

**PLEASE BRING TO MEETING
ON 10 FEBRUARY 1999.**

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of Colney Heath Parish Council held at the Pavilion, High Street Recreation Ground, Colney Heath on Wednesday 13 January 1999 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT

Cllr. D. Crump (Chairman)
" C. Brazier (from 7.40 p.m.)
" F. S. Ellis
" Mrs. J. Jeffrey
" R. Fitch (until 9.40 p.m.)
" Miss A. Thomas

IN ATTENDANCE

D. Becker - 95 High Street
M. & Mrs. H. Falk - 21 Springfield Road
F. Graham 58 Tollgate Road
M. Hughes 66 Oaklands Lane
Mrs. G. Moody - Greenleas, Roestock Lane
Mrs. A. Nash 26 Oaklands Lane
Mrs. C. Pluck - Clerk to the Council

APOLOGIES

Cllr. Mrs. H. Mascoll - unwell
" Mrs. S. Defoe - family commitments

The Chairman welcomed Cllr. Ellis to his first Council meeting since his recent accident. The Chairman also welcomed Cllr. Mrs. Jeffrey onto the Parish Council following her recent co-option.

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 1998 were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Page 1 - Sleapshyde Pond

The Clerk reported that none of the four contractors had responded to the request for quotations for pond clearance work.

Page 1 - Proposed 40-mph speed limit in Colney Heath Lane

Received a further reply from the CDC explaining why 30-mph roundels could not be painted along Hill End Lane between Colney Heath Lane and Highfield Lane due to lack of HCC funding.

RESOLVED to pass copies of the correspondence to County Cllr. Mrs. Sanderson for her to pursue on the Parish Council's behalf.

Page 2 - Chairman's Announcements

Received a reply from the CDC Director of Planning explaining that he was unable to obtain a copy of the Review Newspaper article referring to Colney Heath as a "Business Area"

2. MATTERS ARISING (CONT.)

RESOLVED to contact the Review to ask for a copy of the article.

Page 5 - High Street Recreation Ground

Received confirmation from the Council's Solicitor that the contract between the Council and Redlands for the strip of land adjacent to the recreation ground was being finalised and that the Council had agreed to cover Redlands legal costs at £300 plus VAT

Page 6 - Footpaths and Bridleways

Received advice from the CDC Trees & Woodlands Officer on action to be taken to reduce Willow trees on the Common.

RESOLVED i) to ask Oakapple Landscapes to quote for the work.

ii) to ask Transco if they would carry out the work when resuming restoration on the Common.

Page 7 - Village Hall

Received a letter from the CDC Technical Services recommending the fitting of a grease trap and regular emptying of the sewer to prevent further problems.

RESOLVED to take no further action until a decision had been taken on the proposed Village Hall extension.

Page 8 - Colney Heath Common

The Clerk reported that she had provisionally booked the Village Hall from 2 p.m. on Saturday 1 May for an exhibition of all plans and proposals for the Common.

RESOLVED to invite all those present at the 8/12/98 site meeting to attend with their plans.

The Clerk undertook to ask the Chronicle Editor to include an item in the next issue inviting parishioners to attend and view the proposals.

The Clerk reported that Groundwork had quoted an additional figure of £155 for costing out their proposals.

The Clerk reported that the CDC Technical Services Dept. would be providing details of all underground services at the proposed car park area.

Received Martin Hicks (HBRC) plan of trees to be felled by Transco when resuming the restoration work on the Common.

Cllrs. approved the plan.

RESOLVED to forward a copy to Janet Swan (RSK) and request that the contractors be asked to fell the trees as shown on the plan.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman asked for volunteers to write the "Parish Matters" article for the next issue of the Chronicle.

Cllr. Brazier volunteered to write the article.

4. SPECIAL BUSINESS

a) Peter's Green to South Mimms Gas Pipeline

Received a letter from the Council's Solicitor enclosing a cheque for £8078.47 upon completion of the grant of easement for the pipeline across the Common. The total included the agreed sum of £7500 plus interest of £578.47.

b) Millennium Celebrations

Received a letter from St. Stephens Parish Council inviting the Parish Council to take part in the proposed "St. Albans Ring of Fire" on 31/12/99.

