

**PLEASE BRING TO
MEETING ON 11/6/97**

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Annual Meeting of Colney Heath Parish Council held at the Pavilion, High Street Recreation Ground on Wednesday 14 May 1997 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT Cllr. C. Brazier (Chairman)
" D. Crump
" Mrs. S. Defoe
" F. S. Ellis
" Mrs. H. Lynch
" Mrs. M. Nash
" S. Parish
" Miss A. Thomas

IN ATTENDANCE

D. Becker 95 High Street
Mrs. M. Brown 2a Colney Heath Lane
M. Hughes 66 Oaklands Lane
Mrs. G. Moody Greenleas Roestock Lane
PC C. Thorpe St. Albans Police Stn.

Mrs. C. Pluck (Clerk)

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN 1997/98

Cllrs. discussed the election of a Chairman for the ensuing year.

It was proposed by Cllr. Brazier and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Defoe that Cllr. Parish be elected as Chairman for 1997/98.

Cllr. Parish accepted the election and took the chair.

2. CHAIRMAN'S ALLOWANCES 1997/98

Cllrs. considered the payment of an annual allowance to the Chairman. The sum of £100 had been included in the Budget estimates to cover any expenses incurred by the Chairman when carrying out official duties. *Stephen Paul*

RESOLVED to index the Chairman's Allowance as from 1997/98 and to discuss the annual increase at the 1997 budget meeting in November.

3. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN 1997/98

Cllrs. considered it advisable to appoint a Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs. Defoe and seconded by Cllr. Brazier that Cllr. Crump be nominated as Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

Cllr. Crump accepted the nomination.

4. FIXING OF MEETING PROGRAMME 1997/98

Cllrs. discussed the programme, times and venues for all Council meetings up to and including the 1998 Annual Council Meeting, which by law has to be held on any day in May, other than in an election year.

Cllrs. discussed a date and venue for the Annual Parish Meeting, which is open to all Local Government Electors and must be held after 6 p.m. on any date between 1/4 and 1/6.

Cllrs. discussed a date for the first budget meeting, leaving sufficient time for further meetings if necessary, before setting a figure for the Council's annual precept.

The following programme was agreed:

11 June	Pavilion	14 January	Pavilion
9 July	Pavilion	11 February	Pavilion
10 September	Pavilion	11 March	Pavilion
8 October	Pavilion	1 April	Charles
12 November	Pavilion	Morris Hall (Ann. Parish Mtg)	
26 November	Pavilion	8 April	Pavilion
(1st Budget)		13 May	Pavilion
10 December	Pavilion	(Annual Council Meeting)	

It was suggested that the 1998 Common Clearance be held on 18 April.

Cllr. Mrs. Nash suggested that the Council consider fixing a date for the 1998 Beating the Bounds.

RESOLVED to discuss a date for the 1998 Beating the Bounds at the next Council meeting.

5. APPOINTMENT OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS OFFICER 1997/98

Cllrs. considered the appointment of a Planning Applications Officer to collect the relevant weekly plans from the C.& D.C. and to collate any comments from Councillors on the applications before passing to the Clerk to be typed and submitted to the C.& D.C.

Cllr. Mrs. Defoe indicated that she was prepared to continue in the role of Planning Applications Officer and the Councillors discussed the possible merits of appointing a Planning Working Party or arranging pre-meetings to discuss major planning applications.

RESOLVED that Cllr. Mrs. Defoe undertake to circulate planning comments to all Councillors well before each meeting and to give a presentation on planning at a future Council meeting to make all Councillors fully aware of procedures.

