

Parish Council of Coleford

Gallant Hill Farm, Foxcote, Radstock, BA3 5YB
Miss V Watts, Clerk to the Council
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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday the 22nd September 2021

Present

Cllr Ham (Chairman presiding) Cllrs Allen, Bell, Evans, Pearce and Turner. No members of the public attended.

The Clerk reported that Cllr Hanney had not attended a meeting for 6 months and therefore ceased to be a Councillor. Mendip District Council have been notified and a notice of vacancy will be published.

Action: Clerk to publish notice of vacancy

1. Public Forum

Cllr Evans highlighted that there was a crack in the road surfacing on Preachers Road.

Action: Cllr Townsend to investigate.

2. Apologies for Absence (acceptance of any reasons offered)

Apologies were received from Cllr Banks, Barrett, Drescher, Harding and Townsend, which were accepted by the Chair.

3. Declaration of Interest and Dispensations granted since last meeting

There were none.

4. Planning Applications

There were none.

Cllr Turner arrived 19.15hrs

5. Discuss quotes received for upgrading the MUGA including installation of 3G Astro type surface.

The deadline for applications to the Mendip District Council Communities Fund closes on the 30th September 2021. It was proposed by Cllr Allen and seconded by Cllr Evans that a generic application covering the installation of a new multi-use surface and new fencing would be submitted for the maximum amount of the £30K. The Clerk will work with the working party to complete the application.

Vote: 6 For; 0 Against and 0 Abstentions

Action: The Clerk to ensure the application is completed and submitted before the 30th September

6. Consider quote for cutting back the hedge at Coleford Playing Field

The Clerk confirmed that one contractor had said that they were not able to get their tractor into the playing field. Another contractor with a smaller tractor and hedge cutter has agreed to quote on his return from annual leave.

Action: Clerk to present quotes at the next meeting

7. Consider quotes for setting up Parish Council email addresses for Councilors with associated security

The Clerk had sought advice from the Somerset Association of Local Councils who had suggested reading the ‘Councilor’s guide to Cyber Security’. The Clerk will read the publication and report back at a future meeting. She said that it might also be appropriate to create Parish Council email addresses for all Councilors just for Council business.

Action: Clerk to progress. Agenda item

8. Consider how to progress with the Somerset County Council Emergency Climate Fund Grant

After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would contact the landowner of the land offered at Vobster to establish if they would consider a 20-year lease and what price they would charge per year including initial set up fees.

It was agreed that the Council would progress with the orchards, wildflowers and willow structure at Highbury and Coleford Playing Field and Beacon View.

Vote: 6 For; 0 Against and 0 Abstentions

Action: Clerk to contact the landowner and liaise with the SCC regarding deadline for submission.

9. Consider extending Highbury Playing Field Charity to include Coleford Playing Field

The Clerk had received a letter of response from the Charity Commission which said that provided the governing documents do not prohibit the charity acquiring land and the objects allow for the charity to operate multiple fields for recreation that this may be acceptable.

Action: The Clerk will seek guidance with Somerset Playing Field Association

10. Matters of Urgency – at the Chairman’s Discretion

Applications are now open for the Small Grants funds. The total available for this year is £2500. Councillors are to spread the word that applications are welcome with the deadline being the 1st November 2021.

Action: Clerk to promote on Facebook

The Clerk confirmed the following meetings:

SLCC branch meeting – 24/09/21 @ 9.45am

Improving Community Health & Care services 27/09/21 @ 6pm

Somerset Unitary T & PC Conference 07/10/21 @ 12 noon

Climate Conference 06/11/21 @1pm

Queens Platinum Jubilee 03/11/21 @ 7pm

Clerk to attend

Cllr Bell booked to attend

Cllr Pearce, Ham & the Clerk
booked to attend

Cllr Bell, Townsend and the Clerk
booked to attend

Open to all

11. Date of Next Meetings:

13th October 2021 – Monthly meeting

27th October 2021 – Planning meeting