4. SPECIAL BUSINESS (CONT.)

RESOLVED to include the item on the Agenda for the May Council meeting and to ask St. Stephens Parish Council what arrangements were being made for refreshments etc. at the event.

5. FINANCE

a) Parish Council Accounts

Received copies of all emergency 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.

Cllrs. commented on the Auditors fees which had increased significantly since the introduction of the Audit and Account Regulations 1996.

RESOLVED to write to the local MP stating the Council's concern over the increase which was extremely onerous for smaller Parish Councils.

b) Charity of Charles Morris for Allotments Accounts

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

c) Completion of 1997/98 Audit

Received notification from the Auditors that the Parish Council's 1997/98 audit of accounts was now complete and enclosing a signed audit report. The full statement of accounts should be displayed for a period of 14 days together with a notice stating that the audit had been completed.

RESOLVED to place notices on all the Council's boards stating that the full statement of accounts would be displayed at Colney Heath Post Office for the period of 14 days.

d) 1999 Parish Precepts

Received details of payment of the 1999 parish precept.

Colney Heath would receive 100% of the net precept on 30 April 1999.

Received information from the CDC regarding the Government's introduction of a system to limit Council Tax Benefit subsidy for authorities that increase their Council Tax by more than 4.5%.

6. PLANNING

a) Planning Applications

Received weekly lists of planning applications from St. Albans City & District Council.

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

5/98/2157 Single storey extension to clubhouse at Boggymead Springs, Oaklands Lane.
NO OBJECTIONS

5/98/2158 Garden shed at 14 Honeycroft Drive, St. Albans
NO OBJECTIONS

5/98/2239 Front porch at Avalon, Sleafshyde, Smallford
NO OBJECTIONS

5/98/2240 External lighting to car park and display area at DC Cook Honda, Hatfield Road.
OBJECTIONS:

1. The lighting is excessive. The Parish Council recommends 3/4 floodlight poles at better locations. The need is for security, not illumination. 8 poles is excessive and out of place. Adjacent businesses of similar character (car sales) can and do provide security lighting without such excessive floodlighting.

6. PLANNING (CONT.)

2. The height of 7400 suggests from the drawing that they are as high as the whole building. This is a retrospective application. The poles that exist are smaller than those shown in the section. The Parish Council would need to see the poles at the existing height or shorter to be acceptable. The new constraints for light pollution should apply. They must have the correct sonn level and should be directed suitably low down with orange light rather than white light.
3. The site layout supplied for this application is the first application that was presented which does not show the amended car parking or the landscaping. This should be checked to make sure there are not significant differences which might affect the location of the poles.
4. The Parish Council is also disappointed to note that even though the planting season is well underway and most urban planting schemes use container grown shrubs for bedding areas, no landscaping or tree planting has been completed on the site and cars are regularly parking in areas set aside for landscaping. This needs to be investigated.

5/98/2286 Change of use from car showroom to electrical showroom, workshop and office and external alterations at 8 Acrewood Way.

OBJECTIONS:

1. The Parish Council is concerned over whether there is adequate parking provision for what appears to be a large staffing complement. When looking at the proposed layout (Policies 44/45)
2. The Council wonders how the increased public use and expected vehicle movements and general increase in car visitors to the site will affect the highway considerations in this area. Both the Hatfield Road and the exiting flow traffic (Policy 34)
3. This area can be a bottleneck for traffic with Wickes traffic and the existing light industry in Acrewood Way all impacting on the T-junction. This has been a site of increased traffic and many accidents over the last 18 months. The situation is serious enough to force the extension of the 30-mph zone to reduce the speed of vehicles in this section. The Parish Council would need to see very careful considerations of the highway implications associated with this proposed use. They would also expect all necessary highway improvements to be considered as part of Section 106 agreement (Policy 35)

5/98/2267 Garden shed at Plot 7, Chivenor Place for Alliance Homes.
NO OBJECTIONS

5/98/2286 Conservatory at 10 St. Bart's Close.
NO OBJECTIONS

5/98/2297 Conservatory at 1 Cairns Close.
OBJECTIONS:

1. The Parish Council urges refusal on grounds of loss of neighbour amenity and the imposing and overbearing structure.
2. This proposed conservatory is huge and fails to comply with the modest context of Policy 13 - Extensions in the Green Belt.

b) Appeals and Enforcement Notices

Received notification of the following appeals issued since the last meeting:

6. PLANNING (CONT.)

APP/B1930/A/98/1012172 - appeal by Mr. J. Huskinson for site at Roestock Cottage, Roestock Lane.

