

**PLEASE BRING TO MEETING
ON 8 SEPTEMBER 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 14 July 1999 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT

Cllr. C. Brazier
" D. Crump
" Mrs. S. Defoe
" F. S. Ellis
" Mrs. J. Jeffrey

IN ATTENDANCE

D. Becker - 95 High Street
Mr. & Mrs. Plummer 1 Edison Close
Mrs. G. Moody - Greenleas, Roestock Lane
D. Rodway - 13 Tyttenhanger Green

Mrs. C. Pluck - Clerk to the Council

APOLOGIES

Cllr. Miss A. Thomas (work commitment)

ABSENT

Cllr. Mrs. H. Mascoll

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 1999 were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Page 2 - The Mill House

Received a letter from Stevenage Land Registry informing the Council that copies of Title Deeds to the Mill House and land around the Mill House could be obtained for £4 per copy.

RESOLVED to apply for the two copies.

Page 3 - 1998/99 Audit of Accounts

The Councillors received copies of the 1998/99 Statement of Accounts.

RESOLVED that the Chairman sign the copies for submission to the Auditors.

Page 5 - Planning Decisions

Received a reply from Mr. Wallace concerning planning matters at Redhall, Roestock Lane. Cllr. Mrs. Defoe reported that an application for accommodation for homeless people was in progress.

Page 5 - Common Proposals

The Clerk reported that the Herts. Fire & Rescue Service had informed her that the minimum width required for a gateway was 3.05m and the minimum road width required was 3.66m.

Page 6 - HSRG parking

The Clerk reported that Graham Stephens (CDC) had suggested widening the car park at the High Street Recreation Ground by removing the footpath to extend the parking area.

2. MATTERS ARISING (CONT.)

RESOLVED to speak to Mark North of Lafarge Redland Aggregates to arrange to meet him on site to discuss the proposal in more detail.

Page 6 - Highfield Trust

Received a letter from Cllr. Fitch expressing his concerns over the inadequate play equipment at Russet Drive on the Highfield Estate.

Page 7 - Gateway Features - Tollgate Road

The Clerk reported on Cllr. Ellis' and her attendance at a meeting with HCC and North Mymms Parish Council to discuss the location and design of the traffic calming measures in Tollgate Road.

HCC would be circulating the revised proposals to both Parish Councils in September for their comments.

Page 7 - Village Hall

Received a reply from the Council's Solicitor following the enquiry about the legal status of the extension to the Village Hall.

The Solicitor had advised that as the Parish Council owned the land on which the hall was built, the extension was ultimately the responsibility of the Council.

Cllr. Mrs. Jeffrey reported that the start date for the extension would be either 26 July or 1 August and works would take approximately 22 weeks.

RESOLVED to write to residents from 53 to 101 High Street to inform them of the start date and duration of the extension work at the Village Hall.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reported that no items had been notified to him since the last meeting.

4. SPECIAL BUSINESS

a) Peter's Green to South Mimms Gas Pipeline

Cllrs. were concerned to note the large amount of weeds growing on the restored area of the Common.

RESOLVED to contact Martin McGee (Transco) and Martin Hicks (HBRC) to ask them both to examine the area and advise accordingly.

b) Millennium Plaque Trail and Millennium Beacon.

Cllr. Mrs. Defoe reported on her attendance at the meeting held on 21/6/99 to discuss the proposed Millennium projects. Received notes of the meeting from the project co-ordinator. Cllrs. discussed a suitable Millennium project.

RESOLVED to apply for the £500 grant to provide a Millennium Plaque for the Village Hall extension.

c) Chronicle Working Party

Received a report from the Chronicle Working Party held on 28/6/99.

5. FINANCE

a) Parish Council Accounts

Received copies of all emergency accounts 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.

5. FINANCE (CONT.)

Cllr. Crump suggested moving the £56,000 allocated for building from the Building Fund into the Village Hall budget.

RESOLVED to show this reallocation of funds on the September account statement.

Cllrs. also discussed the possible need for large cheques to be drawn in connection with the Village Hall extension over the summer recess.

RESOLVED to authorise the drawing of emergency cheques for the Village Hall during the summer.

b) Charity of Charles Morris for Allotments Accounts

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

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.

5/99/0947 Conservatory at 12 Swans Close.

