

Parish Council of Coleford

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Gallant Hill Farm
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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23rd March 2022

Present

Cllr Ham (Chairman presiding) Cllrs Allen, Banks, Barret, Evans, Paterson and Pearce

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

1. Public Forum

1. A Councillor said that he had witnessed anti-social behavior of youths around the village. The Clerk confirmed that she had spoken with the PCSO who is aware of the current issues. All Councillors were asked to encourage anyone who complains or witnesses anti-social behaviour to report it to the police.
2. It was reported that the wall at the entrance to the car park on Highbury Street has been damaged. Clerk to report to Mendip District Council.
3. There was a complaint that branches cut from the trees on land at Careys Mead had been left on the floor and looked untidy. It was noted that this is sometimes done to encourage wildlife. Clerk to write to Mendip District Council to ask if it can be removed.
4. It was noted that a kerb has fallen into the road leaving the pavement to start to erode on Beacon View Road (just off Highbury St). Clerk to report to Somerset Highways.
5. It was asked if the name sign at the entrance to Coal Barton could be renewed as it is very tatty and needs updating. Clerk to make a request for a new sign.

Action: Clerk to complete the tasks raised in public forum.

6. Concern was raised over a new 30 / 60mph sign as you leave the village of Mellis (Frome side) It was suggested that it may have been installed in the wrong place.

Action: Cllr Ham to report to Sara Davis

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Bell, Townsend and Drescher which were accepted by the Chair.

3. Declaration of Interest and Dispensations granted since last meeting

There were none.

4. Councillor resignation and co-option

The Clerk has advertised the notice of elections.

5. Planning Applications

[2022/0383/HSE](#) - Rose Marie, Lipyeate, Coleford, Radstock

Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension with cladding to first floor front elevation.

All Councillors had considered the application prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Banks and seconded by Cllr Pearce that the application be recommended for approval.

Vote: 6 For, 0 Against and 1 Abstention (District Councillor)

6. Planning updates including enforcement issue

There are none

7. Elections May 2022 – Timetable and nomination papers

Nomination papers were handed to Councillors who were encouraged to complete the forms and submitted them to Mendip District Council in person where they will be checked and accepted. The Clerk confirmed that the Notice of Elections had been displayed on the parish noticeboards. The Key dates are:

- Notice of election published - 21 March 2022
- Nominations accepted from - 22 March 2022
- Deadline for candidates' nominations - 5 April 2022
- Statement of persons nominated published - 6 April 2022
- Deadline to register to vote - 14 April 2022
- Close of postal vote applications - 19 April 2022
- Close of proxy vote applications - 26 April 2022
- Polling Day - Thursday 5 May 2022
- Count of votes and declarations of results for 110 councillors to the County of Somerset - 6 May 2022
- Count of votes and declarations of results for town and parish councils - 7 May 2022

Actions: All Councillors to submit their nomination papers at Mendip District Council

8. Review updated quote to complete works highlighted in Orchard Close Tree Survey and agree works to be completed

The Clerk had asked the contractor already selected to complete the tree work at Orchard Close to review the Tree Survey to establish if any additional work was required. Jake Knight confirmed that the only tree outstanding was the reduction of a Holly tree which could cost an additional £160 + VAT

It was proposed by Cllr Allen and seconded by Cllr Barret that the quote should be accepted.

Vote: 7 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstention

Actions: Clerk to instruct contractor

9. Planning updates including enforcement issue

There were none

10. Consider quotes to clear ground in Goodeaves allotment for rainwater harvesting structure

The Clerk explained that the ground needed to be cleared before the structure could be built which involved moving debris, carpet etc. from one end of the allotment to a skip which would be located at the other. A quote had been received from Nippers Tipper Ltd for £285.

It was proposed by Cllr Barret and seconded by Cllr Allen that the quote should be accepted.

Vote: 7 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstention

Actions: Clerk to instruct contractor

11. Consider quotes to repair fence at Highbury play area.

The Clerk explained that part of the fence surrounding the Highbury play area has fallen to the ground and needs to be repaired. A quote had been received from Nippers Tipper Ltd for £140 to complete the work on the fence and also £30 to remove the old broken picnic table from Goodeaves.

After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Allen and seconded by Cllr Ham that the quote should be accepted and the work completed.

Vote: 7 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstention

Actions: Clerk to instruct contractor

12. Update on the new allotments

The request to swap fields with the current tenant was not well received. It was therefore agreed that desk top consideration would be done on the field next to the road at Upper Vobster ahead of a site meeting to consider the soil, measure up and mark up the number of allotments which could work at the site. An enquiry also needs to be made to establish whether local top soil is available and how much it would cost to bring to the site.

Actions: Cllr Pearce to complete desk top prep. Arrange the site meeting with Cllr Pearce, Drescher, Allen and Ham

13. Discuss whether to create an emergency plan for Coleford.

Ashley has confirmed that he would be happy to help Coleford to put together an emergency plan and to kick it off he would give a presentation on what would be involved. After discussion it was agreed that Ash would be invited to attend the July meeting. The Clerk to send a copy of the Holcombe emergency plan to all Councillors for consideration.

Actions: Clerk to arrange presentation with Ash. Circulate Holcombe emergency plan.

14. Correspondence

Email from a volunteer offering support for the refugees from Ukraine. Clerk to respond offering to support their efforts.

News release from Mendip District Council re the Notice of election published. – No action required.

Email received from LSJ Gardening services – The Clerk confirmed that the monthly standing order for the new cutting year is £973.33 for the next 12 months. However, due to the increase in fuel costs Jamie provided evidence of the cost for last year compared to current costs and has asked if the monthly cost could be increased to £1038.13. After discussion, it was agreed that the new price would be paid for the next 3 months and at that point Jamie would need to provide an updated report in order for us to continue paying the inflated price or revert back to the original price or further negotiate.

It was proposed by Cllr Allen and seconded by Cllr Barret that the Council would set up the standing order for £1038.13 for the next 3 months.

Vote: 7 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstention

Actions: Clerk to make arrangements for adjust standing order

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

Cllr Ham confirmed that the planned pavement improvements will be completed on Anchor Road imminently. This will take the shape of new signage and paintwork rather than structural changes.

16. Date of Next Meetings:

13th April 2022

Parish Council meeting

11th May 2022

Annual Parish Council meeting followed by Monthly meeting

25th May 2022

Annual meeting of the Parish