APP/B1930/A/98A300798 - appeal by Glinwell plc at Smallford Nurseries, Hatfield Road.

c) Planning Decisions

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

5/98/1124LB Conservatory at the Old Forge, Wilkins Green Lane.

APPROVED

5/98/1125 Conservatory at the Old Forge, Wilkins Green Lane.

APPROVED

5/98/1796 Two storey side extension at 70 Oaklands Lane, Smallford.

APPROVED

5/98/1876 Erection of four dwellings with associated roads, footpath & landscaping at 395 Winches Farm Laboratories, Wynchlands Crescent, Hatfield Road.

5/98/1877 Erection of 64 dwellings with associated roads, footpaths & landscaping at 395 Winches Farm Laboratories, Wynchlands Crescent, Hatfield Road.

5/98/1929 Conservatory at 56 Tollgate Road, Colney Heath.

APPROVED

5/98/1939 Ground and first floor extension at 81 Station Road, Smallford.

APPROVED

5/98/1973 Two storey side extension at 16 Smallford Lane.

APPROVED

5/98/1980 Two-storey side and rear extension and single storey rear extension at 4 Sleapcross Gardens, Sleapshyde.

APPROVED

5/98/2011 Erection of summerhouse at 9 Cairns Close.

APPROVED

5/98/2007 Garden shed at 2 Cairns Close.

APPROVED

5/98/2081 Garden shed at 47 Princess Diana Drive.

APPROVED

5/98/2082 Free standing pouch box (double) on grass verge in Roestock Lane.

APPROVED

External alterations and demolition of two storey block at Roundwood Hostel, Hixberry Lane.

APPROVED

d) Property In-filling

Received a letter from the Clerk to St. Stephens Parish Council asking for support from Residents Associations in urging the CDC to resist requests for in-fill development in the district. RESOLVED to forward the names and addresses of all the Residents Associations in the parish.

7. OPEN SPACES

a) Colney Heath Common

i) Common Ranger's Report

Received the Common Ranger's report for December.

RESOLVED to contact Shell UK and the local police regarding the continuing problem of horses escaping from the Shell field at Church Lane.

Received a letter from a resident of the High Street regarding flooding of the highway and restoration of the Common and reinstatement of footpaths.

7. OPEN SPACES (CONT.)

RESOLVED i) to write to the CDC, enclosing a copy of the resident's letter, asking for action to be taken to resolve the flooding along part of the High Street. Copies to be sent to the resident and Cllr. Henchley.
ii) to inform the resident of the Parish Council's agreement with Transco over restoration of the Common and access across the route, pointing out that too many crossing points could be dangerous.

b) Recreational Areas

Representatives from the Smallford Residents Association attended the meeting to stress their concerns about the creation of a dog walking area at Smallford Playing Field.

The Parish Council discussed its previous comments made to the HCC. Cllrs. felt an informal dog walking area, containing dog bins, seats and trees would be acceptable but any additional dog play equipment etc. would be opposed as the Council did not want to encourage dog owners from outside the locality to visit the site.

The Smallford Residents Association were concerned that the Parish Council had not supported their opposition to any proposed dog walking area.

RESOLVED to write to the HCC, reiterating the Council's views on the proposals for the site. Copy to be sent to the Smallford Residents Association.

c) High Street Recreation Ground

The Clerk reported on a site meeting with Kompan to discuss the children's play area at the recreation ground.

Received a quotation from Kompan UK for fencing, play surface and new equipment for the area.

RESOLVED to consider the quote at the Council's Budget Meeting on 27/1/99.

The Council discussed alternative solutions to the play area.

RESOLVED to ask the Parish Warden if he would be able to install and spread new playbark if the Football Club had removed the sand from the site.

The Cllrs. discussed the Football Club's proposals to install floodlights prior to the 1999/2000 football season.

Cllrs. agreed that the Club should be expected to carry out the dilapidation work on the Pavilion before proceeding with the installation of floodlights.

