

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 26th January 2022

Present

Cllr Ham (Chairman presiding) Cllrs Allen, Banks, Bell, Evans, Townsend and Pearce

There were no members of the public present. The Clerk Vickie Watts taking the minutes

1. Public Forum

1. A parishioner enquired as to whether the group 'Men Shed' still met in the village. No, it was understood that the nearest group would now be in Frome or Midsomer Norton.
2. A parishioner had commented that the Doctors surgery waiting times had increased. It was noted that the staff are supporting the vaccination program so is working with reduced staff.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Barret, Drescher, Turner and Paterson which were accepted by the Chair.

3. Councillor resignation and co-option

The Clerk has advertised the vacancies and hoped to have a new member available to co-opt at the next meeting.

4. Declaration of Interest and Dispensations granted since last meeting

Cllr Pearce declared a personal non prejudicial interest in agenda item 10.
Cllrs Ham and Bell declared a pecuniary interest in planning application 2021/2931/FUL

5. Planning Applications

All Councillor's had considered the plans prior to the meeting.

1. [2021/2837/HSE](#) - Erection of a two storey attached annexe,
Noone Cottage, Springers Hill, Coleford, Radstock
It was proposed by Cllr Banks and seconded by Cllr Pearce that the application should be allowed on the basis that the alterations create extra space to make it a reasonable sized home.

Vote: 5 For, 0 Against, 2 Abstentions (2 District Councillors)

2. [2021/2931/FUL](#) - Construction of a pony menage
Windy Ridge, Tinkers Lane, Newbury, Coleford
Although the planning application doesn't include permission to instal lighting some local residents had raised concern that it would cause light pollution. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Allen that the application should be approved providing no lighting be installed and the menage is for personal use only.

Vote: 4 For, 0 Against, 3 Abstentions (2 District Councillors)

3. [2022/0016/VRC](#) – Application to vary condition 2 (drawings) of planning approval 2017/0600/FUL to raise finished floor level & ridge height by 350mm to allow foul drains to fall into existing sewer Crossway Garage Anchor Road Coleford
After discussion it was agreed that the application should be approved providing disabled access is not compromised.

Vote: 5 For, 0 Against, 2 Abstentions (2 District Councillors)

6. Planning updates including enforcement issues

A list of Highway priorities has been compiled which includes the following points:

- Issues that would need to be addressed prior to completion of the Gladman development.
- Issues that will require action once Gladman development are fully occupied
- Other issues that need addressing throughout the village, including a 20mph zone for the center of the village incorporating Bishop Henderson and Church Street.

Action: Clerk to circulate the list for discussion at the February meeting. Make pedestrian access to Bishop Henderson school an agenda item for February meeting.

7. Payment

All Councillors agreed that the repair to the rocking horse located at Coleford park would extend the life of the horse so that it can be enjoyed for many more years to come and the invoice should be paid.

Jim Kelly Repair to rocking horse £425.00

Vote: 7 For, 0 Against, 2 Abstentions

8. Consider and agree whether to purchase the Scribe Accounting package

The Clerk had circulated feedback obtained on the Society of Local Council Clerks forum which praised the accounting software and support provided. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Ham and seconded by Cllr Pearce that the offer from Scribe of a 50% reduction for the first year should be accepted making the total payable in the first year £241 including the cost of the one off set up.

Vote: 7 For, 0 Against, 2 Abstentions

Action: Clerk to place the order

9. Discuss & agree in principle to relocating the play equipment at Highbury playing field

After discussion it was established that the Councillors were not against the idea of removing the play equipment at Highbury to make room for a larger 3G pitch suitable for 7 a side matches rather than the initial size which could only be used for 5 a side. However, further information about costings would be required and it was felt that consultation with the parish would be needed if moving the play equipment.

The Clerk explained that quotes for the additional work had been requested. It was agreed that the working party would meet to discuss the project and report back at a future meeting.

It was agreed that Cllr Bell would join the working party.

Action: Clerk to send the power point presentation to the new Councillors to provide an overview of the proposed improvements

10. Review Tree Survey and agree works to be completed

The Clerk had obtained quotes for tree work listed in the tree survey and on land to the rear of Orchard Close.

After consideration of the quotes, it was noted that Jake Knight would be removing extra trees at Orchard Close and therefore the combined quote of £2060 should be accepted.

Action: Clerk to confirm the order and book in the work. Cllr Allen to collect the timber from the ash trees at Orchard Close.

11. Update on the new allotments

The Clerk had received an email from Mr Jerram confirming that the alternative plot at Upper Vobster would be acceptable however it has now transpired that the land is still substandard and not appropriate for allotments. It was agreed that the Clerk would request that they consider the field on the other side of the Vobster lake next to the road to the old road to Newbury which is now closed.

Action: Clerk to liaise with Mr Jerram to seek approval from the Estate Trustees

12. Consider and approve Memorial application

The Clerk read out the additional inscription application from Exclusive Memorials for Kathleen Phillips Payne. All Councillors agreed that the inscription should be allowed.

Action: Clerk to notify Exclusive Memorials

13. Correspondence

Somerset Association Local Councils training dates. Cllr Bell confirmed that he would like to attend the Finance & Government Part 2 on the 25th February.

All Councillors to notify the Clerk if they want to attend.

Action: Clerk to confirm booking for Cllr Bell

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

It was noted that the sign at the entrance to the Cemetery has become very worn. The Clerk to seek quotes for replacement sign for consideration at the February meeting.

Action; Agenda item for February

Action: Cllr Allen to try to repair the broken finger post sign at the junction of Church Street and Highbury Street. The sign is currently being held by Mr Edgell.

15. Date of Next Meetings:

9 th February 2022	Parish Council meeting
23 rd February 2022	Planning meeting

Meeting finished at 21.30hrs