

Parish Council of Coleford

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Gallant Hill Farm
Foxcote
Radstock
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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 6th December 2017

Present

Cllr P Ham (Chairman)
Cllr Townsend, Pearce, Turner, Gurd and Banks
PC J Gould, PCSO M Storey.
Footpaths Warden for the South of the village Mr Russell Stanley also attended.

PF Public Forum

No issues were raised

1 Apologies for Absence (acceptance of any reasons offered)

Cllr Conn, Evans, Fisher, Littlechild and Talbot and the Clerk sent apologies which were accepted by the Chair.

2 Co-option of Councillor

No formal applications had been received for the two vacancies

3 Declaration of Interest and Dispensations granted since last meeting

There were none

4 Approve minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting held on 8th November 2017

The minutes had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. It was agreed that they accurately reflected the discussions and decisions made so were duly signed by the Chair.

Vote: 6 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained

5 Matters arising

All matters have been completed or will be covered within tonight's meeting apart from:

- Regarding the Housing Needs Survey, Cllrs queried what level of response was required to make the Survey valid. Cllr Ham clarified that the percentage response was not key and what was really critical was the number of people who requested housing. For information he added that Part 2 of the Local Plan was expected to be issued for final consultation in early January.

6 Reports

6.1 **PCSO report** – PCSO Mike Storey is now able to extract the Coleford incidents from the overall Frome Rural Beat report and identified that in November there were:

- 1 attempted burglary
- 1 dog bite
- 1 public order offence
- 1 case of harassment
- 1 ASB

He asked Cllrs to publicise that in Holcombe there have been incidents of sheep farming equipment being stolen and encouraged the use of marking property.

Warnings had also been issued to moped riders in the village.

The Clerk had written to the PCSO requesting details of crime prosecutions. Mr Storey said that this was very difficult to extract from their records. Cllrs thought this was unreasonable in this day and age and asked him to look at this again.

Cllr Gurd raised the issue of a Nissan Micra which had been parked on the highway opposite the Miners Arms despite having a SORN but the Police had taken no action.

6.2 **Somerset County Council report** – County Cllr Ham will provide a separate brief.

6.3 **Mendip District Council report** - District Cllrs Philip Ham and Alan Townsend reported that several significant issues were being debated at the Full Council Meeting on 18th December and a further report would be provided. It was noted that the Mendip planning officer has advised that she expects to make her recommendation on the new Co-operative Store application shortly. Also it was reported that the Mendip Scrutiny Board had reviewed a very favourable report of this year's Glastonbury Festival. The weather had been kind, but a number of measures had been put in place to ensure there was no repeat of the gridlock of the previous Festival. Also road safety was being further examined to try to prevent a repeat of the recent tragic accident at Cannards Grave.

6.4 **Meetings attended**

Councillor Ham attended the following meetings: TBA

As Somerset County Councillor:

- 09-11-17 T & F County Farms
- 10-11-17 Boyles Cross Frome
- 14-11-17 Corporate Parents Board
- 14-11-17 Doultong PC
- 22-11-17 Halecombe Liason
- 23-11-17 Audit – Highways
- 27-11-17 Full Council
- 05-12-17 Scrutiny Policy and Place. CDS Broadband, A block debrief

As Mendip District Councillor:

- 09-11-17 Core services contract
- 13-11-17 Cabinet
- 23-11-17 Meeting with David Clark
- 27-11-17 Neighbourhood services
- 27-11-17 Migrants Forum
- 27-11-17 Assets
- 28-11-17 Equalities
- 04-12-17 Frome independent market
- 04-12-17 Pheonix board meeting
- 04-12-17 5 Council briefing
- 04-12-17 Scrutiny
- 05-12-17 Holcombe Parish Council

As Coleford Parish Councillor:

- 16-11-17 Pump Track meeting
- 25-11-17 Collect salt bags from Frome
- 28-11-17 Meeting with YMCA & Youth Club

District Cllr Townsend attended the following meetings:

- 12-11-17 Remembrance Service RB L
- 13-11-17 Meet Clerk re Planning issues
- 13-11-17 MDC Cabinet
- 14-11-17 KeyRings Director's Meeting
- 20-11-17 Leigh on Mendip Parish Council
- 22-11-17 Halecombe Quarry Liaison Meeting
- 23-11-17 MDC Planning meeting
- 28-11-17 Meet Clerk re planning issues
- 3-12-17 Stick up 27 anti Dog Poo Signs from the School
- 4-12-17 Holcombe Planning site visit
- 4-12-17 MDC Member Briefing
- 4-12-17 MDC Scrutiny Board
- 5-12-17 Holcombe Parish Council

7 **Planning**

7.1 Decisions on Previous Applications

2017/1596/LBC – Single glazed to be replaced with double glazed units, additional window on rear elevation, removal of glazing bars on two windows on rear elevation and removal of partition wall on first floor.

MDC approved with conditions

7.2 Complaints received by the Planning Enforcement Team, Mendip District Council

There were no new issues raised.