NO OBJECTIONS

5/99/0948 Garden shed at 18 Bart's Close.

NO OBJECTIONS

5/99/1045 Two storey side and rear extension at 118 Roestock Lane.

NO OBJECTIONS

5/99/1046 Two and single storey rear extension at 12 Sleapshyde Lane.

OBJECTIONS:

1. Although the principle of an extension of a two storey nature is acceptable being set back from the boundary, the addition of the single storey extension with sloping roof to the rear, adjacent to the boundary with no. 14 seems as a cumulative effect to be excessive and overbearing. The Parish Council recommends refusal under Policy 13 and suggests a slightly smaller, more modest development would be looked upon more favourably.

5/99/1048 Conservatory at 1 Cairns Close.

NO OBJECTIONS.

5/99/1072CP Certificate of Lawfulness (proposed) for conservatory at 18 Winches Farm Drive.

NO OBJECTIONS

5/99/1114LB Upgrading of car park lighting at 3 Horseshoes PH, Hatfield Road.

OBJECTIONS:

1. The Parish Council is totally opposed to the type of lighting proposed. The Council is well aware of the problems with car theft and damage that have occurred at this site over a long period of time. There is a very real need to secure the area but with more sympathetic lighting as spot floodlights are not the answer. No intensity level area spans have been suggested showing extent of light fall or strength and figures on a plan do not illustrate actual spread.
2. Some of the lights will point into the traffic and could cause visibility problems. The lights on the building could be more in keeping with the style of the PH. The lights in the car park are similar to the blazing light show of the Honda showrooms along the Hatfield Road and those are to be controlled with shutters. The 5.4m or 17.55' proposed here is unacceptable.

6. PLANNING (CONT.)

3. Whereas the Parish Council agrees there is a real need for visibility and security, this is not an out of town retail area.
4. The applicant needs to investigate more suitable and less intrusive lighting solutions that will satisfy their needs and avoid excessive light pollution in a rural Green Belt location. The Parish Council is sure an alternative can be found.

5/99/1125 Garden shed at 22 Cairns Close.

NO OBJECTIONS

5/99/1150 Conservatory at 57 Russet Drive.

CONCERNS:

1. This application is on a site that has the benefit of a very large curtilage so the size of the conservatory is mitigated by the space around it. However, it must be remembered P.D. was originally removed from the Highfield Development then later on, Planning & Heritage Committee was told to take a sympathetic view to changing this ruling for conservatories and sheds.
2. This particular application is very close to the Policy 13 - modest 40% rule of thumb. It is too large in principle and could create a precedent that would be impossible to defend at appeal. In pure Policy 13 criteria this is too large and needs to be reduced. 5.3m is too deep. It is also the second application for a composite conservatory, (two sections). The Parish Council would recommend refusal if it could be supported.

5/99/51173 Garden shed at 16 Cairns Close.

NO OBJECTIONS

5/99/1176A Display of non-illuminated fascia sign at Unit 2a Merlin Centre.

NO OBJECTIONS

b) Appeals and Enforcement Notices

Appeal by Caroline Penn and Simon Murphy against the CDC decision to refuse planning permission for a two-storey side extension at 123 Colney Heath Lane.

RESOLVED to repeat the objections raised at the planning permission stage.

c) Planning Decisions

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

- 5/99/0435 Part two storey and part single storey side extension at 80 Roestock Lane
APPROVED
- 5/99/0447 Retention of dormer window at 9 Tyttenhanger Green.
REJECTED
- 5/99/0683A Display of non-illuminated sign boards at Acrewood Way, Hatfield Road
REJECTED
- 5/99/0754 Two storey rear extension at 522 Hatfield Road.
REJECTED
- 5/99/0755 Conservatory at 6 Bullens Green Lane.
APPROVED
- 5/99/0768 Alterations to garage at 2 Invicta Cottages, Roestock Lane
APPROVED
- 5/99/0778 Conservatory and garden shed at 14 Stanmore Chase.
APPROVED
- 5/99/0827 Two storey side and single storey rear extension at 28 Fellowes Lane.
APPROVED

6. PLANNING (CONT.)

- 5/99/0843 Conservatory at 9 Stanmore Chase
APPROVED
- 5/99/0845 Change of use of part of garden to cattery at 26 Wistlea Crescent.
REJECTED
- 5/99/0910 Garden shed at 11 Edison Close, St. Albans
APPROVED
- 5/99/0919 Garden shed at 20 Cairns Close, St. Albans
APPROVED

Cllr. Mrs. Jeffrey reported on her attendance at the recent planning seminar organised by the CDC.

