

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 17 NOVEMBER 2022, 7.30pm

Members in attendance	
Cllr H Brazier (Hill End Ward) Cllr T Burns (Colney Heath Ward) Cllr P Cook (Chairman) (Highfield Ward) Cllr J Llewellyn (Colney Heath Ward) Cllr J Mulroney (Highfield Ward)	Cllr G Shaw (Colney Heath Ward) Cllr K Slaughter (Colney Heath Ward) Cllr R Solts (Highfield Ward) Clerk of the Council, Mrs L Peters
Other attendees	
2 members of the public	
22/23-60	APOLOGIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS Apologies noted from Cllr Barnes. It was confirmed that three councillors were audio recording the meeting.
22/23-61	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST a) None confirmed. b) All councillors in attendance confirmed by a show of hands that the published declarations were correct and up to date. c) None received or noted d) None requested
22/23-62	QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC <i>7.31pm 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 7.32pm</i>
22/23-63	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 27 th October 2022 were noted as circulated and taken as read. Chairman asked for any comments as to their accuracy. Cllr Shaw wished to change the minutes to confirm the wording of the failed motion. Cllr Shaw was reminded that the minutes were reviewed for accuracy only. There were concerns raised over the continued questioning of the integrity and professionalism of the Clerk and that the many changes requested appeared to be related to the Clerk's salary. It was noted that this had been the topic of some discussion at the weekend parade. It was reiterated that any amendments to the minutes, out of respect for the Clerk should be made in advance of the meeting. The Chair allowed Cllr Shaw to propose a motion to make an amendment to the minutes to include the wording of the failed motion, a recorded vote was requested. The proposer was Cllr Shaw, seconder was Cllr Brazier. ➤ In favour – Cllrs Shaw & Brazier ➤ Against – Cllrs Burns, Slaughter, Solts, Mulroney, Cook, Llewellyn. Motion failed. The Chair allowed Cllr Shaw to propose a second motion with regards the meeting recording and adding a sentence of what was said at the last meeting. A recorded vote was requested. The proposer was Cllr Shaw, seconder was Cllr Brazier. ➤ In favour – Cllrs Shaw, Burns & Brazier ➤ Against – Cllrs Slaughter, Solts, Mulroney, Cook, Llewellyn. Motion failed. There was a suggestion for the inclusion of the word 'Hall' on the 3 rd bullet point at 22/23-55, this was added by the Chairman by hand.

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	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. The minutes were signed by meeting Chairman Councillor Cook for the parish website.
	<u>FINANCE, AUDIT & GOVERNANCE</u>
22/23-64	FINANCE a) Approval of payments Month 7 – October 2022 The signed payment sheet was noted as circulated. There were no questions on the payment sheet. Retrospective approval for the Month 7 payments was duly proposed, seconded, and unanimously RESOLVED by a show of hands. Motion carried. b) Approval of payments Month 8 – November 2022 It was noted that due to the changes of the meeting dates, payments would become due prior to the next meeting. It was duly proposed, seconded, and unanimously RESOLVED by a show of hands that delegated authority be given to the Clerk/RFO to make payments at the end of Month 8 and the signed payment sheet would be circulated for review with a view to be retrospectively approved at the next Council meeting in December. Motion carried. c) Local Government Services Pay award 2022/23 The Clerk reported that the pay agreement had been issued dated 1 November 2022. This would be paid to all staff and backdated to 1st April 2022 and would be reflected in salaries from end of November 2022. An extra day of annual leave would be awarded to all staff as part of the pay agreement and this would take effect from 1st April 2023. Council noted the action. d) Neighbourhood Plan Project Officer (NPPO) Honorarium The amount of work carried out by the NPPO over the year especially on planning applications and consultations was noted by the Chairman. It was duly proposed, seconded, and unanimously RESOLVED by a show of hands that the amount of £1500 would be paid to the NPPO as an honorarium. Motion carried. Council also wished for a letter of thanks to be sent. e) CHPC Month 6 accounts review The month 6 accounts were noted as circulated and reviewed by all councillors. It was noted that the budget was at 42.5% expenditure at 6 months and this was at target. There was a question on cost centre 4550 which was Colney Heath Common and that there was no expenditure at this time, were there any plans to spend this? The Clerk confirmed that works were currently ongoing and that significant expenditure would be taking place over the next month, largely tree works, bollard installation and also hawthorn clearance if funds allow.
22/23-65	PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT a) Development in Colney Heath Village Reserved matters application on Bullens Green Lane, it was noted that the residents association did not speak at the Committee meeting, the Chairman shared his disappointment at this. There was also no representation to Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council from North Mymms Parish Council

