

Parish Council of Coleford

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Gallant Hill Farm
Foxcote
Radstock
BA3 5YB

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held Wednesday 8th May 2024

Present Cllr Ham, (Chairman presiding) Banks, Bell, Evans, Pearce, Moulding and Townsend

In attendance No members of the public present
The Clerk, Vickie Watts taking the minutes

1. Election of Officers

The following officials were elected for the forthcoming year:

Chair Mr. Philip Ham
Proposed by Cllr Pearce and seconded by Cllr Bell

Vote: 7 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstention

Vice Chair Mr Chris Pearce
Proposed by Cllr Bell, and seconded by Cllr Moulding

Vote: 7 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstention

2. Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr Ham signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

3. Apologies:

Cllr Barrett, Drescher, Douglas-Burke, Paterson and West had sent apologies which were accepted by the Chair.

4. Formation of Working Parties within the Parish Council

Subject to absent Councillors' confirmation:

Working Party	Lead Councillor	Team members
Playing Fields, Play areas & Pump Track	Cllr Barrett	Cllr Allen / West Ham & Drescher
Environment & Cemetery	Cllr Evans	Cllr Allen / Paterson Townsend / Moulding
Allotments	Cllr Pearce	Cllr Ham / Drescher Allen / Townsend / Moulding
Finance, Pay Review	Cllr Townsend	Cllr Ham / Pearce Bell / Moulding / Clerk
Small Grants	Cllr Banks	Cllr Pearce / Evans

Vote: 7 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions

5. Lead / Link Councillors:

Footpaths / Rights of Way	Cllr Barrett
Highways	Cllr Townsend / Pearce
Open Spaces & Trees	Cllr Barrett / Drescher / Moulding / Allen
Community Plan	Cllr Townsend / Bell / Paterson
Young People	Cllr Ham / Banks
Climate	Cllr Moulding

Vote: 7 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions

6. Representatives:

Local Community Network	Cllr Pearce / Townsend (Cllr Pearce has voting rights)
@ The Hub	Cllr Banks / Ham / Townsend
Bishop Henderson School & Children's Centre	Cllr Drescher / Allen / West
Football Club(s) Representative	Cllr Drescher / West
PCSO Scheme	Cllr Banks / Evans
Somerset Association of Local Councils	Cllr Evans
Quarry Liaison Group	Cllr Pearce / Bell / Townsend
Mendip Country Practice Patients Group	Cllr Townsend / Paterson
Parochial Church	Cllr Townsend

Vote: 7 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions

7 Resolve that the Parish Council continues to meet the criteria for eligibility for General Power of Competence

The Clerk confirmed that the Council was still eligible for the General Power of Competence.

8 Authorisation of Signatories for Bank Accounts

Current bank signatories are Cllr Ham, Townsend, Banks, Evans and the Clerk. It was agreed that they should remain unchanged.

9 Confirmation of direct debits / standing orders

The Clerk confirmed that the following items are paid monthly by standing order:

LSJ Gardening Services - Ground's maintenance	£1,482.99
Clerk's salary	£1,076.17
Somerset Council Pension contributions	£342.16

The following are paid by direct debit:

Data Protection fee is paid annually	£35.00
Changing room electricity supply EDF – Paid monthly	£16.00

10 Confirmation of Insurance cover for Parish Council

The Council is currently tied into a 3-year long-term agreement with Clear Councils (formerly BHIB Councils). £908.41 annual charge.

11 Confirmation of Coleford Parish Council meetings for the coming year

The Clerk has put together the proposed dates for the coming 12 months which have been shared with Councillors and are displayed on the website.

12 Confirm Councils subscriptions for the year

The Clerk confirmed that the Council subscribes to the following groups:

National Allotment Association
Society of Local Councils Clerks
Somerset Association of Local Councils

Somerset Playing Field Association
CAM Valley
CPRE The Countryside Charity

13 Review and adoption of the following policies

The following policies had been shared with all Councillors prior to the meeting, They remain unchanged from last year:

1. Financial regulations
2. Code of conduct
3. Standing orders

It was proposed by Cllr Pearce and seconded by Cllr Bell that all three policies should be adopted.

Vote: 7 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions

Action: Clerk to ensure updated version is displayed on the website.

The meeting concluded at 19.25hrs