

Parish Council of Coleford

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9th August 2017

Present

Cllr P Ham (Chairman)
Cllr Townsend, Pearce, Turner, Littlechild, Gurd, Cllr Conn and Evans.

PF Public Forum

- 1 Concern was raised over the hedge which borders Church Street. As there are cars parked along the full stretch on the other side of the road, it means that when cars are heading up the hill the visibility is obscured by the hedge. The brow of the hill is a blind spot where traffic from both directions meets head on due to the parked cars. The Clerk confirmed that she had already written to the landowner requesting that the hedge be cut back. It was agreed that a letter be written to the Highways department highlighting the concerns of the hedge and parked cars. VW
- 2 It was noted that the trees around the lights on Church Street which are obscuring the lights and telephone cables have still not been cut back. Clerk to chase up. VW

1 Apologies for Absence (acceptance of any reasons offered)

Cllr Neesam, Banks, March, Talbot and Fisher and PCSO Mike Storey sent apologies which were accepted by the Chair.

2 Declaration of Interest and Dispensations granted since last meeting

Cllr Townsend declared an interest in Agenda item 8 which would be agreeing the contractor to complete the work on creating a new entrance to the playing field from Newbury Lane.

3 Approve minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting an Annual meeting of the Parish Council held on 12th July 2017

The minutes had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. It was noted that the first paragraph on page 2 should have the word NOT inserted as noted below:

‘Members of the public were welcome to stay however they would not be allowed to speak whilst it was being discussed, although they were welcome to stay and listen.’

This was added by hand and all Councillors agreed that the minutes for the monthly meeting held on the 12th July 2017 then accurately reflected the discussions and decisions made so were duly signed by the Chair.

Vote: 8 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained.

4 Matters arising.

All matters arising have been completed or will be discussed within the agenda apart from:

- Cllr Pearce asked that the survey for the Finger Post signs will be undertaken within the next month and should be an agenda item for the next meeting. Ag
- The Clerk had reported the empty Home but it appears the wrong address was given, it should have been Careys Mead and not Mendip Vale. It was also reported that the property at Underhill Cottage, Underhill is empty and the house which has the issue with Japanese knotweed, opposite the Eagle Inn. The Clerk will report. VW

- Cllr Turner confirmed that investigative work which is needed to establish if the dog waste bin can be relocated at Goodeaves, will be completed next week.

5 Reports

5.1 PCSO report – PCSO Mike Storey did not attend or send a report.

An email had been received notifying the Council that the next PACT meeting will take place on the 19th September starting at 7pm at Mells Barn

5.2 Somerset County Council report –County Cllr Ham reported that:

The recent visit to the Hinkley Point C construction site was overwhelming – the size, the build underground, infrastructure, security, no of workers, provisions, procurement, companies involved is quite something. Information will be circulated within the reading pack.

Full council was different with a new set of Councillors and a new leader. Adult social care contract with Dimensions still taking time to settle in, change is always difficult and not well received. Another £18.6million is to be saved this year, but some of which has already been saved.

The sale of council farms has been stopped until a further review by place scrutiny as they were still relying on 2010-2011 report which to some of us way out of date. County Cllr Ham has been asked to join the audit committee, and attended my first meeting which covered the pension fund and IT Security and the next challenges. Cllr Ham also attended the Somerset river authority scrutiny meeting on 8th August. Further information will be circulated within the reading pack.

5.3 Mendip District Council report Cllr Philip Ham reported as follows:

TRANSFORMATION - Further acquisitions have been looked at for our property portfolio. We have lost out on several by not being the highest bidder but look close to our 1st purchase and very interesting two others have come forward recently. It is hoped that the plan for the site extension at Mendip District Council will be passed soon and work on the new library can begin.

Car Park strategic group met to discuss how the assets can be used better across Mendip, some are over used and others not, what else can we use them for? Is the charging rate right in every car park, do shop keepers and staff use car parks that customers should be using and many more?

Training programme being put together for next 2 years for members and officers.

Lottery is doing ok but could be doing better.