7.3 Planning Applications

There were none. Three were expected to be raised at the Planning Meeting on 19-12-17

8 **Progress report on BMX**

Cllr Gurd reported that in his opinion the Pre App had failed, and that following consultation with Cllr Ham and Mendip Planning it had been decided that a full application was necessary. This was now held for drawings to be supplied by the preferred contractor, Rob Wareham.

Cllr Conn reported that we are still awaiting feedback on the funding application to Sport England.

Cllr Gurd advised that to raise further funds a sponsored car wash, was being organised for January, and also a raffle.

9 **Reports on Highway and Footpath Issues including**

9.1 Update on renovation of Finger post signs

Cllr Pearce reported that work was still in progress on surveying the state of the signs, including access, and a report will be presented once completed.

CP

9.2 Review of the Footpath reports

Mr Stanley presented his report of the Southern footpaths in the Parish. These were considered to be in a better state of repair than those in the North. Mr Stanley was thanked for his report. Both North and South reports will be sent to the Rights of Way team at Somerset County Council.

9.3 Highway Issues

Cllr Pearce reported that he had met with Charlie Higgins from Somerset Highways. He has advised that the resurfacing of Church St is still in the forecast for 2018/19, also some work on Anchor Rd, possibly near the Co-op and the High St pavement, these to be clarified. Charmborough Lane is still being monitored – Councillors expressed extreme disappointment that no immediate work was planned.

Cllr Ham reported that he had been promoting the Coleford Small Highway Improvement Scheme with County Highways as one of his two priority proposals. The other is the Old Frome Wells Road which must receive priority due to the recent fatal accidents there. Cllr Ham has invited Highways for a site visit to review the proposals and consider possible solutions.

Cllr Turner asked for priority for the footpath link outside the old Surgery as this was an important route to the school.

Cllr Gurd also raised the question of the missing pavement section at Goodeaves. Land ownership had been a problem. Cllrs wished to reconsider how to approach this.

10 **Freedom of information (FOI) request**

The Clerk had reported receipt of a FOI request from Mr R Browning on 8-11-17 requesting all emails sent out by her to the Parish Council concerning him and his farm at Owls Nest. This had been supplied by signed for delivery within 20 working days as required. The response noted that Council Agendas and Minutes were not supplied as the Act considers them to be in the public domain.

Cllrs noted that the result of Mr Browning's appeal against the refusal by MDC of his Section Q application for the conversion of an agricultural building to a dwelling was still awaited.

11 Finance

- 11.1 Bank reconciliation – Adjourned until the next meeting.
- 11.2 Precept discussion - There were no proposed amendments to the previous draft. Further guidance is expected from MDC by the end of December.
- 11.3 Accounts Approved for Payment
The following payments were read out.

Clerk expenses (£36 home office)	£80.53
New email hosting (Paid by V J Watts)	£40.83
Total to V Watts	£121.36
Mendip District Planning fee	£97.50
Remembrance Wreath	£17.50
Mr R Stanley – Footpath Warden South	£50.00
Mr R Hedges – Footpath Warden North	£50.00
SJH Services – Grass cutting	TBC

The Grass cutting invoice had not been received by the time of the meeting. The MDC planning cheque was agreed at £97.50 but Councillors agreed to the payment of the full fee of £195.00 if required. Councillors agreed that all payments should be made in accordance with the abovementioned list and the cheques were signed by Cllr Ham, Conn, Townsend and the Clerk as appropriate.

Vote: 6 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained.

12 Meetings to attend

- 8-12-17 Bishop Henderson School Christmas Fair
 12-12-17 BMX Meeting RBL
 16-12-17 Pensioners Lunch
 18-1-18 MDC Parish Forum
 24-1-18 PACT Meeting – Coles Garden Kilmersdon
 6-2-18 MDC Planning Training – Assembly Rooms Frome

13 Report of any risks identified

There were none.

14 Correspondence

The Clerk had raised a new pack for circulation

15 Matter of urgency – at the Chairman’s discretion

Memorial – Cllr Turner had consulted with Revd Clarissa on the principle of the request from the Boorer family for a wooden cross memorial. Cllrs were happy to agree that as a precedent had been set by the church it was perfectly acceptable for the cemetery provided it was properly secured, and that on this occasion no charge should be made. Cllrs wished to consider including a statement on the principle of wooden crosses in their next review of cemetery regulations. I

VW

Saturday Bus Service – Cllr Ham had had initial discussions with Mendip Community Transport which were not looking hopeful.

Christmas Tree – Cllr Ham wished to formally record the thanks of the Parish Council to the CRG for organising the very successful light switch on, and to the Youth Club for providing the very welcome refreshments.

16 Date of Next Meetings:

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|---|------------------------|
| Tuesday 19th December 2017 | Planning Meeting |
| Wednesday 10 th January 2018 | Parish Council Meeting |
| Tuesday 23 rd January 2018 | Planning Meeting |

The meeting ended at 22.15hrs