submitted.
ii) to arrange a meeting with Jarvis Holdings once a reply had been received from the CDC Planning Dept.

Page 2 Sleepshyde Village Green

The Clerk reported that following the letter from Mrs. Tomkins regarding her concerns over the lack of appropriate road markings and signs at Sleepshyde Green the matter had been passed to District Cllr. Henchley who had arranged for the work to be carried out.

Page 2 - Parking on Colney Heath Common

The Clerk reported that the Open Spaces Society would be operating a new scheme whereby its members could take advantage of 20 minutes of Solicitors time to seek advice on certain matters relating to open spaces, Commons etc.
Due to staff changes this service was not yet available.
No reply had been received from the DoE regarding the legality of residents parking on Common land.

2. MATTERS ARISING (CONT.)

Page 7 - Smallford Playing Fields

Received a reply from the County Property Partnership stating that they were unable to supply the Council with a copy of the terms of the lease of Smallford Playing Fields to Harvesters Football Club but that they were willing to meet representatives of the Parish Council and the Smallford Residents Association on site to discuss the creation of a childrens play area on a suitable piece of land.

RESOLVED to arrange a meeting with the County Property Partnership, Cllrs. Mrs. Nash & Mrs. Defoe and a representative from the Residents Association.

Page 8 - Footpaths & Bridleways

Cllrs. Mrs. Nash & Brazier confirmed that they would be compiling a response to the Public Path Diversion Order - Bridleway 6 and the Draft S106 Obligation as soon as possible.

Page 10 - Colney Heath Farm

No reply had been received from the EA in response to the Council's enquiry about the portacabin sited on the flood plain at the farm and the possible hazards from its close proximity to the river.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman had no items of business notified to him since the last meeting.

4. SPECIAL BUSINESS

a) BUTTERFIELDS RECOVERY

Considered the letter from the owner of Butterfields Recovery, received at the previous meeting and the subsequent letter to Cllr. Mrs. Defoe from Littman Robeson - Chartered Town Planners - concerning the application for a site in London Colney. RESOLVED to reply to Mr. Butterfield that the Council had given full consideration to his letter at the meeting on 9/4/97 and wished him every success in his endeavours to relocate his business.

b) COLNEY HEATH CHRONICLE

Received quotations from two local printing companies for the printing, collation, folding, stitching and delivery of the Colney Heath Chronicle. RESOLVED to await receipt of two further quotations before considering the matter further at the next Parish Council meeting.

5. FINANCE

a) PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS

Received copies of all emergency and current accounts having previously been circulated to all Cllrs. RESOLVED that the Chairman's action in signing, out of meeting, all emergency cheques be confirmed and that cheques be drawn to cover all current accounts.

b) CHARITY OF CHARLES MORRIS ACCOUNTS

Caroline Pluck, as Hon. Clerk to the Trustees, presented an up-to-date financial report.

6. TOWN PLANNING

a) PLANNING APPLICATIONS - weekly lists for 14/21 March and 5 April 1997. Cllr. Mrs. Defoe (Planning Applications Officer) was not present at the meeting and therefore was unable to report on comments which had been passed to the C. & D.C. on any of the applications.

b) APPEALS AND ENFORCEMENT NOTICES

No appeals or enforcement notices had been received since the last meeting.

S.P.

6. TOWN PLANNING (CONT.)

c) PLANNING DECISIONS

The Clerk reported no notification of any planning decisions received since the last meeting.

7. OPEN SPACES

a) COLNEY HEATH COMMON

i) Common Ranger's Report for March 1997.

Received the Common Ranger's 104th report.

Cllrs. discussed the appearance of the earth bund on the Common to the east of Coursers Road which had been planted with daffodils after being created last year.

Cllr. Mrs. Nash was concerned that the CMS would consider that daffodils were an inappropriate species to be planted on the Common particularly with its pending LNR status and felt that the bund should be smoothed over and planted with a suitable grass.

RESOLVED that the Common Ranger speak to the CMS for their comments and suggestions.

ii) Colney Heath - Flood Alleviation Scheme

Received an invitation from the Carl Bro Group to attend a public meeting to be held at The Christian Centre, Church Lane, Colney Heath on 17/4/97 to hear an update of the Feasibility Study for the flood alleviation scheme.

iii) Colney Local Environment Agency Plan

Received details of the proposed plan of action and a request for information on environmental initiatives and key environmental issues for the area.