6. APPOINTMENT OF WORKING PARTIES 1997/98

Cllrs. reviewed the need for, and the constitution of, the following working parties:

- a) COMMON W.P. (Cllrs. Crump [convener], Mrs. Defoe, Mrs. Nash, Brazier with Mr. Nash & Mrs. Shepperson invited to meetings if appropriate.
- b) PUBLIC PATHS W.P. (Cllrs. Brazier [convener], Crump, Ellis, Mrs. Nash with Mr. Jenkins and Mrs. Jeffrey as co-opted members.)
- c) RECREATIONAL AREAS (Cllrs. Mrs. Defoe [convener], Crump, Parish, Miss. Thomas)
- d) FINANCE & PERSONNEL W.P. (Cllrs. Ellis [convener], Crump, Brazier, Parish)
- e) CHRONICLE W.P. (Cllrs. Ellis [convener], Mrs. Lynch, Brazier, Parish)

7. APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES 1997/98

Cllrs. reviewed the appointment to the following outside bodies:

- a) Charles Morris Hall Management Cttee. Cllrs. Ellis & Lynch.
(to serve until Cttee. AGM)
- b) Colney Heath/Boissy/St. Yon Twinning Assn. Cllr. Brazier.
(to serve until Cttee. AGM)
- c) Village Hall Council Cllr. Brazier. (to serve until AGM)
- d) HALC (Exec. Cttee.) Cllr. Mrs. Defoe
- e) Colney Heath JMI School Governing Body Cllr. Parish
- f) St. Albans DAPC - Cllr. Brazier
- g) Library Users Group - Miss Thomas
- h) Parish Liaison Joint Cttee. - Mrs. Defoe
- i) Police Consultative Cttee. - to be agreed when the replacement Cttee. is established.

8. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9 April 1997 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a true and accurate record.

9. MATTERS ARISING

Page 1 - Common Land to West of Church Lane

Received a letter from the CDC Planning Dept. stating their concerns about the development of the land in relation to the scale and spread of buildings being proposed.

Cllrs. were conscious that no formal planning application had been submitted and that there was no official undertaking from the prospective developer (Jarvis Holdings) that community use would be provided.

RESOLVED i) to write to Jarvis Holdings stating that, after consideration and receipt of comments from the CDC Planning Dept., the Council did not wish to pursue the matter by inviting a company representative to make a presentation on the proposals. To stress that the Parish Council wished to see the land left as a green buffer zone at the edge of the village and that extra traffic that would be generated by the development would have a detrimental effect on Colney Heath.

ii) to ask the CDC Leisure Services Dept. if any funding was available for the Parish Council to provide recreational and social facilities for young people in the parish.

Cllrs. went on to discuss the future of the land & Cllr. Mrs. Defoe explained that Watling Chase Community Forest were prepared to put proposals to Shell UK for planting of the site under the Millennium Greens Project.

RESOLVED to write to Shell UK to enquire whether the sale of the land had been completed.

Page 1 - Parking on Colney Heath Common

Received a letter from the DoE addressing the Council's enquiries about the legality of residents parking their cars on Colney Heath Common.

The DoE had advised the Council to seek professional legal advice on whether parking on the Common was an offence under the Road Traffic Act.

RESOLVED i) that the Common Working Party summarise all the information and advice received to date on the issue of parking on the Common to be presented to the next Council meeting.

ii) to contact English Nature for their views on residents parking their cars on a Local Nature Reserve.

Page 2 - Smallford Playing Fields

The Clerk reported receipt of a map from County Property Partnership showing HCC ownership of the Smallford Playing Field but no identification of any other County-owned land in the Smallford area. Cllr. Mrs. Nash reported that she may be able to obtain a map or other information showing all HCC land in the area.

Mr. Hughes (Smallford Residents Association) was invited to speak on several matters of concern raised by the Residents Association:

i) Dog Bins

Mr. Hughes stressed the need for dog bins at Smallford Playing Fields.

RESOLVED that the Clerk write to County Property Partnership requesting that dog bins be installed at the site.

ii) Hatfield Road - pedestrian crossing

Mr. Hughes expressed his concerns at the dangers facing pedestrians wishing to cross the Hatfield Road at Smallford to walk in the direction of Smallford Post Office from Oaklands Lane. The speed and volume of traffic along the Hatfield Road rendered it very dangerous to cross near the roundabout.

RESOLVED to write to Graham Stephens (CDC Technical Services) requesting that he address the problem and arrange for the monitoring of traffic flow either

9. MATTERS ARISING (CONT.)

side of the roundabout and seek advice from the Police and Highways Dept. on a suitable location for a crossing point such as a zebra crossing.

iii) Grass Cutting

Mr. Hughes was concerned that the area of grass around the PC noticeboard at Oaklands Lane was cut infrequently and the length of grass made it difficult for residents to approach the board to read the notices on display.