An interesting meeting had been held about hate crime. Further information is provided within the reading pack.

A review was undertaken of the Shepton Mallet Sunday market with it being shut, July and August, but will start again in September on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

With the start of the Boyles Cross work starting 7th August a meeting was held with the retailers to find ways to help them through the constricted period.

5.4 Mendip District Council report – – District Cllr Townsend reported

- Strategic Car Parking Review – As Cllr Ham explains in more detail, we are reviewing all aspects of Mendip's car park estate.
- At Full Council a number of re-allocations of duties were made. District Cllr Townsend remains on the Licensing Board and is also now a substitute member of the Planning and Scrutiny Boards.
- Hate Crime awareness – Councillors were given a training session on recognizing Hate Crime and what to do about it.
- Cabinet on 7th August – The Rode Neighbourhood Plan was formally endorsed. Coleford PC may wish to review this and consider if Coleford could benefit from such a plan, noting that the process can take over four years and involve dedicated resource.

- Useful sessions were held with Mendip Housing. Firstly to work with Leigh on Mendip to understand how the recently awarded S106 monies can be used to benefit affordable housing in the village. Secondly to progress the cause of the Coleford Housing Needs survey where negotiations are proceeding with a potential developer.
- The monthly meeting of the Keyrings Letting Agency highlighted yet again the drastic shortage of property for rent at the lower end of the market.

5.5 Meetings attended

Councillor Ham attended the following meetings:

As Somerset County Councillor:

- 13-7 Visit to Hinkley Point – SCC Scrutiny Place Group
- 19-7 Full Council
- 27-7 Audit committee
- 08-8 Somerset Rivers Authority scrutiny

As Mendip District Councillor:

- 17-7 Full Council
- 17-7 Car Park strategic group meeting
- 18-7 Frome Town retail group. Boyles cross meeting
- 20-7 Stoke St Michael Parish Council meeting
- 24-7 Portfolio – Transformation meeting
- 25-7 Equalities meeting
- 25-7 Hate Crime meeting
- 01-8 Review Shepton Sunday Market
- 07-8 Cabinet
- 07-8 Cabinet /CMT

As Coleford Parish Councillor:

- 26-7 Working group meeting ref Pump Track
- 27-7 Pump track meeting at British Legion
- 03-8 Working group to review Play are inspection reports

District Cllr Townsend attended the following meetings:

- 13-7 Re-set Tennis Nets
- 17-7 MDC IT Training
- 17-7 MDC Strategic Car Parking Review
- 17-7 MDC Full Council
- 20-7 Stoke St Michael Parish Council
- 21-7 Working Group Review of Clerk's Pension
- 23-7 Butterfly Bank clearance (in the pouring rain)
- 25-7 Meeting with Clerk re Pension and Finance
- 25-7 MDC Hate Crime Briefing
- 26-7 Leigh on Mendip Planning issue site visit
- 27-7 Pump Track presentation at RBL
- 01-8 Holcombe Parish Council
- 07-8 MDC Cabinet
- 08-8 Meet Payback Team
- 08-8 Leigh on Mendip S106 Meeting
- 08-8 Keyrings Director's Meeting

6 **Planning applications**

6.1 Decisions on Previous Applications

2017/1519/PAH – 11 Coal Barton, Coleford

Single storey extension to rear of property to enlarge kitchen area

Mendip District Council decided that prior approval is not required

A letter had been received from a resident dated the 12th July 2017 expressing concern over the planning application 2017/0600/FUL – Development of Osbournes Garage into a convenience store. The letter had also been sent to Mendip District Councils planning department.

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

Cllr Townsend said that a meeting had been arranged with Dave Woodridge for the first week in September when he expected to be given an update on local cases.

6.3 Present Applications

2017/1927/FUL - Erection of detached 2 storey 4 bed dwelling
Land East Of Colbury House Anchor Road Coleford Frome Somerset

The Clerk had circulated an email which had been sent by a resident who was against the proposed development. The main concern highlighted was how the development would impact on parking on Anchor Road which is already congested. The Clerk had advised the resident to send the email to the planning office.

