

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

 Address: Highfield Park Visitor Centre, Hill End Lane AL4 0RA
 Telephone: (01727) 825 314
 Website: <https://colneyheathparishcouncil.gov.uk>
 E-mail: clerk@colneyheathparishcouncil.gov.uk



MINUTES OF COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT COLNEY HEATH JMI SCHOOL ON THURSDAY 27 OCTOBER 2022, 7.30pm

Members in attendance

Cllr K Barnes (Highfield Ward)	Cllr J Mulroney (Highfield Ward)
Cllr H Brazier (Hill End Ward)	Cllr G Shaw (Colney Heath Ward)
Cllr T Burns (Colney Heath Ward)	Cllr K Slaughter (Colney Heath Ward)
Cllr P Cook (Chairman) (Highfield Ward)	Cllr R Solts (Highfield Ward)
Cllr J Llewellyn (Colney Heath Ward)	Clerk of the Council, Mrs L Peters

Other attendees

5 members of the public

22/23-49

APOLOGIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman opened the meeting by reading the recent quote of Sir Lindsay Hoyle which he felt was pertinent after the last few Council meetings: 'while we might have very strong disagreements, "I want this to be a Council in which we treat each other courteously and with respect, and we should show the same courtesy and respect to those who work with and for us"'.
Apologies were not required as all councillors in attendance.
It was confirmed that two councillors were audio recording the meeting.

22/23-50

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- Cllr Llewellyn had noted with the Chairman and Clerk her interest in item 56b.
- All councillors in attendance confirmed by a show of hands that the published declarations were correct and up to date. It was confirmed that Cllr Shaw had completed his review and given the Clerk a new declaration of interest form. Councillor Solts confirmed after a challenge at the last meeting that his declaration was 100% accurate. The Clerk reminded councillors it was not for Council to review or challenge the declarations, any issues with these should be taken to the St Albans District Council Monitoring Officer.
- None received or noted
- None requested

22/23-51

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

7.33pm *Standing Orders* were suspended so members of the public could have the opportunity to ask questions/make statements to the Council. No statements made or questions asked so *Standing Orders* were resumed at 7.33pm

22/23-52

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 28th July 2022 were noted as circulated and taken as read. Chairman asked for any comments as to their accuracy. The Clerk confirmed she had received some typographical changes from Cllr Shaw in advance of the meeting and these had been amended. Cllr Shaw wished to make a change to Item 46c. The Clerk raised a point of order *Standing Order 12b*. The Chair allowed Cllr Shaw to propose a motion to make an amendment to Item 46c, the motion was not seconded. **Motion failed**. There were no other comments regarding accuracy. The minutes were duly proposed, seconded, and **RESOLVED** by a majority vote to be a true and accurate record of the meeting. **Motion carried**. A recorded vote was requested and the voting is as follows, proposer Cllr Llewellyn, seconder Cllr Solts:

- In favour – Cllrs Burns, Slaughter, Solts, Mulroney, Cook, Llewellyn, Brazier & Barnes
- Against – Cllr Shaw

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	The minutes were signed by meeting Chairman Councillor Cook for the parish website.
	<u>FINANCE, AUDIT & GOVERNANCE</u>
22/23-53	FINANCE a) Approval of payments Month 7 – October 2022 The payment sheet was confirmed to be presented at the next meeting in November. The payments were requested to be approved so they could be paid at the end of the month. Payments 094-108 totalling £10,880.17 were duly proposed, seconded, and unanimously RESOLVED by a show of hands to be approved for payment. Motion carried. b) Approval of extra funds to proceed with replacement bus shelters It was confirmed that between the confirmation of approval to proceed prices had increased significantly and the bus shelter replacement were an extra £2,500 in cost. It was duly proposed, seconded, and unanimously RESOLVED by a show of hands that £2,500 be approved to be transferred from earmarked reserves and that the replacement of the two bus shelters went ahead. Motion carried.
22/23-54	PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEES a) Environment Committee It was confirmed that the next Environment Committee would be held on 1 st November in the atrium of the Highfield Park Visitor Centre from 7.30pm. b) Finance & Governance Committee It was confirmed that the next Finance & Governance Committee would be held on 15 th February 2023. c) HR Committee It was confirmed that an HR Committee would be scheduled when required.
22/23-55	PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT a) Development in Colney Heath Village 19th October 2022 Roestock Lane consultation by Bellway at Community Room, Village hall. It was noted that due to the space in the room booked that many residents were turned away from this meeting. Cllrs Brazier, Llewellyn and Burns attended and gave feedback to Council on their thoughts. 27th October 2022 Roestock Lane consultation by Horizon Life at Bushells Barn, Roundhouse Farm. It was noted that this consultation happened today and Cllr Burns attended and gave his feedback. 28th October 2022 Development in CH village, meeting hosted by CH village Trustees with District Councillor Chris Brazier, the leaflet for this meeting was shown to the meeting which contained a very useful map. The Chair read a letter which was recently published in the Herts Advertiser from the Chair concerned about the planning developments. - It was confirmed that the Parking Consultation response and the Herts Minerals response would be submitted by the Clerk tomorrow. Thanks were offered to the Neighbourhood Plan Project Officer for his work on these responses. b) District enforcement in Highfield Ward Two issues raised with District Councillor Day regarding inaction in enforcement relating to a garage and a wall.