RESOLVED ask the CDC Planning Dept. for copies of the Standard Conditions of Planning Booklet.

7. OPEN SPACES

a) Colney Heath Common

i) Common Ranger's Report

Received the Common Ranger's report for June.

ii) Common Working Party

Received notes of the Common Working Party meeting held on 14/6/99.

RESOLVED to ask Groundwork to provide costings and details of possible contractors for the Warren Farm Track proposals and the Village Hall parking proposals. To also ask for costings for the digging up of the concrete hardstanding opposite the Cock PH and ideas for making a feature of the nearby coal post.

Received letters from three residents of the High Street concerned about the proposals for the Common and asking for further information.

RESOLVED to reply to all three residents informing them of the proposals and progress to date and reassuring them that full consultation would be undertaken before any final decisions were made.

To inform the new resident of the rights of vehicular access across the Common to the rear of the properties along the High Street abutting the Common.

Cllrs. discussed the proposed cycleway through part of the Village as devised by the CDC.

RESOLVED to write to the CDC to ask for more specific details of the route of the proposed cycleway and whether it would be located on verges, footways or roads.

b) Recreational Areas

The Clerk reported requests for new litterbins at Boissy Park and Roestock Park and a new litterbin and wooden bench at Tyttenhanger playground.

Cllrs. agreed to defer ordering a new bin for Boissy until the current rental dispute had been resolved.

RESOLVED to order bins for Roestock and Tyttenhanger and ask Mr. Scott from Tyttenhanger if he would prefer a wooden and concrete bench for the park rather than one made entirely from wood.

Received a letter from HCC Corporate Services giving details of the proposed alterations to the Smallford Playing Field Site.

RESOLVED to inform HCC that the Parish Council accepts the proposals and will provide a bench and a bin and will discuss play equipment provision at a future budget meeting.

7. OPEN SPACES (CONT.)

Received a quotation for fencing works at Roestock Park and the High Street Recreation Ground.
RESOLVED to accept the quotation for fencing at Roestock Park but defer the HSRG fencing until a future date.

Cllrs. discussed the need for a light in the car park at Roestock Park.

RESOLVED to contact D. Webster Ltd. (lighting contractors) for a quotation for the supply and installation of a light at Roestock Park.

Cllrs. discussed the previous request for wooden posts along the car park boundary at Roestock Park.

RESOLVED to remind Mr. Paxton of his agreement to install a row of wooden posts in the car park to protect the fence of the adjacent property in Admirals Close.

Cllrs. discussed the need for extra playbark around the play equipment at Roestock and Tyttenhanger.

RESOLVED that Cllr. Mrs. Defoe calculate the amount required and pass the figures on to the Clerk for an order to be made.

Cllrs. discussed the garages at Sleapshyde, which were unused and dilapidated.

RESOLVED to write to Mr. Wearmouth (CDC) to ask for consideration to be given to allow the Parish Council to include the garage area as a hard-standing extension to Sleapshyde Playground to be used for cycling, skating, football etc.

c) High Street Recreation Ground

Cllr. Crump reported on a recent meeting of the Management Cttee. and circulated a copy of the Football Club's accounts.

Cllrs. discussed various outstanding matters at the Club.

RESOLVED

- i) to ask the Club for a list of fixtures for the 99/00 season.
- ii) to ask for the 98/99 pitch fees to be paid as soon as possible.
- iii) to ask why the building work detailed in the Schedule of Dilapidation had not been carried out.
- iv) to invoice the Club for £675 as their contribution towards the recent pitch maintenance work.
- v) to ask the Club why the railings had not been removed at the end of the season.

Cllrs. gave further consideration to the request from the Youth Football to rent the third pitch at the HSRG directly from the Parish Council.