All Councillors had considered the plans prior to the discussion. After consideration it was proposed by Cllr Gurd that the application be refused on the basis that:

1. Could cause more parking issues on the highway where there is already a zebra crossing
2. There are safety concerns over the cars reversing from the proposed development out onto a highway which at peak times of the day can be busy with children walking to and from school.
3. It will not fit in with the current street scene and will create a crowded façade.
4. It is over development of the site.

It was noted however that permission had previously been given for a dwelling on the site.

The proposal was seconded by Cllr Turner and a vote was taken which was unanimously in favour of refusing the application.

Vote: 6 For, 0 Against, 2 Abstained (as District Councillors)

7 **Reports on Highway and Footpath Issues**

Cllr Pearce said that there all highlighted pot holes had been marked up for repair.

Councillors asked for the pot hole at the entrance to Lipyeate House to be reported. There was also confusion as to why drainage work was being undertaken at Lipyeate when it has not been a problem for many years. It seems like a waste of money. It was agreed that Cllr Pearce would investigate with the Highways department.

CP

8 **Progress report on BMX track to include agreeing financial plan and funding applications**

Cllr Gurd reported that the fund raising is progressing, the Sky Dive has now raised over £2180 and hopefully there is more to come. Cllr Gurd met with the management of CPM Pipe-works who made a donation of £250 which was gratefully received.

Cllr Conn has been investigating Grant Funding and has a real handle on what funds are available and has been going through the requirements of those funds before grants will be allocated. Things are looking very promising in that direction so well done Cllr Conn.

Councillors were asked if would be able to take a Sponsorship form to canvass their local area – forms are available from Cllr Gurd.

ALL

Cllr Gurd and the Clerk had put in a lot of work by Vickie to try and get numbers at the Village meeting in the RBL on 27th July which, was not best supported. Flyer were placed in the Co-op, LandF Jones, on all the notice boards, we visited Bishop Henderson and Kilmersdon School and each child, from both schools, went home at the end of term with a Pump Track Flyer advertising the meeting and the fundraising links attached to their end of term newsletters so on that basis, we were expecting a reasonable attendance. In fact 18 people attended of which 5 were Councillors and 2 were CRG, so disappointing probably sums it up.

The meeting was good and hopefully productive. One thing that was noticeable was that there does appear to be a gap between expectation, and willingness to “do” things to make that expectation happen. However, following long conversations with representatives of CRG, this is not uncommon and is one of the things they battle with consistently.

Despite great effort on behalf of Cllr Gurd we have only managed to obtain two quotes for the entrance to the playing fields, namely Trevor Wilkins and Steve Burdett. Trevor Wilkins is unable to start until at least Mid-September and possibly late.

The same applies with designers / constructors of the Pump Track itself. I have found 2 and no more, both of which have provided drawings and a quote.

It would seem we can comfortably get a 100metre pump track into the space allocated which takes the form of roughly an oval with a figure of 8 track within it, both contractors are suggesting much the same layout only the lumps and bumps will be of a different form, in a different configuration, will be higher/lower and in different places, otherwise principally similar ... we have decided for a finish on asphalt as being the most durable, least likely to be damaged over time, and most importantly, within our price range.

Cllr Gurd explained that the working party would like the full Council to approve their recommendation that the quote received from Steve Burdett would be the one they would like to proceed with on the basis that he was the most competitively priced (£4800 plus VAT) but also was able to start during August. Councillors were invited to ask questions. It was noted that no gate had been mentioned within the quote. Cllr Ham said that he was hoping to be able to source this. Cllr Gurd clarified that the quote was for all other materials need to complete the entrance and that Mr Burdett was aware that some of the materials would be provided by the Parish Council by way of donations via the quarries. This was agreed and will therefore reduce the final invoice from Mr Burdett.

A vote was taken which was unanimously in favour of the proposal. Cllr Townsend had declared an interest and did not vote.

Vote: 8 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstained.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Mr Trevor Wilkins to thank him for taking the time to quote and inform him that he had not been successful on this occasion. Cllr Gurd will put together a letter to confirm the contract with Mr Burdett with the Clerk adding the payment terms.