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22/23-56

PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNITY SURVEY

- a) The report was noted as circulated. The Clerk was commended for attempting to save the Parish costly legal advice. Councillors offered opinions which were comfortable with the expert advice received. It was duly proposed, seconded, and unanimously **RESOLVED** by a show of hands that the open text data would be released with redactions as shown in the report at example 1, the Clerk would carry out the redactions and the documents would not come back to Council for approval, the Clerk would be given delegated authority to redact and publish.
Motion carried.
- b) The motion was noted and the Chair gave background and reasoning to the motion. Those who put forward the motion felt that by September 2023 there would only be one building within the Parish which was not yet leased. It was felt that the Clerk and the admin team required a place to operate, this was forward planning for the Parish from the Highfield Ward. The motion was slightly amended as follows:
To instruct the Clerk to commence work on the potential costs and feasibility of Roestock Hut as provision of a Parish Office from September 2023 including how to make the building compliant as a corporate landlord and investigate the possibility of use by community groups including Scouts and Guides - taking note of comments made in the Community Survey 2022. The work should include the entire area and include potentially modular buildings.
 The motion was duly proposed, seconded, and **RESOLVED** by a majority vote.
Motion carried. A recorded was requested - proposer in advance Cllr Cook, seconder in advance Cllr Solts,
 ➤ In favour – Cllrs Burns, Slaughter, Solts, Mulroney, Cook, Llewellyn, Brazier & Barnes
 ➤ Abstention – Cllr Shaw

22/23-57

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

- a) **Remembrance Parade – Colney Heath Village**
 The closure of Colney Heath village High Street on Sunday 13th November was noted. It was confirmed that no councillor would be attending the St Albans District Council event this year. Any councillors please notify the Clerk if they wish to attend or lay the wreath.
- b) **Coronation of King Charles III – 6th May 2023**
 The date of the coronation was noted. In preparation for the budget meeting the Clerk was instructed to obtain some costings for mugs, spoons and coins or some kind of commemorative item. It was also felt that street parties for the Jubilee were successful and should be repeated. This item would be reviewed at the budget meeting in December.
- c) **Clerk report**
- Confirmation of the new internal auditor attending the office in January 2023
 - A tabled item in response to the Council reply to St Albans District Council request for asset and budget information was noted and reviewed. There was debate on the tone and content of the email received. It was felt that there was a degree of predetermination in the response and recommendations that would be being put to the Policy Committee. It was also felt that the Council in the first consultation were asked to comment on the rural/urban split and not the mechanism of this. It was duly proposed,

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	seconded, and RESOLVED by a majority vote that the following response be sent back to the District Council Community Governance Review Team. Motion carried <i>The Council are extremely disappointed in both the tonality and contents of the response. It is felt that from the contents of the email that there is a level of predetermination shown.</i> It was confirmed that the email and any further response would be discussed in more detail at the next Parish Council meeting being held on 17th November 2022. The Chair also referred to the statement from the Leader of the Council statement in the Herts Ad and his recognition of a budget deficit. d) It was confirmed that the 2022/23 annual statutory leave dates for all staff would be taken on 28th and 29th December 2022. Council noted this decision. e) There were none raised.
22/23-58	REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES a) Highfield Park Trust Cllr Barnes reported on a successful Apple Day which took place, where 970 pieces of cake were sold. b) Twinning Association Cllr Burns reported that there was an event this coming Saturday evening, a barn dance in the village hall, the Clerk had circulated the invite and details. There was also a Christmas event on the 1st Saturday in December.
22/23-59	QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC 9.06pm <i>Standing Orders were suspended so members of the public could have the opportunity to ask questions/make statements to the Council. No statements made or questions asked so Standing Orders were resumed at 9.07pm</i> The Chairman thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.07pm

Meeting closed at 9.07pm

L Peters LCGI PSLCC CPFA CiLCA

Clerk to the Council

Drafted 04/11/2022

Signed by

Councillor Peter Cook

Chair

Approved by Council 17th November 2022