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	- Meeting held with Boissy Close resident action group, a well-informed group and fruitful discussions were held; the land was confirmed to be in Colney Heath ward but the residents live in Hill End ward. The group were well prepared and well organised. - Current consultations and ongoing planning matters: - Ellenbrook quarry application Brett Aggregates, ongoing - Environmental Impact Assessment Roestock Lane, submitted - Affinity Water consultation, ongoing - Fredericks Wood, questions were asked regarding current action, Environment Agency were managing this, no real update. - Public Meeting on local planning at Colney Heath Village Hall noted in the minutes previously
22/23-66	COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW (CGR) a) The report, recommendations and responses were noted as circulated. Councillors shared their views. Cllr Shaw was asked if he approved the submission made by the Village Hall Trustees, Cllr Shaw could not give a definitive answer. There was a debate on predetermination and an accusation from Cllr Shaw that the minutes did not tell the truth. Highfield Parish Council was debated and the Chairman felt it was very unfair to ignore the significant number of residents views. b) There were process questions that the Chairman would be asking at SADC Policy Committee next week, There was a suggestion that there should be a councillor from the Smallford area this was made by Cllr Shaw and it was suggested to Cllr Shaw that he could ask this question at the Policy Committee. After much debate regarding the process of the CGR the Chairman suggested a motion to instruct the Clerk to obtain legal advice on the chance of success of a Judicial Review regarding the process of the CGR, the motion was duly proposed, seconded, and RESOLVED by a majority show of hands to be approved with an budget of £500-£1000. A recorded vote was requested. The proposer was Cllr Cook, seconder was Cllr Solts. ➤ In favour – Cllrs Slaughter, Solts, Mulroney, Cook, Llewelin ➤ Against – Cllrs Brazier ➤ Abstention – Cllrs Burns & Shaw Motion carried. There were no budget queries raised as a result of the CGR recommendations. The draft budget would be reviewed and presented to the Budget Council meeting on 1st December 2022. It was confirmed by the Clerk that there would be no debate in the public Council meeting on the staffing budget for 2023/24.
22/23-67	PARISH ADMINISTRATION a) Safety in Colney Heath Village The Clerk reported some incidents within the village and that residents had asked for action. Liaison with the police and working with the residents association a potential meeting may well be set up. b) Remembrance Parade The parade went very well and there were several sections of Girlguiding UK in attendance from Colney Heath and London Colney. Comments were read from feedback received. Formal thanks would be sent to all involved. It was noted that due to the required use of a traffic management company the cost was

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	£1650 but locality funding of £750 has been received from County Councillor Hale. c) Clerk report All covered within meeting. d) Questions to Clerk It was requested that the CHPC bank balances be brought to the 1st December Council meeting.
22/23-68	REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES a) Highfield Park Trust It was noted that with regards Highfield Park Office the Highfield Park Trust should be given as much time as possible to be able to secure new tenants. The Clerk was asked to include this on the agenda for the Council meeting 1st December 2022. b) Twinning Association Cllr Burns reported that the recent event went very well and that there was a Christmas event on 3rd December.
22/23-69	QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC 8.42pm <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 8.42pm</i> The Chairman thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.43pm

Meeting closed at 8.43pm

L Peters LCGI PSLCC CPFA CiLCA

Clerk to the Council

Drafted 21/11/2022

Signed by

01/12/2022

Councillor Peter Cook

Chair

Approved by Council 1st December 2022