VW
TG
VW

9 Review Annual Play area inspection reports

The annual ROSPA inspections were carried out mid-July and the reports issued on the 17th July for council consideration. The working party met on the 03/8/2017 to discuss the reports in detail and formulate recommendations for action.

The purpose of the meeting was to examine the findings of the July 2017 Rospa Reports. The reports were examined line by line and the Team found it difficult to equate the individual Risk assessment scores with the overall Risk Assessment Score. We concluded that the diligence of complier of the report was less than the zeal of the inspector. As the parks are inspected most weeks, there were few surprises. The overall impression was that although the inspector had picked up all the points hitherto already noted by Councillors making inspections, his or her diligence in completing the template was not of the highest standard, i.e. the data entry had been incomplete / inconsistent, see above.

Lower Playing field.

All points made within the report were noted, Cllr Gurd had since gone to the play park and inspected the timber of the Tyre Climber and swings; there are no signs of rot around the base of the Timber legs, naturally there is strimmer damage, this is to be expected but in his opinion it does not compromise the inherent strength of the equipment such that it creates a hazard, it is something the council will monitor but it was felt that it was not a danger at this moment in time.

One of the Tyres on the Climber should be renewed in the near term but is not at this stage dangerous. Replacement of the tyre or other tyres, will be planned for over the next year. The remaining points in the report, the council is aware of e.g.: condition of paint work, algae on the matting etc. this will be addressed during the coming year by use of the Community Pay-Back workers.

VW
VW
KE

With respect to the damage to the grass / turf in the lower part of the playing field, this it is believed was caused by Badgers; interviewing some of the house owners bordering the playing field, it would appear they are fully aware of the cause and indeed supportive of the badgers saying “Oh it is what they do” you can’t stop nature. If neighbouring house owners continue to encourage badgers into the playing field there is little value in the council taking a stance and therefore perhaps we should recommend that those with concerns around this matter should take-up those concerns with those encouraging the badgers?

Roman Way Playing Field.

It was agreed that the lower part of the picket fence of this park should be renewed, the bench refurbished and the play equipment cleaned and repainted by the Community Pay Back group. The council will look into the replacement of the child’s sprung rocking horse which was vandalised by person(s) unknown some time ago and subsequently cut off at ground level to make it safe.

VW
KE
VW

Under 9’s Play Park, Upper Playing field.

Repair to the fence to this play park is being addressed it will be repaired. The graffiti noted in the report was not thought to be “a danger” to the children using the park, but will be over-painted by the community pay-back group.

KE

Goodeaves Play area

The under 13’s park at Goodeaves has been weed killed since this inspection / report and now shows little sign of weed infestation but, because it would seem an insufficiently dense Teram was used (or no Teram at all) in the construction of the playpark, weed killing will probably become an annual event.

The remaining points noted in the report will form the basis of a work list to undertake over the next year as it was noted that there was nothing in the report that indicated any immediate danger to children.

TG

It was agreed that the payment of the inspection be withheld until an explanation is received as to how the overall ratings for each park are achieved as it seems inconsistent with the equipment ratings.

VW

It was agreed that the Clerk should ask the current grass cutting contractor to quote for the harrowing and rolling of the area, which has been damaged by the badgers.

VW

10 Finance

10.1 Bank reconciliation

The Clerk will ensure that the reconciliation is completed before the next meeting.

VW

10.2 Income

The Clerk stated that the VAT payment had been received which amounted to £1008.55

10.3 First Quarter Budget review

The first quarter budget review had been completed by Cllr Conn, Cllr Townsend and the Clerk. Cllr Conn explained that the column titled forecast highlights the area where an area of overspend or underspend is predicted to occur. The areas that stand out at this point would be the Clerks salary which is due to the recently agreed pay review and the payment to Mendip Citizens Advice Bureau. This is in effect payments earmarked in the 2 previous years which were not paid until this year.

There were no concerns raised so the Chairman signed the review.