RESOLVED that Cllr. Mrs. Nash obtain Simon Lewis's report on crayfish and Christine Shepperson's report on dragonflies and submit them as examples of environmental initiatives along with comments on the need for restoration of local sand and gravel areas.

iv) Declaration of Local Nature Reserve

Received a further letter from the CDC District Secretary informing the Council that once the terms of the ownership agreement were confirmed the draft would be sent to Parish Council for their approval.

v) Colney Heath Farm

Cllrs. queried the creation of the track/driveway and hardstanding at the entrance from Tollgate Road to the new stable block erected at the farm.
RESOLVED to ask Cllr. Mrs. Defoe to enquire about the unauthorised development and circulate her comments and the CDC Enforcement Officers response before the next meeting.

vi) Warren Farm Track

It was reported that the increasing width of the Warren Farm track was eroding the Common.
RESOLVED that the Common Working Party recommend solutions to prevent any further erosion.

v) Proposed Peters Green to South Mimms Gas Pipeline

Received a letter and consultation document from British Gas Transco regarding the proposal to route part of the pipeline across Colney Heath Common.
The Clerk confirmed that she had sent a copy of the document to Toby Lowe at the CMS for his comments on the method of construction and restoration plans.

S.P.

Received a copy of the letter from Redlands to the Club in response to their request for use of land adjacent to the HSRG.
 RESOLVED to write to Redland Aggregates confirming that the Parish Council would be happy to pursue the matter of acquiring adjacent land to the HSRG for additional football pitches and suggesting a site meeting to discuss Redlands proposals on the matter.
 Received information from the HSRG Groundsman on the pipes and materials necessary to repair the guttering around the roof of the air raid shelter.
 RECEIVED to ask Mr. Paxton for a quotation for the supply and fitting of new guttering.

Received a letter from the Football Club in response to the Council's letter about various plans the Club were proposing for the HSRG.
 RESOLVED to inform the Club that the Parish Council did not agree to the Clubs proposals for dual use of the tennis courts and therefore the courts would remain as they were.
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c) HIGH STREET RECREATION GROUND.

Received a letter from MRS setting out the costs for the purchase and maintenance of dog bins for the Council's recreation areas.
 RESOLVED to order the bins direct from the manufacturer as before and to ask whether signs were available to make dog owners more aware of the presence of dog bins in a recreation area and if so at what cost per sign.
 Received a letter from the CDC by-laws covering dog fouling on public recreational areas also applied to Parish Council owned or leased recreation areas.
 RESOLVED to contact the CDC Leisure Dept. to seek clarification of this matter.
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Received a letter from a resident of Boissy Close regarding his concerns over the state of Boissy Park and requesting that certain investigations be carried out to ensure the safety of all those using the park.
 RESOLVED to inform the resident
 i) that a copy of his letter had been forwarded to the HCC Environment Department who were responsible for carrying out methane monitoring.
 ii) that the Parish Council were in the process of installing dog bins in all their recreation areas and that the protruding poles on the slide would be rectified by the Park Ranger as soon as possible.
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7. OPEN SPACES (CONT.)

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S.P.

Highfield Lane
Cllr. Ellis reported on the small remaining section of the original Highfield Lane, on the south of the road near the junction with the A414, which was very muddy and uneven and prone to dumping.

Notcutts Layby
It was reported that a recovery vehicle was regularly parked in the lay-by outside Notcutts Nursery which caused an obstruction on the highway and prevented any other motorists from using the lay-by.
RESOLVED to write to Graham Stephens (CDC Technical Services) asking if any restrictions existed to prohibit the regular parking of a large vehicle in such a lay-by and if so could the CDC take action to resolve the matter.

d) BUS SHELTER - STATION ROAD, SMALLFORD
Received details of companies providing rural bus shelters, following the liquidation of the company originally asked to supply and fit a shelter in Station Road, Smallford. RESOLVED to await one further quotation for the supply and installation of a new bus shelter in Station Road, Smallford before making a decision and placing an order.

c) FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS
Received Cllr. Brazier's report on Footpaths in the Parish.
It was reported that some of the recently installed waymarker posts had been loosened or pulled out of the ground possibly due to either the dryness of the soil or vandalism. RESOLVED to ask Mr. Paxton to quote for cementing the posts into the ground.
Received a letter from the CDC Footpaths Officer informing the Council of the proposal to place a Traffic Regulation Order on BOAT 54 (Hixberry Lane) to prohibit motorised vehicles from using the lane, with the exception of allowing access to frontages.
RESOLVED to inform the CDC that the Parish Council strongly support the CDC application for a Traffic Regulation Order on BOAT 54.

b) SMALLFORD TRAIL
There was no update on any matters relating to the Smallford Trail.