RESOLVED i) to inform the Club that the Schedule of Dilapidation works would need to be Undertaken before the Council could agree to the installation of floodlights.
ii) to study the planning permission granted for floodlights at the ground to check on the conditions of use relating to midweek matches.

d) Parish Warden's Report for December.

Received the Parish Warden's report.

RESOLVED to ask the Parish Warden to quote for the supply and installation of a metal fence around the children's play area at Roestock Park.

e) Community Park

There was no report on any matters relating to the Community Park.

f) Highfield Trust

It was reported that a talk on the Trust would be held at the Charles Morris Hall on 1/2/99.

8. HIGHWAYS

a) Public Transport

There was no information on Public Transport.

b) Smallford Trail

The Clerk reported that a Steering Group meeting would be held during March and a representative from the Parish Council would be invited to attend.

RESOLVED that Cllr. Miss Thomas attend on behalf of the Council.

g) Footpaths & Bridleways

Cllr. Brazier reported that the weather had been too wet to carry out any works on footpaths and bridleways in the parish.

h) Temporary Closure of Station Road, Smallford

Received information on the temporary closure of Station Road, Smallford from 16 - 17 January 1999.

9. COUNCIL OWNED (OR TRUSTEE) BUILDINGS

a) Village Hall

Received notes of a meeting of the Village Hall Extension Working Party held on 11/1/99.

Cllr. Mrs. Jeffrey explained that she was still obtaining more quotations for both the large and small extension but that the Village Hall Council was anxious to proceed with the large extension due to the small difference in cost between the two.

RESOLVED that the following recommendations be accepted:

1. The Parish Council to support the Village Hall Council in proceeding with the large extension to the Hall and consider funding any shortfall in finances (estimated at £10,000 - £15,000) by way of either a loan, using money from the Common Fund or allocating further finances to the Building Fund.
2. Julia to obtain outstanding estimates for the large extension by 22/1/99.
3. Julia to ask Peter Stotman (Architect) to provide working drawings, apply for Building Regulations and submit a request for an amendment to conditions of use at the Hall.
4. Caroline to compose a letter of support for the amendment to be sent to the Director of Planning & Heritage when the request is considered.
5. Julia to request final quotations for the large extension from at least three builders.
6. Julia to apply to Pearce Recycling & St. Albans Sand & Gravel for Landfill Tax.
7. Caroline to contact Julie Simpson for advice on submitting successful grant applications and to arrange a meeting to discuss funding.
8. Derrick to read the recent lottery application and advise on completing the form.

Cllrs. felt that as the Chairman of the Village Hall Council was now a Parish Councillor it would be sensible to relieve Cllr. Brazier from his role as Parish Council representative on the Village Hall Council.

RESOLVED that Cllr. Mrs. Jeffrey becomes the Parish Council's representative on the Village Hall Council.

b) Charles Morris Hall

There was nothing to report on any matters relating to the Charles Morris Hall.

10. OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

a) CBTA

Agenda for AGM on 6/1/99

December 98 Newsletter

10. OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS (CONT.)

b) CMS

The Wild Times - Winter/Spring 1999

Environmental Activities Diary - January to April 1999

c) CVS

CVS News - December 1998

d) Harpenden Town Council

Newsletter - December 1998

e) HALC

Parish Information - December 1998

Notes of meeting with Audit Commission

Annual Inspection of Children's playgrounds

Changes to Data Protection Legislation

Highway Maintenance Service Review

Crime & Disorder Audit for the District

f) Herts. County Council

St. Albans Joint Community Government Forum - Minutes of meeting on 14/12/98.

Cllr. Crump reported on his attendance at the meeting and reminded the Council that Colney Heath would be hosting the next meeting on 14 June 1999.

Cllr. Crump mentioned a Youth Service meeting to be held at the Civic Centre on 30/3/99.

Devolution of Activities - request for involvement

g) London Colney Parish Council

London Colney News - winter 1998

h) London Green Belt Council

Accounts for y/e 31.8.98

Minutes of AGM on 7/12/98

Notes - December 1998

i) NALC

Annual Report and Accounts - 1997/98

j) NPFA

Grass Roots magazine

k) St. Albans DAPC

Agenda for meeting on 12/1/99 at Redbourn.

l) St. Albans City & District Council

Draft Arts Strategy - request for comments on the strategy by 29/1/99

RESOLVED that the Clerk respond with comments on the thriving local art groups.

m) Watling Chase

UCVP Steering Group Minutes

11. STAFF

There were no matters to discuss relating to Council staff.