Vote: 8 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained

10.4 Coleford defibrillator – request for funding

An email had been received which stated that the defibrillator from outside Coleford Co-operative had been unlocked using the key code but not returned. The Rotary Club were keen to replace the unit and was seeking a donation from the Parish Council towards to cost. After discussion it was proposed that the Clerk should write to the Rotary Club to say that a contribution would be made if some reassurance could be given that this wouldn’t happen again.

VW

Vote: 8 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained

10.5 Decision Clerks Pension scheme

The Clerk left the room for a discussion to be had regarding potential pension scheme.

Upon the Clerks return, it was minuted that after discussion and review of the LGPS, Councillors voted unanimously to designate their employee, the Parish Clerk, currently Miss Vickie Watts, as the person who the Council would permit to join the LGPS. Cllr Townsend was actioned to forward the Minutes recording the Council's resolution to Peninsula Pensions to obtain authorisation from the Head of Pensions that Coleford Parish Council can become an eligible employer within the Scheme.

AT

Vote: 8 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained

10.6 Discuss / Agree purchase of dog poo bags

It was agreed that the Clerk should purchase 5000 dog poo bags to be used with the dispenser units. There was no financial saving to buying them in 5000 compared to 1000 but it would mean that repeat orders would be less frequent.

Vote: 8 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained

10.7 Accounts Approved for Payment

The following payments were read out.

Cllr Conn declared an interest in the 2nd payment to reimburse himself for payment to F R Jones and Son for the tools to be used on the Butterfly Bank.

Clerk expenses (£36 home office)	£99.22
Cllr Andy Conn - F R Jones and Son – Butterfly bank tools	£157.01
Rospa Annual Play area inspections	£331.80
SLCC annual membership (Total £69.50 for Coleford PC, £34.75 for Cranmore and Holcombe Parish Councils to pay – Clerk to Invoice)	£139.00
Julia Neesam – Environment committee expenses	£26.88
LCR Subscription (4 NALC magazines)	£17.00
SJH Services - Grasscutting	£679.44
Read Agri Services	£116.95

VW

It was agreed that the Clerk would hold the Play Safety payment until an explanation had been received regarding the risk ratings on the inspections reports. It was agreed that the cheque for Read Agri Services would be signed but held by the Clerk until a copy of the invoice had been received and checked. Councillors agreed that all payments should be made in accordance with the abovementioned note and the cheques were signed by Cllr Ham, Townsend and the Clerk

Vote: 7 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstained.

11 **Review Cemetery Policy**

This was to be adjourned to allow the Clerk, Cllr Turner and Gurd to complete the review.

Ag
VW/CT/TG

12 **Update on Bishop Henderson Dog Fouling Signage competition**

The signs that were completed by the children at the end of last term will be judged during the start of the new term and the book tokens purchased by Cllr Townsend will be presented to the winners.

Ag

13 **Parish Plan Review**

Cllr Ham provided all Councillors present with a copy of the Parish Plan along with the action plan for them to review. Agenda item for the next meeting.

14 **Website update**

It was agreed that the Clerk would re-email the proposed amendments made by Cllr Conn so that Councillors can review and suggest further amendments in preparation for the next Council meeting where the text should be agreed.

VW

- 15 Review and Approve Policies**
1. Freedom of information scheme
 2. Model Social Media Policy
 3. Document Retention

Re-circulate in preparation to be agreed at the next Council meeting.

VW

16 Environment Report – Cllr Keith Evans

16.1 Agree locations for new street furniture and dog waste bin at Rope Walk

Cllr Evans and the Environment working party have agreed locations and now need to liaise and make arrangements to carry out the installations.

KE/PH

Cllr Ham to arrange a meeting with Alex Marson the landowner of Rope Walk to agree the location of the new dog waste bin.

PH

16.2 Relocation of dog waste bin at Goodeaves

Cllr Turner to undertake the site investigation in preparation to relocate the dog waste bin.