8. HIGHWAYS
a) PUBLIC TRANSPORT
Passenger Transport Update no. 110 - April

f) HIGHFIELD TRUST
Cllr. Ellis reported that the next meeting of the Highfield Trust would be held on 22/4/97.

e) COMMUNITY PARK.
The Clerk reported that the new seat had now been installed at the park.

d) PARK RANGERS REPORT FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH
Received Mr. Paxton's reports.
RESOLVED to ask Mr. Paxton why he regularly referred to there being "No bark to take" at Sleapsyde Playground as the Council was unaware of a shortage of playbark in the play area.
It had been reported to the Clerk that clumps of mud were being deposited on the tennis courts and causing problems for members of the public wishing to play tennis. RESOLVED to ask Mr. Paxton to include sweeping of the tennis courts in his duties at the High Street Recreation Ground.

8. HIGHWAYS (CONT.)
RESOLVED to ask Graham Stephens (CDC Technical Services) if anything could be done to close or block off this section of road to prevent further dumping and improve the appearance of the lane.

9. COUNCIL OWNED (OR TRUSTEE) BUILDINGS

a) VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL
Received Cllr. Brazier's report as representative of the Village Hall Council.
Received information from the Community Development Agency for Hertfordshire on procedures, grant schemes etc. for carrying out capital improvements to Village Halls.
Received a report on the meeting held on 7/4/97 to discuss the proposed improvements to the Hall.
The Clerk reported that she had arranged for an architect (recommended by the CDA) to visit the Hall on 30/4/97 to draw up plans for the proposed extension.
A meeting had also been arranged to visit the Standon Parish Electronic Centre where community facilities such as wordprocessing, Internet access, photocopying, faxing etc. were available.
The Clerk and Cllr. Mrs. Nash would be compiling a questionnaire for circulation within the parish to establish what facilities would be desired or needed if a new Parish Office/Community Room were built and what existing facilities could be improved and extended at the Village Hall.
Cllr. Mrs. Nash confirmed that both the CDC and the DoE had confirmed that extending the Village Hall onto the Common would be approved for community use.

b) CHARLES MORRIS HALL MANAGEMENT CTTEE.

Cllr. Ellis had no items to report affecting, or requiring the decision of, the Parish Council.

10. OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

a) CBTA
Newsletter - March 1997
b) CVS
CVS News - March 1997
c) CMS
Invitation to St. Albans Countryside Cycle Ride Leaflet Launch - 24/3/97
d) CPRE
Hartwood magazine - Spring 1997
e) HCC
Voice magazine - Spring 1997
Child Pedestrian Safety Campaign
Hertfordshire Car Free Day - 17/6/97
Hertfordshire Minerals Local Plan (Modifications) Inquiry
f) Hertfordshire Police Authority
Information leaflet and questionnaire on Proposed New Consultation Arrangements 1997. Replies required by 2/5/97.
g) London Colney Parish Council
London Colney News - Spring 1997
h) St. Albans District Association of Parish Councils
Agenda for meeting on 15/4/97 at the Charles Morris Hall, Tittenhanger Green.
i) St. Albans & District Footpaths Society
Chairman's Notes - April to July 1997
j) NALC
Invitation to attend a training session on "Local Councils: Raising the Profile" on 18/6/97.

11. STAFF

There were no matters relating to the Council's staff.

S.P.

12. ST. ALBANS CITY & DISTRICT COUNCIL

a) AGENDA, MINUTES, REPORTS

8/10/96	Housing Ctee. & Representatives from the Housing Associations.
28/1/97	Housing Sub-Committee
13/2/97	Tenants Association Advisory Committee
24/3/97	Planning Sub-Committee (South)

b) WRITTEN REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED BY COUNCILLORS

Received Cllr. Brazier's report on the Twinning Association meeting held on 20/3/97.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.05 p.m.