RESOLVED to confirm to the Youth Football that the Parish Council agrees to the request and enclose an invoice for £140 as the annual pitch rental (copy of letter to Martin Marlborough)

Cllr. Crump reported that he would be organising a stall for the Village Day and asked the Parish Council to approve a donation of £25 for prizes on the stall.

RESOLVED to approve the donation of £25 towards Parish Council prizes for Village Day.

d) Parish Warden's Report for June

Received the Parish Warden's report.

Cllrs. considered the Common Working Party's revised Parish Warden's monthly report form.

RESOLVED to copy the revised form to the Parish Warden for future use.

7. OPEN SPACES (CONT.)

e) Community Park

Cllrs. discussed the need for additional strimming of the Community Park, particularly around the gates.

RESOLVED to ask Mr. Paxton to strim and mow the Community Park as soon as possible.

f) Highfield

Received a report from the Trust representative.

Received a letter from the co-ordinator of Grosvenor Place Neighbourhood Watch on the former Cell Barnes site, asking the Parish Council for information on the display of signs.

RESOLVED to suggest that the co-ordinator contacts Mr. Goodyer (CDC) to discuss the purchase and installation of Neighbourhood Watch signs.

8. HIGHWAYS

a) Public Transport & Highways

Received details from the HCC on the progress of Sustainable Transport in Rural Areas Project. The Clerk reported a request from a local resident for a wooden seat to be installed in the bus shelter in Tollgate Road and that the Council's contractor had quoted £110 for the installation of a seat.

RESOLVED to approve the installation of a seat in the bus shelter in Tollgate Road.

b) Smallford Trail

Received copies of faxes between Cllr. Henchley and the CDC regarding vandalism on the Trail. It was reported that the litterbin on "Peggy's Path" which runs parallel to the Smallford Trail had been damaged and needed repair or replacement.

RESOLVED to inform the CDC of the damage to the litterbin on Peggy's Path.

c) Footpaths & Bridleways

Cllr. Brazier reported on footpaths and bridleways in the parish.

Received details of a proposal by RMC to rectify the obstruction of Bridleway 1 Colney Heath and 48 Sandridge.

Received a report of the Sandridge to Smallford Cycleway Working Party meeting held on 16/6/99.

9. COUNCIL OWNED (OR TRUSTEE) BUILDINGS

a) Village Hall

Cllr. Mrs. Jeffrey reported on the problems with sewers at the hall and the current application for a lottery grant to enable the necessary repair work to be carried out.

Cllrs. were concerned to learn that an overgrown hedge at 79 High Street was causing loss of visibility for car drivers leaving the hall car park.

RESOLVED to write to the CDC to ask for the resident to be approached to trim his hedge.

Cllrs. were concerned to note the state of the Bill Franklin Memorial Garden at the Village Hall. RESOLVED to ask the Parish Gardener to attend to the Memorial Garden and in particular remove the conifer.

b) Charles Morris Hall

Cllrs. were concerned to learn that the Tyttenhanger Rosebed had not been attended to recently.

RESOLVED to ask the Parish Gardener to attend to the rosebed as soon as possible.

10. OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

a) CBTA

Newsletter - July/August

b) CPRE

Request for donations to support campaign to protect countryside from housing development.

c) CVS

Annual Report 98/99

CVS news - June 1999

d) Harpenden Town Council

Forum magazine - June 1999

e) HCC

Invitation to attend the Hatfield Quarry Local Liaison Group meeting on 14/7/99 at Hatfield Quarry at 2 p.m.

f) Highfield Park Trust

Summer newsletter - June 1999

g) Local Agenda 21

Invitation to attend Jersey Farm visit on 7/7/99.

h) London Colney Parish Council

London Colney News - summer 1999

i) NALC

Local Council Review - July 1999

j) St. Albans Community Forest Association

Forest murmurs - newsletter

Forthcoming events - summer/autumn 1999

11. STAFF

There were no matters to discuss relating to Council staff.

