

Parish Council of Coleford

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 21st July 2015

Public Forum Period

The following matters were highlighted:

PC Greg Power explained that he is the new Beat Manager for the Frome Area North, having served this area previously, with Mike Storey as the PCSO. His aim is to work with the village to make it safer. He noted that the next Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting will be held in Coleford on **Tuesday 29th September at 7.30pm (TBC)**. The previous meeting at Nunney had highlighted speeding and dangerous parking as the main issues of concern in local villages. He intends to maintain a regular presence at the Hub where all are welcome to drop in on any matter. Poaching is currently a major concern in Somerset and we are encouraged to be vigilant and ring 101 if suspicious. On a general note PC Power did ask people should consider, before ringing 101, whether an issue is really a police matter or is more appropriately directed towards perhaps Mendip Council or other agencies. Cllr Turner questioned whether the PACT meeting would continue in parallel with the Steering Group. PC Power confirmed that was the intention as the meetings served different purposes. The Chairman thanked PC Power for addressing the meeting and looked forward to welcoming him or Mike Storey in the future

New Bus Stop at The Crescent – A resident expressed concern:

- a) why were they not informed?
- b) at least two driveways were closed off by the new bus bay markings,
- c) passengers have to wait on private property,
- d) this has been the site of recent accidents noting that vehicles speed up here on the exit from the village,
- e) what was the need as the existing Stop was close?

Cllr Ham responded that there had been a Stop here previously and local residents with walking difficulties had asked for it to be reinstated. This was confirmed by a resident. The Parish Council had not been informed of its imminent arrival and he had already asked Somerset Highways for an explanation. Cllr Townsend agreed to write further to Somerset Highways to raise the specific concerns raised above. Action AT

AT

Bench at Beacon View junction – A resident on behalf of several neighbours expressed deep concern about the recurrence of Anti Social Behaviour. Previous issues had been resolved by the PCSO but they had started again, including noise levels, spreading litter, climbing up the village sign and intimidating behaviour making their properties undesirable places to live. It was suggested the seat could be moved elsewhere and an offer to pay half the costs was made. Cllr Ham explained that the provision of the seat in this location had been agreed by the Parish Council and earlier

complaints had been dealt with. It was agreed that the issue will be put on the Agenda for formal review at the next Meeting. Agenda

Ag

Present

Cllr P Ham (Chairman Presiding)

Cllrs Townsend, Horler, Neesam, Turner, Gurd, Talbot, Banks, Evans, Littlechild

PC Greg Power, Beat Manager, and 5 members of the public

1 Apologies for Absence (acceptance of any reasons offered)

Cllr Parfitt sent apologies which were accepted by the Chair.

Cllr Foot did not attend

2 Declaration of interests

None

3 Co-option of new Councillor

Cllr Ham introduced Dan Littlechild to the Council Dan then said a few words as to why he would like to join the Council. He then left the room and a vote was taken which was unanimously in favour of him joining the Council. Dan then signed off the formal papers and was welcomed as a new Councillor.

4 Planning application

2015/1469/HSE – Newbury View, Highbury, Coleford, BA3 5RT

Proposed porch, replacement of flat roof with pitched roof and various minor alterations

Following a review of the application, a Recommendation to Accept was proposed by Cllr Turner, seconded by Cllr Gurd, and Approved by 8 votes to Nil with District Councillors abstaining.

5 Planning & Enforcement updates

2015/0999/FUL – Mill House, The Green, has been approved by Mendip DC

Mendip Enforcement have advised that they have requested formal planning applications to regularise the position at Woolstone House, ref ENF/2015/0013, and at 2 Hillside, ref ENF/2015/0062.

Owls Nest - No response has been received from Mendip DC to the response sent to the Planning Officer on 2nd July and copied to Mendip Senior Management.

6 Strimmer project – Consider and decide whether to join

Cllr Horler suggested our Footpath Warden might be interested in this scheme, noting that training was available to the Parish Council at £60 per session, and agreed to contact him.

VH

7 Storage for Coleford Revival Group and Coleford Athletic Football Club

A meeting has been arranged for the Playing Field Sub-committee with John Hansford at the Highbury Playing Field on 10th August. All Councillors are welcome to attend to understand the Football Club's requirement. Cllr Turner to confirm timing.

CT

Councillors were advised that an alternative site nearby may be available for the Revival Group's requirement.

It was noted the Trustees will need to be satisfied that any building on the field will accord with the wording of the Conveyance.

8 Request by Barnardo's for additional funding towards Autumn Play Rangers

An offer has been made by Barnardo's to extend their sessions for a further 9 weeks to the end of October at a cost of £1710. Councillors agreed this is a very worthwhile programme and voted unanimously to accept. The Clerk was requested to publicise appropriately.

VW

9 Rose and Crown Car Park and flooding

Councillors were concerned that the current problem was a direct result of the creation of the car park for the dwellings. It was agreed that further work should be done to establish the legal position before further action.

PH/VW

10 Matters of Urgency – at the Chairman's Discretion

Bus Service – Cllr Ham advised that he had been in contact with all stakeholders including our MP David Warburton to obtain formal confirmation of First's intentions and express concern at the risk of further isolation for the village. A number of alternative providers had expressed interest in taking over the service.

Church Street House numbering – It was noted that Mendip DC had written to residents asking that they clearly display their house identity. Any decision to change the numbering system would require a 75% majority from a formal canvassing exercise undertaken by Mendip DC.

Kerbing at Goodeaves – It had been reported that a new section of kerbing by the garages was at least 8 inches high, had already caused a serious fall, and made it impossible for a wheelchair or pushchair user to come off the pavement having used the dropped kerb at the car park entrance. Cllr Townsend was actioned to investigate and pursue urgently with Somerset Highways.

AT

Mackintosh View – Cllr Ham reported that he had raised the safety issues with Mendip DC who had taken the matter to the highest level at Aster. A report was awaited.

Wessex Water – Concern was expressed that their programme was slipping further and that there had been very little evidence of the contractor on site for a week putting the resurfacing programme at risk for this summer. Cllr Townsend was actioned to request an updated programme for the surface dressing of Highbury St.

AT

AT

30 MPH Signs – Councillors reported that at least two were twisted out of shape and obscured by foliage. Cllr Townsend was actioned to report to Somerset Highways.

Date of Next Meetings

Parish Council Meeting 12th August 2015

Planning Meeting 25th August 2015