RESOLVED to write to the CDC asking why the area of grass around the noticeboard was not included in the residential verge cutting schedule and asking if the frequency of cuts could be increased.

iv) Recovery Vehicle in Lay-by

Mr. Hughes voiced his continued concerns over the parking of a recovery vehicle in the lay-by outside Notcutts Garden Centre. The Parish Council had already approached the CDC on this matter and had been informed that as there was room for other vehicles to pull off the road and as HGV's were exempt from parking restrictions in this situation no action could be taken.

Page 2 - Footpaths & Bridleways

Cllrs. Mrs. Nash and Brazier reported that they would be compiling a response to the Public Paths Diversion Order - Bridleway 6 and the Draft S106 Obligation.

Page 2 - Colney Heath Farm

The Clerk reported that the portacabin parked on the flood plain at the farm had now been removed.

Page 3 - Colney Heath - Flood Alleviation Scheme

Cllr. Mrs. Nash circulated her report on the public meeting held on 17/4/97. Residents had re-confirmed that they did not approve of the flood alleviation scheme which involved the construction of a high flood wall. There was concern whether the Water End scheme would affect Colney Heath.

Page 3 - Colne Local Environment Agency Plan

Received a copy of Christine Shepperson's response to the plan.

RESOLVED that Cllr. Mrs. Nash draft a letter, endorsing Christine Shepperson's letter and adding comments on the need to preserve the Common; conserve water in the Colne; monitor the water flowing into the Colne from Smallford Pit and the Smallford Trail; restore land around the Colne which had been damaged through extraction.

Page 3 - Colney Heath Farm

Cllr. Mrs. Defoe reported that an access to the stable block at Colney Heath Farm from Tollgate Road had been allowed by CDC Planning Dept. as long as the surface was created from non-permanent materials such as burnings on hard-core.

The CDC Planning Officers were concerned about the size of the access area and when the three year permission for the stable block was reviewed the width of any future access permitted would be more specific.

Page 3 - Warren Farm Track

Cllr. Crump (as convener of the Common Working Party) confirmed that recommendations would be made on how to prevent further erosion of the Common from the widening of the Warren Farm Track.

Page 3 - Proposed Peters Green to South Mimms Gas Pipeline

Received a letter from the CDC confirming that they were aware of the plans for the routing of the gas pipeline but as a supplier of gas, Transco were a statutory undertaker and LNR status would not protect the Common from the type of work proposed.

9. MATTERS ARISING (CONT.)

Cllr. Mrs. Nash reported that Christine Shepperson had accompanied her on a walk of the pipeline route and would be responding to the proposals stressing the environmental impact it would have on the Common.

Page 4 - Boissy Park

Goal Posts

The Clerk reported that she had been unable to contact the company who had previously supplied goal posts.

Mr. Paxton had quoted £170 to remove the old goal posts and install the new ones.

RESOLVED to contact HCC Supplies Dept. for alternative equipment.

Bye-Laws

The CDC Leisure Services Dept. had informed the Clerk that the Government had still not approved the bye-laws on dog fouling in recreation areas but felt that the bye-laws would apply to Parish Council as well as District Council areas.

Page 4 - High Street Recreation Ground

Received a quotation from Mr. Paxton for the supply and fitting of new guttering to the Old Air Raid Shelter in the HSRG.

RESOLVED to approve the quotation for £250.

Page 5 - Park Rangers Report

The Clerk reported that the Park Ranger referred to there being "no bark to rake" as there was very little bark in the area around the playhouse in Sleepshyde Playing Field.

RESOLVED that the Recreational Areas Working Party calculate the total amount of playbark necessary for Sleepshyde and any other areas before passing to the Clerk to place an order.

Page 5 - Footpaths & Bridleways

Received a quotation from Mr. Paxton for the cementing in of certain waymarking posts at £15 per post.

RESOLVED to accept the quotation.

