

Parish Council of Coleford

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday the 23rd January 2018

Public Forum Cllr Evans said that he was concerned about the safety of the new side extension to the old Chip shop. The Clerk said that she had received an email questioning whether the side extension was allowed under permitted development. It was agreed that Cllr Townsend would raise the query with Mendip District Council Enforcement department. AT

1 Present

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

2 Apologies for Absence (acceptance of any reasons offered)

Martin Talbot did not attend

3 Co-option of Councillor

There were none.

4 Declaration of Interest and Dispensations granted since last meeting

Cllr Ham declared an interest in the planning application 2017/1374/FUL, which if approved could see work undertaken across his land.

5 Planning

5.1 [2017/1374/FUL – Rebastone Masonry Limited Newbury Works Newbury Hill Coleford BA3 5RX Proposed 20MW Flexible Electricity Generation Facility \(FEGF\) \(Additional supporting info received 8/12/17\).](#)

Cllr Townsend had considered the application and explained that the applicant had provided a response to the questions raised by Coleford Parish Council when they considered the original application. However there were still concerns which were noted as follows:

1. It is noted that each unit when working will have a noise output of 43 decibels. If all 20 units are running at the same time does that mean that the noise will rise above 43 decibels and if so by how much?
2. The application mentions that the background noise of the site will remain the dominant sound but the Council believes this to be inaccurate as there is currently no other significant noise generating activity at the site.
3. It states that the site is too noisy and dusty to be attractive for industrial use, which again is inaccurate and inconsistent with the above.
4. Despite the answers that the applicant had provided the Councillors remained in favour of their original decision to recommend refusal of the application as it would prevent future employment within the village on the site which was designated as an employment site..
5. The Parish Council cannot immediately agree to the offer of solar panels as it doesn't have a public building although it would wish to explore it further and would be prepared to negotiate on an alternative annual section 106 agreement.
6. Councillors asked if Mendip District Council would be able to give an example of a site where this type of set up was currently working.
7. Are the lithium ion batteries safe?

It was proposed by Cllr Gurd and seconded by Cllr Turner that the application should be recommended for refusal for the points raised above.

Voting FOR 7, AGAINST Nil, ABSTENTIONS 3 (2 District Councillors)

5.2 Planning Updates

2017/3046/FUL – Construction of bat roost for a colony of Lesser Horseshow bats
Brookside Cottage, Underhill, Coleford, BA3 5LU
Mendip District Council have given approval with conditions

2017/3072/HSE – Proposed demolition of existing garage and erection of single storey rear extension and garage.
69 Farley Dell, Coleford, BA3 5PN
Mendip District Council have given approval with conditions

6 **Review of the 3rd Quarter Budget inc:**

6.1 Discuss and agree donation to Bishop Henderson

Cllr Townsend said that after the third quarter budget review with Cllr Conn and the Clerk it was noted that there would be an underspend on the Housing Needs Survey as the cost of the survey had been borne by Mendip District Council. Cllr Townsend suggested that the £500 be reallocated and put towards the bike shed project which Bishop Henderson School are currently looking to fund. A counter proposal was made by Cllr Gurd that the School should apply for a Small Grant along with other applicants in the Autumn. This was rejected FOR 4 AGAINST 6

After much discussion it was proposed by Cllr Conn that the £500 should be allocated to the School and that Cllr Townsend should seek further information on what projects the school have planned to ascertain if there is a worthy cause.

AT
Ag

Voting FOR 6, AGAINST 4, ABSTENTIONS 0

6.2 Discuss and agree future for Roman Way Play area

Cllr Ham said that the play area was installed at the time of the houses being built. He questioned whether the Parish Council had an obligation to provide a play area at the site. Cllr Gurd said that at the time the Annual inspection was reviewed it was agreed that quotes would be sought for the fence to be repaired and the Community Pay Back team would look to renovate the bench and sand down and re paint the play equipment – none of which has been done.

Everyone agreed that:

1. Quote would be urgently sought to repair the rusted step to the slide – Cllr Ham and Fisher
2. Seek quotes for repair of the fencing – Clerk
3. Community Pay Back team to renovate bench and play equipment
4. Agenda item to decide the long term future of the play area.