CT

16.3 Update on Butterfly bank clearance day and agree action for the fallen tree

Cllr Conn provided an informative written report which had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

Progress During 2017

1. Clearance of the dense bramble cover was completed on 14th January, by a large group of residents, plus Somerset Wildlife Trust (SWT) staff and volunteers.
2. In July, the Parish Council approved a fund of £150 for hand tools. This has been used to buy three slashers, one pair of bypass loppers (for green wood) plus gloves, eye protectors and a sharpening stone. Storage of these items in the shed at the Hub is proposed.
3. On 23rd July, a small group endured steady rain to complete summer maintenance. This included clearing thistles and ragwort from half the bank and thinning the remainder, clearing the diagonal path across the bank and on through the woodland, and scything the long grass at the foot of the bank.
4. The work programme agreed by the Parish Council (see attachment) has been achieved to date, although this year the May and July summer clearance work was combined.

Future work programme

5. An event for children is planned for Tuesday 22nd August 2pm, with the new East Mendip Woodcraft Folk group (based in Coleford) and the theme will be insects. Some insect “sculptures” are likely to be made and hung in trees. We also hope to start building a “bug hotel” for wintering insects, at the top of the bank.
6. We are in touch with SWT and collecting seed locally, to increase the wild flowers growing on the bank. This will include scattering yellow rattle, to reduce the strength of grasses that compete with flowering plants. This species is common locally and plays a vital role in the best wild flower meadows eg Edford Meadows SWT reserve and meadows south of the river at Coleford.
7. The next main winter clearance has been set for Sunday 14th January 2018 and will be advertised locally. Now that the main mass of brambles has been cleared, cutting back new growth needs to be done yearly, but will not be a very big task. SWT have offered to help again.
8. At these events, we hope to promote a local conservation group, working with the Parish Council.

Trees

9. At the top of the open butterfly bank there are a number of beech trees. These are attractive and appear to be in good condition, but they have some low branches that shade large areas. Removal of a few of these branches to “raise the crowns” of these trees would increase the sunlit area, without reducing the shaded section of the circular walk. This could be done as part of winter maintenance and the wood offered to local residents.
10. A large ash tree has fallen across the small valley (former quarry with badger sett) behind the bank. This is wedged with its roots on one side of the valley and its top branches amongst trees on the other side. It appears to be stable. However there are two potential hazards:-
 - i. The tree could fall further, injuring anyone who might be trying to walk or play in the valley

- ii. Children may be attracted to walk the trunk, which is horizontal and several feet above ground.
11. Cutting the tree may well be more hazardous than leaving it to rot, and removal of the timber is unlikely to be economically attractive.

It was agreed that Councillor Gurd would investigate the issues raised regarding the trees and report back the best course of action.

TG

Annual Work Programme (Adopted by Coleford Parish Council August 2016)

Timing	Task	Estimated Resources
December – February	Winter clearance of brambles and small trees. Note: this will be a less significant task once the second half of the site has been cleared of historic growth during Winter 2016-17.	2016-2017 Working Party for 4 hours with SWT staff Brush cutter, slashers saws protective gear From 2017-18 onwards: Working party for 2 or 3 hours Slashers saws loppers secateurs protective gear
May	Clear diagonal footpath to maintain access	2 person hours Slashers protective gear
July	Check thistle numbers and reduce	2 person hours Gloves
August-September (after plants have set seed)	Cut back vegetation to encourage seeds to set	2-4 person hours Slashers Protective gear
Autumn	Burn material from previous clearances	Perhaps a celebratory bonfire?

16.4

The big picture – why the Butterfly Bank is important

The Coleford area has lots of woodland and hedgerows. Some farmland is managed in a traditional manner, with low intensity grazing and limited use of chemicals.

Somerset Wildlife Trust is trying to identify existing areas in the county that link the main sites of wildlife importance, enabling animals and insects in particular to flourish outside “reserves” and increase their resilience. The Butterfly Bank has a part to play in this network.

Although the site is small, its adoption and improvement by the local community is a trail-blazer for achieving improvement. The Coleford project is referred to by the Trust in promoting other community action across Somerset. The Wildlife Trust has played a major part in the project and has offered further support.