Page 5 - Highfield Lane

Received a reply from the CDC Technical Services Dept. stating that it would be difficult to close or block off the area of Highfield Lane which was prone to dumping. The matter had been referred to the CDC Litter Enforcement Officer for action.

Page 5 - Village Hall Council - extension to the Village Hall

The Clerk reported that a questionnaire had been compiled and circulated to all members of the Parish Council and the Village Hall Council asking for comments and amendments.

A revised version had been discussed and approved by the PC and VH committee on 12/5/97 and it was hoped to have copies printed and circulated to most of the Parish before the end of May.

Completed questionnaires would be collected and the comments collated as part of the grant application process.

An architect (recommended by the CDA) had visited the Hall and was currently drawing up plans for the proposed extension.

10. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman had no matters of specific interest to report since the last meeting.

11. SPECIAL BUSINESS

a) COLNEY HEATH CHRONICLE

Cllrs. gave further consideration to the quotations received for printing of the Chronicle.

RESOLVED that the Chronicle Working Party visit all three companies who had quoted for the printing of the Chronicle and report their recommendations to the Council at a future meeting.

b) MILLENIUM PROJECT

Received a response from a parishioner to Cllr. Mrs. Nash's article in the Spring Chronicle requesting ideas and suggestions for a suitable Parish project to commemorate the Millennium.

The parishioner had suggested the planting of a corridor of trees and bushes in the open land adjacent to the HSRG.

RESOLVED that Cllr. Mrs. Nash meet the parishioner to establish the exact location suggested for tree and bush planting.

Cllr. Henchley had suggested improving the exterior of the Village Hall as a possible Millennium project.

RESOLVED to repeat Cllr. Mrs. Nash's article in the June Chronicle in the hope that more ideas may be forwarded to the Council.

12. 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 authorising the signing, out of meeting, of 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.

13. TOWN PLANNING

a) PLANNING APPLICATIONS - weekly lists for 11/18/25 April and 2/9 May. The Planning Officer indicated what comments had been passed to the C.& D.C. on any of the applications.

5/97/0466 Temporary storage of vehicles at No. 3 Holding, Highfield Farm, Highfield Lane.

OBJECTIONS

This new application is to store 20 vehicles on an agricultural site. The Parish Council objects to this storage and the possible projected and associated uses that could occur as outlined in this application. The implications are that an increase in traffic activity and movements is likely along Highfield Lane. This is unacceptable in this rural location as it would urbanise the roads and community and goes against the provisions contained with Policy for Metropolitan Green Belt DLP Policy 1.

The Parish Council urges refusal.

There are also concerns that storage for vehicle recovery would have predictable associated uses that could not be controlled possibly leading to an inappropriate use within the Green Belt as a fully fledged business.

5/97/0500 Erection of 63 dwellings and garages together with roads, sewers and all ancillary works at Hill End Hospital Site, Hill End Lane for Admiral Homes.

The Parish Council has no objections to this application as the playarea has been provided and will be funded by the developer at the CDC's instructions through a Section 106 agreement.

13. TOWN PLANNING (CONT.)

The Parish Council urges the CDC to refer to the site as Highfield and not its former name of Hill End Hospital.

5/97/0556 Single storey rear extension at 11 Smallford Lane.

No objections as the extension is modest in size and to the rear of the property thus not affecting the amenity of the neighbours. The prior approval for a two storey extension has not been implemented.

5/97/0572 Detached double garage at 175 High Street, Colney Heath

OBJECTIONS:

This is the third application for a double garage with pitched roof on this site. The first application which included a large extension to the house (5/95/0518) was refused as being too large and affecting the rural amenity of the area. The second application for a double garage at the front of the site (5/96/1642) was also refused with similar reasons for refusal.

This application is far too large and intrusive a structure within the street scene in this locality.

There are no front aspect garages along this length of street and the council houses opposite do not have any garages with their houses. The other bungalows have set back garages to the rear. The applicant has an access and garage at the rear of his property.

There is an open aspect to this area of the village surrounded by landscaping - the church and its grounds and the community park. This is the last property on the High Street as the road dips away round the bend to the A414 and the double garage is far too large even set at an angle to the house.