PH/JF
VW
KE
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6.3 Propose Handyman for installation of street furniture and longer term odd jobs

The Clerk to prepare a poster seeking names of handymen / women that would be prepared to complete small tasks though out the village. The list should include not only contact details but skills and hourly rate.

VW

6.4 Review of the 3rd Quarter Budget

The Clerk, Cllr Townsend and Cllr Conn had met to review the third quarter budget review figures. After discussion it was agreed that the notes for item G24 should be expanded to elaborate on how the money has been spent. It was agreed that the budget report accurately reflected the current expectations for the period so the Chairman thanked the Clerk for her work on this and signed a copy for the records.

VW

7 **Consider quote for installation of track to the BMX pump track, 2 x benches and litter bin**

Cllr Gurd said that the revised quotes had been received from Rob Wareham for:

- The installation of the new track from the entrance to the basketball court. This has been quoted at £2438 which takes in to consideration that the Council will provide the scalplings.
- The installation of the 2 new benches and bin. £493 taking into consideration that the Council will provide scalplings and tarmacadam and the benches and bin.

Voting FOR 10, AGAINST Nil, ABSTENTIONS 0

8 Matters of Urgency – at the Chairman’s Discretion
Owls Nest - The Appeal Decision allowing the conversion of an agricultural building into a dwelling had been circulated to all Councillors along with a statement from the Mendip District Council lawyer. The only option would be to challenge the Planning Inspectorate at Judicial Review which could come at a high price.

A decision will have to be made within 6 weeks as to whether to challenge the decision or not.

Cllr John Fisher advised that he wished to resign as of tonight although he was happy to continue to replenish the dog bag dispenser units. Cllr Ham thanked Cllr Fisher for his help during the time he has been a Councillor.

Cllr Ham and Banks left the meeting at 20.40hrs and Cllr Townsend took the Chair

Matters of Urgency to be continued later in the meeting.

9 Mendip Local Plan Part II Consultation
Cllr Townsend had sent the Clerk an email outlining a draft response just prior to the meeting for circulation to all Councillors but this had not yet been sent on to all. It was agreed that the email would be sent to Councillors to respond with any additional comments that they wished to make regarding the Local Plan Part II and the Local Green Spaces. Once received the comments will be put into a response and sent to Mendip District Council.

VW
ALL
AT

Cllr Townsend said that if MDC does not agree with our suggestions then the points suggested but left off the final draft would have to be submitted by MDC to the Inspectorate who could over rule MDC and include them.

10 Coleford Playing Field - Butterfly bank and grass cutting.
Cllr Conn said that the recent winter clearance meeting was not so well attended although those that did attend worked incredibly hard. An additional winter clearance date has been set for Saturday the 17th March 2018 to clear the remainder of the brambles. Cllr Conn will push the advertising for the event.

Cllr Conn asked if the work to rectify the damage to the Coleford playing field could be undertaken at the earliest opportunity. The Clerk to speak with SJH Services.

VW

11 Matters of urgency continued
11.1 Housing Needs Survey - The Clerk had emailed a list of points which had been raised on the Coleford Somerset Facebook page as a result of a post which the Clerk had placed encouraging residents to complete the Housing Needs Survey which had been sent to each home in the village. Some of the comments posted were connected to affordable housing, highways issues and planning sites. It was agreed that Cllr Townsend would put together a response to be posted on the Facebook page to clarify some points including :

AT

1. The point of the HNS is specifically to find out what housing the village needs, and no decisions have yet been made.
2. This year we intend to commence a revision to the Parish Plan which will give the whole village an opportunity to express their views on any or all issues that are a concern and need to be addressed.
3. Encourage completion of the final question on the form which invites any more general comments

11.2 Cllr Evans asked when the trained strimmer could commence work as the area by Careys Mead needs attention.

VW

11.3 Litter Pick – The Clerk advised that Cranmore were planning a litter pick in March and asked if Councillors wished to do the same in Coleford. A possible date of 3rd March was suggested.

VW
Ag

The Meeting closed at 9.15pm

11 Date of Next Meetings:
Wednesday 14th February 2018 Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 20th February 2018 Planning Meeting