Surveys of wild flowers have confirmed that more than 60 species are growing

Community pay back team

Cllr Evans reported that that Community Pay Back team had worked hard this week on clearing the entrance to the Coleford Playing field and the footpath which runs behind the Kings Head Inn collecting a large amount of rubbish which Cllr Evans had arrange collection.

The grit bin which had been on the corner at Underhill had been relocated to the top of the steps which everyone agreed was a more appropriate location.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write a letter of thanks to the Community Pay Back team to acknowledge the hard word that had been put in.

VW

Cllr Ham confirmed that materials had been purchased in preparation for the team to paint the play equipment and treat any woodwork, which will be a priority for days when the weather is fine.

- 17 Meetings to attend**
PACT meeting – 19th September starting at 7pm at Mells Barn
Butterfly bank Summer event for youngsters – 22nd August 2pm til 4pm
This is a planned joint event with the new Coleford Woodcraft Folk Group. (To include some clearance to encourage seed setting, as per the Work Programme)
- 18 Report of any risks identified**
The fallen tree at the old quarry, the butterfly bank was noted. Cllr Gurd to investigate and give a second opinion. TG
- 19 Correspondence**
- 20 Matters of Urgency – at the Chairman’s Discretion**
An email was received from Chiara Docherty of YMCA. She explained that she has been involved in a project with the children of Coleford village. The project team are spending 10-12 weeks at a time, doing detached work and providing activities for young people in the local parks etc. The project team aims to reach the young people who may not access the youth club within the local area but welcome everyone. The project team links with the local police, Schools, council, residents and young people to establish what the need is in the local community and we then encourage young people to participate in something positive that could have an impact on their community or others.
- Chiara explained that the last six weeks have been spent in Coleford, speaking with residents and meeting local young people. They have been building relationships with the young people and doing various positive activities and with them at the local park. From this, young people discussed litter was poor at the local park and the Beacon View woods young people of all ages go to. We visited the woods and spoke to residents who live nearby who advised they are happy for young people to go there but the amount of rubbish throughout is poor.
- Young people have suggested a litter pick to clear the rubbish, clear the over grown paths etc. and make it more clean and assessable for everyone. Young people have also made flyers and posters themselves to encourage other young people and residents to keep the streets / parks and woods clean which will be put up around Coleford by them next week. On Tuesday 15th August, young people are taking part in the litter pick and on average 16 young people will be attending.
- Young people have been involved in all the planning, leaflet making, choice of project and the event to help benefit their local community. As it is coming to the end of our project in Coleford, as a reward to them it has been decided to put a BBQ on for them and activities at the woods the following week (22nd August) but are hoping for some help with providing this. The project team runs in each area on no budget, seeking resources from within YMCA Mendip. Help is needed to find money to cover costs of protective gloves and rubbish bags for the young people to use in order for the event to go ahead. Help is also needed with costs for the BBQ and without any financial support it will not be able to go ahead. It would really be appreciated if any amount can be donated, we don’t expect costs to be covered for both requests.
- Cllr Ham confirmed that he will supply the Coleford Parish Council litter pickers and the Clerk would ask ID Verde to supply the bags. Councillors agreed that a maximum of £100 could be donated to help with the costs of the event. Cllr Ham will liaise with Chiara and make the decision on the appropriate amount to donate up to a maximum of £100. PH/VW
PH
- SJH Services had provided a quote for additional cuts of the Cemetery hedge and Church Street gardens. After discussion it was agreed that the £130 quote for one additional cut to the Cemetery hedge should be accepted. The Clerk to write to notify the contractor. VW
- Cllr Ham explained that the Youth Club were very keen for Cllr Gurd to give a presentation about his recent Sky Dive and tell the youths how the money raised would be going towards to BMX pump track. This will be an opportunity to engage with the Youth and get them on board with future fund raising opportunities like a sponsored bike marathon. Cllr Gurd to liaise and agree a date. TG
- 21 Date of Next Meetings:**
Tuesday 22nd August 2017 Planning Meeting
Wednesday 13th September 2017 Parish Council Meeting