The Parish Council objects to this application under Policy 13(i)

"Any extended dwelling shall be modest in scale and visually well integrated with its rural surroundings and shall not harm the ecology, natural beauty and amenity of the countryside or nearby dwellings.

Extensions to houses in the Green Belt including garages and outbuildings may be permitted unless the scale or visual impact upon the building as originally constructed would create a building of significantly larger or different character. This application fails Policy 13.

5/97/0652 Two storey front extension at 42 Tyttenhanger Green.

OBJECTIONS:

Policy 13 applies as the extension to the front is overbearing and would harm the amenity of the location and the neighbours.

This extension also affects the character of the street scene as the only other front extension along this row is a modest single porch extension. This two storey extension is out of scale and its visual impact would create a building of significantly different character.

The Parish Council urges refusal of this application.

5/97/0705 Vehicle crossover at 26 Colney Heath Lane

NO OBJECTIONS

Received a copy of St. Albans Community Forest Association's comments on the application for temporary storage of vehicles at No. 3 Holding, Highfield Farm, Highfield Lane.

b) APPEALS AND ENFORCEMENTS

Considered the following appeals:

Appeal by Mr. J. Norman concerning No. 3 Holding, Highfield Farm, Highfield Lane.
RESOLVED to repeat the Parish Council's former objections to the application for 40 vehicle storage.

b) APPEALS AND ENFORCEMENTS (CONT.)

Appeal by Mrs. L. Bloomfield concerning Bluebell Cottage, Tollgate Road, Colney Heath.

Received Cllr. Mrs. Defoe's comments which had been forwarded to the Secretary of State.

c) PLANNING DECISIONS

No planning decisions had been received from C.& D.C., County Council or the D.o E. (on appeal) since the meeting on 9 April.

14. OPEN SPACES

a) COLNEY HEATH COMMON

i) Common Ranger's Report for May.

Received Mr. Nash's 105th report.

Cllrs. discussed the continuing problem of horses grazing the field to the west of Church Lane gaining access onto the Common.

RESOLVED i) to write to Shell UK urging them to place eviction notices around the site.

ii) to seek quotations for the supply and erection of a post and rail fence along the Common boundary in the field, including the re-siting of the existing stile at the point where the boundary crosses the footpath.

iii) to request permission from the HCC Footpaths Officer to resite the stile along Footpath 21.

Cllrs. discussed the overgrown footway along Coursers Road.

RESOLVED to contact the CDC and HCC to establish responsibility for the stretch of footway along Coursers Road and to request that the footway be cleared and overhanging vegetation felled to permit easier pedestrian access.

ii) Colney Heath Farm

Received a copy of the Land Registry Entry for the deed granting the new right of way at the farm for the new owners.

iii) Church Lane, Colney Heath

Received a letter from Three Valleys Water Co. confirming that they would investigate the installation of lockable, removable posts along Church Lane as suggested by the Council.

iv) Declaration of Local Nature Reserve

Received copies of the draft Management Agreement for the Local Nature Reserve at Colney Heath Common for approval, signature and return to the CDC.

The Clerk reported that CMS had suggested organising an official launch to acknowledge the designation of the Common as a Local Nature Reserve. English Nature were keen to promote LNR status of Common Land and encouraged the publicity of an official launch.

RESOLVED i) to liaise with CMS to arrange a date in September for the launch and hire the Village Hall for the event.

ii) to invite the Mayor of the City & District of St. Albans to officially declare the Common as a Local Nature Reserve and to invite other interested organisations such as Groundwork, Open Spaces, English Nature.

iii) to organise refreshments to be served at the event.

iv) that Cllrs. Mrs. Defoe and Ellis write an article on the launch to be included in the Spring Chronicle and an edition of the Herts. Advertiser.

v) Common Working Party *Summer Stephen Bar*

Received a report from Cllr. Mrs. Defoe, as convener of the Common Working Party, on the following matters relating to the Common.

a) Installation of a gate adjacent to the Common - east of Coursers Road.

Cllr. Mrs. Defoe explained the history of planning applications for the piece of land, formerly part of Colney Heath Farm.