12. ST. ALBANS CITY & DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMITTEES

12/11/98 St. Albans & District Business Forum

15/12/98 Planning Sub-Cttee. South

16/12/98 Highways & Works Cttee.

06/01/99 Planning & Heritage Cttee.

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

CHAIRMAN
DATE


10.11.99

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL - STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

JANUARY

ITEM	BUDGET ALLOCATION	MONTHLY EXPENSE	PREDICTED EXPENSE TO DATE	ACTUAL EXPENSE TO DATE	UNDERSPEND OVERSPEND(-)
ADMIN					
Salaries	17588	1428	13230	12928	302
Wages	13607	1287	10206	11841	-1635
Office Accommodation	630	53	473	476	-3
Copying	1020	104	765	588	177
Telephone	800	225	600	785	-185
Mileage	2115	131	1584	1245	339
Subs. & Dons.	651	25	257	178	79
Courses	105	0	81	0	81
Petty Cash	1080	0	810	700	110
Office Equipment	800	0	603	0	603
	38396	3253	28609	28741	-132
OPEN SPACES					
Grass Cutting	8240	0	8240	4960	3280
Common	412	0	275	428	-153
Boissy Park	1087	0	1087	275	812
Roestock Park	1212	0	1212	455	757
Community Park	412	0	412	500	-88
Gloucester Playground	412	0	412	0	412
High Street	1521	9	1084	1792	-708
Sleapshyde Pgd. & Pond	1212	0	1112	141	971
Tyttenhanger Pgd.	412	0	412	69	343
St. Marks Church	206	0	98	0	98
Dog Bins	700	0	526	359	167
	15826	9	14870	8979	5891
BUILDINGS					
Village Hall	350	0	350	1475	-1125
Charles Morris Hall	400	0	400	3426	-3026
Building Fund	10000	0	0	0	0
E. Shelters	1200	0	900	439	461
Notice Boards	400	0	300	368	-68
Pavilion	500	0	500	500	0
	12850	0	2450	6208	-3758
MISCELLANEOUS					
Chronicle	2266	606	1699	1954	-255
Miscellaneous	7523	885	5073	4067	1006
Contingency	1000	0	0	0	0
	10789	1491	6772	6021	751
TOTAL	77861	4753	52701	49949	2752
INCOME	11521	8624	26227		
BALANCE 1997/98	36052.66	(GENERAL ACC. OF £73852.66			
PLUS UNDERSPEND	2752	LESS BUILDING FUND £30000 AND COMMON FUND £7800)			
BALANCE 1998/99	38804.66				

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 13 JANUARY 1999**PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS**

Jan99acc

A) EMERGENCY PAYMENTS

£

Wages - December	950.00
C. Pluck - December salary	1240.36
	2,190.36

B) CURRENT ACCOUNTS

£

Inland Revenue - December	708.52
Deloitte Touche - 97/98 Audit	715.58
British Telecom - bill to 23.12.98	225.17
Herts. & Middx - 99 subs.	25.00
Eastern Elec - HSRG to 31.12	8.78
Albanian Press - winter 98 Chronicles	606.00 ✓
Ottaways - legal fees for 2 pieces of contaminated land	169.20 ✓
Kall Kwik - monthly account for December	104.23
	2,562.48

BALANCES AT 11.1.99

£

Current Account	16,839.51
Business Reserve	15,596.86
Capital Reserve	84,448.93
Wages Account	134.97
Map - current account	84.50
Map - business reserve	672.83

Included in Capital Reserve Account:

£

Common Trust	25,800.00
Building Fund	40,000.00

MONIES RECEIVED AND BANKED SINCE 9.12.98

£

Colney Heath Football Club - reimbursement for goals	318.93 ✓
Transco Bg - Deed of easement payment	8,078.47 ✓
Colney Heath Football Club - January rental	217.67
S. Lloyd - December tennis takings	9.00
	8,624.07

C. CLARITY FOR CHARLES MORRIS FOR ALLOTMENTS ACCOUNT AT TYTTENHANGER GREEN**BALANCES AT 11.1.99**

£

Current Account	5.00
Business Reserve	6.08
Capital Reserve	4,041.69