Chairman.....
Stephen Paine

Date.....
14 May 1997

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 9 APRIL 1997

PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS

a) Emergency Payments:	155.10	
G. Stayton - shelter repairs	348.36	
shelter maintenance	599.25	
tennis court kick boards		
Wages Account - March payments	1102.71	
C.S.Pluck - salary & allowances March	680.00	
salary (30 hours)	1006.22	
fringe all.	31.75	
staff plusage	157.33	
LESS superann.	1195.30	
" income tax	71.72	
" national ins.	167.64	
	76.26	
PLUS car all.	879.68	
" 193 miles @34.4p	66.75	
" office all.	66.39	
" superann.	50.00	
R. Paxton - March grass contract	71.72	
	1134.54	
	682.50	
	<u>3599.75</u>	

£

b) Current Accounts

Inland Revenue - March	17.00	
I.T. Howard	26.64	
Fowler	59.76	
Paxton	167.64	
Pluck	271.04	
Pluck (c)	93.99	
" (p)	76.26	
Kall Kwik - monthly account for March	170.25	
CPRF - 1997 subscription	17.50	
St. Albans CDC - Sleepshyde rental 1997	100.00	
R. Barrows - typesetting Chronicle issue 87	160.00	
British Telecom. - phone bill to 24/3/97	211.68	
Straightforward Stationers - Chronicle printing	448.50	
Eastern Elec. - HSRG lighting to 31/3/97	9.29	
HCC - Council contribution to Clerk's SA (115%)	989.71	
HALC - 1997/98 subscription	345.00	
HALC - 4 copies of Local Council Review	31.80	
	<u>2840.58</u>	

£

BALANCES as at 7/4/97

Current Account Credit Balance	3703.38
B.R.Account Credit Balance	11221.32
Capital Reserve Account Balance	51766.94
Wages Account Credit Balance	467.49
Map Account - Current	90.66
Map Account - B.R.	834.63

£

Included in Capital Reserve Account:
Common Trust
Building Fund

£
7500.00
20000.00

MONIES RECEIVED AND BANKED SINCE THE MEETING ON 12/3/97

Colney Heath Football Club - March rental
S. Lloyd - March tennis
HCC - bus shelter grant (Station Road)

£
216.67
33.00
1245.00
1494.67

**CHARITY OF CHARLES MORRIS FOR ALLOTMENTS
AT TYTTENHANGER GREEN**

BALANCES as at 7/4/97

Current Account Credit Balance
B.R. Account Credit Balance
Capital Account Credit Balance

£
97.44
426.87
3274.71

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL - ACCOUNT STATEMENT

April 1997

ITEM BUDGET MONTHLY EXPENSE PREDICTED ACTUAL EXPENSE UNDERSPEND

ADMIN	15892	2278	15892	16456	-564
SALARIES	11152	783	11152	10770	382
WAGES	600	50	600	600	0
OFFICE ACCOM.	1000	86	1000	632	368
COPYING	621	212	621	892	-271
TELEPHONE	2013	133	2013	1714	299
MILEAGE	667	395	667	614	53
SUBS. & DONS.	100	0	100	0	100
COURSES	1035	0	1035	1000	35
BETTY CASH	650	0	650	669	-19
OFFICE EQUIP.	33730	3937	33730	33347	383
OPEN SPACES	6180	683	6180	5879	301
GRASS CUTTING	2200	0	2200	852	1348
COMMON	400	0	400	350	50
BOISSY PARK	500	0	500	399	101
COMMUNITY PARK	400	0	400	145	255
GLOUCESTER PGD.	850	609	850	1504	-654
HIGH STREET	1400	100	1400	480	920
SLEAPSHYDE/POND	500	0	500	765	-265
TYTTEHANGER	200	0	200	230	-30
MARCS CH.	2400	0	2400	65	2335
ROESTOCK PARK	15030	1392	15030	10669	4361
BUILDINGS	350	0	350	290	60
VILLAGE HALL	0	0	0	0	0
SCOUT HUT	10000	0	10000	10000	0
BUILDING FUND	3100	503	3100	2041	1059
BUS SHELTERS	400	0	400	0	400
NOTICE BOARDS	657	0	657	897	-240
PAVILION	14507	503	14507	13228	1279
MISCELLANEOUS	4000	609	4000	2662	1338
CHRONICLE	4060	0	4060	4283	-223
MISCELLANEOUS	1000	0	1000	0	1000
CONTINGENCY	9060	609	9060	6945	2115
TOTAL	723227	6441	72327	64189	8138
INCOME	9374	1495		6821	
BALANCE 95/96	51594				
US UNDERSPEND	8138				
ALANCE 96/97	59732				