Following an unsuccessful planning application for a stable block requiring access across part of the Common, the landowner had contacted the CDC Footpaths Officer

14. OPEN SPACES (CONT.)

to request permission to install a vehicle gate adjacent to the stile at the Coursers Road end of Footpath 33. The landowner had been advised to seek planning permission from HCC for access off the highway but had ignored this advice and installed a gate approximately 20m further along the land, set back 8m from the verge.

While the access to the gate did not cross part of the Common the Councillors were concerned that further work may commence which would be detrimental to the area i.e. backfilling to raise the level of land.

RESOLVED to write to the CDC Director of Planning informing him of developments on the site and urging him to take urgent action to prevent any further unauthorised work commencing. To suggest that a "Stop Notice" be issued immediately as work was progressing rapidly without any planning permission.

To copy the letter to Mr. Chris Brownlee (HCC)

b) Further encroachment onto the Common to the rear of No.25 High Street.

Councillors were concerned to learn of further encroachment onto the Common by the resident of 25 High Street.

Some of the paving slabs protruding onto the Common had been removed and a flower bed and rockery created in their place.

Old Christmas trees had been dumped on the Common as had a wooden picnic bench.

RESOLVED to write to the resident of 25 High Street informing him that due to pending LNR status the Parish Council was dealing with all encroachments on the Common. While his paving slabs had been accommodated when installing one of the Common Boundary Posts, so as not to cause any damage to his patio, the Council now intended to resite the post in line with neighbouring ones. To ask the resident to remove the Christmas trees and the picnic bench and refrain from dumping anything else on the Common.

It was also reported that the resident of 43 High Street had recently increased the planted area to the rear of the property.

RESOLVED to make the same comments as above and ask that newly planted flowers and shrubs be removed.

vi) Beating the Bounds of the Common

It was reported that the Beating the Bounds of the Common on 11/4/97 had been successful and attended by Councillors, residents and members of the local Cub group.

RESOLVED that the Common Working Party produce a report on all matters of concern noted during the Beating of the Bounds.

b) RECREATIONAL AREAS

Boissy Park

Received a complaint from a resident adjacent to Boissy Park concerning untreated weeds in the recreation area and a request for the Council to take action to remove the weeds.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council does not consider it appropriate to take action to remove weeds from a rural area such as Boissy Park, other than by the regular mowing of grass as set out in the Grass Cutting Contract. The Council feels it inadvisable to treat weeds with any form of weed-killer as this could cause hazards for children and animals using the park.

High Street Recreation Ground

Received a request from Redland Aggregates for confirmation of the land requested by the Football Club for extension of football pitches.

RESOLVED to reply to Redland Aggregates that the Parish Council agrees with their identification of the land requested by the Football Club and would appreciate further details on the terms of the proposed lease to the Council.

14. OPEN SPACES (CONT.)

Received a list of football match fixtures for the HSRG Senior Pitch from the Football Club requesting the Parish Council's authorisation for use.

RESOLVED that the Council approves the fixtures.

Received details of the Village Day to be held on 12 July 1997 and a request for the Parish Council to arrange Public Liability Insurance for the event.

The Clerk confirmed she was in the process of organising the insurance.

RESOLVED that Cllr. Crump represent the Parish Council on the Village Day

Committee and organise a Treasure Map stall as in previous years.

The Council discussed purchasing baseball caps with the Parish Council logo.

RESOLVED to contact various suppliers with a view to receiving the caps in time to be sold at the Village Day.

The purchase would be financed from the Map Account with the profit from sales being paid back to the account.

The Clerk reported that she was in the process of arranging Public Liability Insurance for the event.

Dog Bins and Signs

Following installation of dog bins at Roestock Park, Cllrs. considered proceeding with further installation in the remaining recreational areas.

RESOLVED to place an order for dog bins for all the remaining recreational areas in the locations recommended by the convener of the Recreational Areas Working Party.

Considered all quotations for the installation of dog signs at the Council's recreational areas.

RESOLVED to defer the ordering of signs until all bins had been installed.

c) PARK RANGERS REPORT FOR APRIL.

Received a report by the Park Ranger on all matters relating to the Council's Recreational Grounds.

d) COMMUNITY PARK

Received a request from Colney Heath WI for permission to plant an oak tree in the park to replace the dead oak that was removed last year.