12. ST. ALBANS CITY & DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMITTEES

8/6/99	St. Albans Festival and Millennium Cttee.
16/6/99	Highways & Works
21/6/99	Equalities Forum
23/6/99	Housing Liaison S/C and Network
28/6/99	Planning S/C South
29/6/99	Parish Liaison Joint Cttee.
1/7/99	District Plan Second Review
6/7/99	Road Safety Advisory Cttee.
7/7/99	Planning Committee

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.12 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

DATE

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL - STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**July**

ITEM	BUDGET ALLOCATION	MONTHLY EXPENSE	PREDICTED EXPENSE TO DATE	ACTUAL EXPENSE TO DATE	UNDERSPEND OVERSPEND(-)
ADMIN					
Salaries	19403	1453	4776	4358	418
Wages	18171	1533	4542	4671	-129
Office Accommodation	649	54	162	162	0
Copying	1020	50	255	136	119
Telephone	1000	210	250	210	40
Mileage	2178	111	546	359	187
Subs. & Dons.	651	0	74	10	64
Courses	105	0	27	0	27
Petty Cash	1080	200	270	200	70
Office Equipment	900	0	225	0	225
	45157	3611	11127	10106	1021
OPEN SPACES					
Grass Cutting	8487	683	3183	2049	1134
Common	425	0	142	641	-499
Boissy Park	925	0	381	0	381
Roestock Park	1225	0	1106	0	1106
Community Park	425	0	201	0	201
Gloucester Playground	425	0	5	0	5
High Street	4238	2072	826	2728	-1902
Sleapshyde Pgd. & Pond	2130	0	200	60	140
Tyttenhanger Pgd.	425	0	206	0	206
St. Marks Church	211	0	33	0	33
Dog Bins	718	79	174	184	-10
	19634	2834	6457	5662	795
BUILDINGS					
Village Hall	359	2624	0	3588	-3588
Charles Morris Hall	2793	0	0	0	0
Building Fund	16000	0	0	0	0
E. Shelters	1250	333	300	878	-578
Notice Boards	410	341	100	341	-241
Pavilion	500	0	0	0	0
	21312	3298	400	4807	-4407
MISCELLANEOUS					
Chronicle	2424	606	566	606	-40
Miscellaneous	7449	100	2973	2129	844
Contingency	1000	0	0	0	0
	10873	706	3539	2735	804
TOTAL	96976	10449	21523	23310	-1787
INCOME	11521	2175.14			
BALANCE 1998/99	36979.95	(GENERAL ACC. OF £102779.95			
LESS OVERSPEND	-1787	LESS BUILDING FUND £40000 AND COMMON FUND £25800)			
BALANCE 1999/00	35192.95				

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 14 JULY 1999

PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS

july99ACC

A) EMERGENCY PAYMENTS

£

C. Pluck - Petty Cash advance	200.00
Wages Account - June	1150.00
C. Pluck - June salary & allowances	1256.29
R. Paxton - June grass contract	682.50
	3,288.79

B) CURRENT ACCOUNTS

£

Inland Revenue - June	744.49
BT- phone bill to 24/6/99	209.58
Peter Stockman - fees & expenses re: Village Hall project	2623.72
A.T. Bone & Son - sanding, seeding & fertilizing senior pitch	1938.75
Albanian Press - printing of 1750 Chronicles - summer 1999	606.00
Rigby Taylor - snowcal and linefast	124.21
SDK Kilsyth - dog bin service to 18/6/99	78.96
Old Friends Club - transport costs 99/00	100.00
Eastern Electricity - High Street lights to 30.6.99	8.78
K... yik - June account	49.87
G. Stayton - bus shelter and noticeboard maintenance	673.85
	7158.21

BALANCES AT 12.7.99

£

Current Account	17,772.52
Business Reserve	18,744.41
Capital Reserve	120,698.74
Wages Account	194.98
Map - current account	84.50
Map - business reserve	678.57

Included in Capital Reserve Account:

£

Common Trust	25,800.00
Building Fund	50,000.00

MONIES RECEIVED AND BANKED SINCE 10.6.99

£

S... yd - May tennis	20.00
Wayleaves from nos. 55, 77 & 79 High Street	15.00
Charles Morris Hall - rental	5.00
HM Customs & Excise - 98/99 VAT refund	1,854.47
S. Lloyd - June tennis	63.00
Colney Heath Football Club - July rental	217.67
	2,175.14

CHARITY FOR CHARLES MORRIS FOR ALLOTMENTS ACCOUNT AT TYTTENHANGER GREEN

BALANCES AT 12.7.99

£

Current Account	5.00
Business Reserve	6.11
Capital Reserve	4,093.95