

Miss V Watts
Clerk to the Council
Tel: (07971) 516916
Email: clerk@colefordsomerset.org

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 22nd September 2015

Public Forum Period

Councillors were warned that a blue pick-up truck has been spotted about the village looking for odd jobs. It is a concern that older residents could be vulnerable to exploitation.

Present

Cllr P Ham (Chairman Presiding)
Cllrs Townsend (Part), Horler, Neesam, Turner (Part), Banks, Evans, and
no members of the public

- 1 **Apologies for Absence (acceptance of any reasons offered)**
Cllr Littlechild and Cllr Gurd both sent apologies which were accepted by the Chair.
Cllr Foot and Cllr Talbot did not attend
- 2 **Declaration of interests**
Cllr Townsend expressed an interest in the planning application agenda item 3.

It was agreed to take the Agenda item 3 next with Planning as the last item.

Cllr Turner arrived at 19.10hrs

- 3 **Coleford Playing field**
 - 3.1 **Agree work to be completed on the Butterfly bank & a date for working party to take place with Somerset Wildlife group**

Ellie Higginson has emailed some potential dates for when the working party might meet to help clear the butterfly bank. After a discussion it was agreed by the Council that the 7th of November starting at 10.30 to 3pm would best suit and would also coincide with the 5th of November when local residents might like to take the opportunity to hold a Guy Fawkes celebration and burn up the cuttings which will be cutback. The Clerk will contact Jane Mence who was instrumental in the gathering comments from the local residents earlier in the year; to ask if this might be of interest and also to see if she could help to find half a dozen volunteers to help during the working party. Somerset Wildlife Group have recommended clearing all the brambles and small tree saplings from the slope to allow the wildflowers to flourish. The Council agreed that they would take the lead from SWG on the day as to what should be cleared and that there is no need to meet prior.

Ellie Higginson said that the aftercare for the site should be quite simple and should take a couple of people 1 days work each year. All that will be needed is to cut down all the vegetation once it begins to die back, usually around the end of August, and rake off everything that has been cut. Initially, the

VW

VW

areas of bramble may need to be cut back a couple of times in the summer depending on how vigorously they are growing. They recommended finding a local person who could take responsibility for this or act as a kind of warden for the area to make sure someone is keeping an eye on how it is recovering. SWG will be happy to come out and have a look at the site to give any further advice if required.

3.2

Consider quotes received for multi play area.

Cllr Turner confirmed that 2 quotes have been received as follows:

- Playforce at £7K
- GB Sports and Leisure UK Ltd at £20K

CT

It was noted that the quotes provided were not comparable and that a third quote from another supplier would be required.

Cllr Turner confirmed that Playforce have since responded regarding the grass growing through the new rubberised surface at Goodeaves and have said that they believe the grass has grown as a result of grass cuttings reseeding in the surface. They have agreed to send someone out to apply weed killer and have asked that in the future all grass cuttings be swept clear of the surface. The Council will continue to monitor.

CT

4 **Rose and Crown Car Park and flooding**

All Councillors have previously read the email from Stuart Finney including communication from Julian Haines the Land Drainage and Project Engineer at Mendip District Council which confirmed that the flooding was not the fault of the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Clerk will draft a response to Ms Ongaro including the pertinent points raised in the email and include the attachments from Hugh Tetlow.

VW

5 **Updates on:**

5.1 Coleford Athletic Football Club

It has been agreed by CAFC that in light of the Parish Council funding the cost of the recent alterations to the referee changing rooms that they will fund the cost of hiring a roller to rectify the damage done to the playing surface at the recent village day.

5.2

Damage in the Highbury changing room

CRG have agreed to repair the damage done to the hand basin in the Gents toilets and the access door during the village day celebrations.

5.3

The lorry which hit the tree down on route to Reconstructed Bath Stone

Cllr Evans reported that he had spoken with Mr Harding of Reconstructed Bath Stone who confirmed that he had rung all of the companies who make deliveries to the depot and no one has reported any damage to their lorries. As a result of this he is unable to claim through his insurance. He urged anyone to get in touch if they had a photo or a note of the lorries registration number. He also confirmed that Mr Perry had contacted him direct to ask for £300 which was his charge for removing the fallen tree and felling the remainder of the tree, which as a gesture of good will to the Village he paid.

At the time of the incident Cllr Ham had a conversation with Mr Perry who asked for £500 to remove the fallen tree and make safe the damaged

tree. Cllr Ham refused to pay £500 but they agreed on a figure of £300. Mr Perry proceeded to clear the trees and took away the wood. VW

At the start of this evenings meeting the Clerk was handed an invoice from Mr Perry for £300. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should write to confirm that Mr Harding has already paid £300 and if there are any further expenses incurred from the incident the costs should be sought from Mr Harding.

6 **Discussion regarding structure of Parish Council meetings**

It was agreed that the following changes would be implemented in an attempt to make the Parish Council meetings run efficiently and hopefully finish earlier:

1. The agenda would be pared back and will only include items which need to be discussed or where an update is required.
2. Items to be included on the Agenda must be given to the Clerk a week before the date of the meeting.
3. Written reports should be submitted electronically 5 days prior to the meeting so that they can be distributed and digested by all Councillors prior to the meeting.
4. Councillors will remember that they should only speak once per item. VW

The Clerk will send reminders to all Councillors with respect to the abovementioned deadlines.

It was agreed that On the Map reports should not include any names or hearsay and should only include the crucial points with respect to planning decisions. PH

Cllr Townsend asked if anyone would be able to attend the Rural Forum tomorrow night Weds 23rd July at 6.30pm as they will be discussing the Local Plan II. Cllr Ham may be able to attend.

Cllr Townsend then left the meeting at 20.10hrs

7 **Planning application**

2015/2068/HSE -Demolition of existing single garage and erection of double garage with ancillary space to the rear and in the roof

Suncroft Lipyeate Cross To Luckington Cross Coleford Radstock

Following a review of the application, a Recommendation to Approve the application was proposed by Cllr Banks, seconded by Cllr Turner, and Approved by 4 votes to 1 with a District Councillor abstaining.

8 **Matters of Urgency – at the Chairman’s Discretion**

The Clerk to circulate the “What makes our Village Special” in preparation for the meeting on Friday 25th September 2015 at The Hub! VW

Cllr Townsend had agreed to bring along the housing survey report which was produced earlier in the year.

9 **Date of Next Meetings**

Parish Council Meeting 14th October 2015

Planning Meeting & Finance Sub-committee Precept meeting - 27th October 2015