RESOLVED to reply to the WI that the Parish Council was happy to approve the planting of a new oak tree in the Community Park.

e) HIGHFIELD TRUST

Cllr. Ellis would present a report on the forthcoming meeting of the Highfield Trust at the next Council meeting.

The Council was concerned about insufficient cycle paths on the Highfield Estate.

Received a letter from the CDC Planning Department confirming the provision of children's play areas within the Highfield Development.

RESOLVED to ask the CDC Planning Department for permission to print their letter about play area provision at Highfield in the next issue of the Chronicle.

15. HIGHWAYS, FOOTPATHS & BRIDLEWAYS

a) PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Passenger Transport Update - No.111 for May 1997

Considered all quotations for the supply and installation of a new bus shelter opposite Smallford Post Office.

RESOLVED to seek further quotations for the supply and installation of a new bus shelter before reaching a decision on the matter.

15. HIGHWAYS, FOOTPATHS & BRIDLEWAYS (CONT>)

b) SMALLFORD TRAIL

The Clerk reported that District Councillor Henchley had arranged for a weekly litter pick along the Smallford Trail from Hill End Lane to Smallford Bridge.

c) FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

Received Cllr. Brazier's report on any matters relating to footpaths and bridleways in the Parish.

Received Mrs. Tomkins letter to RMC Aggregates regarding Bridleway 48 Sandridge and 1 Colney Heath.

16. COUNCIL OWNED (OR TRUSTEE) BUILDINGS.

a) VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL

Received a request for the Parish Council to pay the outstanding balance on the refurbishment of the toilets at the hall after which the CDC grant and Village Hall contribution would be refunded to the Council.

RESOLVED to pay the outstanding balance upon receipt of an invoice made out to the Parish Council.

b) CHARLES MORRIS HALL MANAGEMENT CTTEE.

Due to the over-running of the meeting the Chairman proposed to defer this item to the beginning of the next meeting on 11 June.

c) PAVILION

There was no report on matters relating to the Pavilion.

17. OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS.

a) CDA

Local Voices Alliance - Making the Voluntary Sector More Effective.

Details of a seminar held on 30/1/97.

b) HALC

Information Sheet - April 1997

Invitation to attend Environmental Law Conference on 22/10/97 at a cost of £120 per delegate (to include a three course lunch)

c) HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Economic Development Strategy & Programme 1997/98 Consultation

d) HERTFORDSHIRE RURAL ACTION

Bulletin - March 1997.

e) HERTSMERE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Hertsmere Local Plan - Update on Progress following the Consultation Draft.

f) LONDON GREEN BELT COUNCIL

Agenda for meeting held on 30/4/97.

Notes - issue 102 for April 1997.

g) NALC

Local Council Review - May 1997

g) NPFA

AGM 1997 and Election & Resolutions procedures.

h) OPEN SPACES SOCIETY

"We Need Our Greens" - appeal

i) ST. ALBANS CITY & DISTRICT COUNCIL

St. Albans & District Business Forum - meeting on 8/5/97.

j) WATLING CHASE COMMUNITY FOREST

New date for the Parish Paths Training Day - 31/5/97.

18. STAFF

There was no report on any matters relating to the Council's staff.

19. ST. ALBANS CITY & DISTRICT COUNCIL

a) AGENDA, MINUTES, REPORTS

2/4/97 Road Safety Advisory Cttee.
14/4/97 Planning S/C South
16/4/97 Full Council
6/5/97 Planning S/C South

20. URGENT BUSINESS

Cub Scout Football Fees

Received a letter from the leader of the Colney Heath Cub Group requesting that the Parish Council reimburse Colney Heath JMI School for the use of the football pitch by the Cub team.

The Cubs had played seven matches this season and seven matches in the previous season at a cost of £10 per match.

RESOLVED to ask Colney Heath JMI School to prepare an invoice to the Parish Council for the 14 matches played, upon which the Council would draw a cheque at the next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.30 p.m.

CHAIRMAN.....*Stephen Par*.....
DATE.....*11 June 1997*.....