

Coleshill Town Council

Meeting of the **COLESHILL TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Old Courtroom, Town Hall, High Street, Coleshill on **WEDNESDAY, 27 MARCH 2019** at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: - Cllr. Battle, Town Mayor, in the Chair.

Councillors: - Breeze, Farrow, Mason, Richardson, Symonds, Wallace and Wootton.

18/65 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Farrell and Cllr. Wootton apologised for late arrival.

18/66 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no interests declared.

18/67 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 23 JANUARY 2019

Item 18/55 should have referred to the Coleshill Local Arts Week (CLAW) running until Sunday 17 March. With this amendment, the minutes were **ADOPTED** unanimously, after proposal by Cllr. Wallace and seconding by Cllr. Farrow. As a matter arising, the Town Clerk advised that the opening of Chantry House on Saturdays was being handled on a low-key basis, pending a formal contractual agreement being drawn up.

18/68 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MAYOR

The WALC meeting at Shustoke Parish Hall on emergency planning arrangements had been well received by those attending. CLAW had been enjoyable and a wash-up meeting would be organised after the elections. It was accepted that specific posters for the Town Band concert and ticket availability at other locations in the town would have helped sales.

A vote of thanks was agreed to Cllrs. Farrell and Wootton, who were both to stand down at the end of this Council election year.

18/69 PARTICIPATION OF THE PUBLIC

Mr. Derek Axe suggested that the Town Council should focus on updating the website rather than the Facebook account. The Town Clerk replied that the Town Notices section on the website referred to out of date road closure information because the links to the source reporting had ceased to operate and agreed that the website was the priority.

Cllr. Dave Reilly asked that the Town Council should liaise with the Borough and County Council on its plans for its £30,000 High Street fund. He advised that Love Coleshill AGM discussed that the late night shopping night and members voiced the view that this was strongly preferred on a Thursday rather than a Saturday night. Cllr. Reilly was also keen to see that the Town Council was considering two different HS2 fund applications.

In relation to minute 18/58 on the Fire Service, Cllr. Reilly pointed out there had not been an opportunity to change the budget: the Cabinet report had just been to agree to commence the consultation.

18/70 TO APPROVE THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

On the minutes of 27 February Planning Committee, the item on HS2 should have referred to Mr. Rafferty, not Mr. Walker. These minutes and those of 30 January were then **ADOPTED** unanimously, as proposed and seconded by Cllrs. Breeze and Symonds. As a matter arising, Cllr. Symonds reported that the Envy Hair owners had applied for change of use and retrospective use of the sign in situ.

The minutes of the Community & Partnerships Committee meeting of 13 February should have referred to mole hills as “one problem” not “on problem” and “Parish Room” (singular). With these amendments, they were proposed by Cllr. Breeze, seconded by Cllr. Farrow and **AGREED** unanimously.

The Procedure and Amenities Committee meeting minutes of 13 March were proposed by Cllr. Mason, seconded by Cllr. Wallace and **AGREED** unanimously.

18/71 MEMORIAL PLAQUE CHARGES FOR 2019/20

The Council had considered 18/19 burial charges in good time but the main supplier for plaques subsequently advised of an increase in its charges from 1 April 2019.

Cllr. Wallace thought that 2% was a modest increase, that gradual rises were better than larger delayed increases and that they affected different people each time. Cllr. Symonds seconded a 2% increase and, on a vote, this was **RESOLVED** unanimously.

18/72 APPLICATION TO THE HS2 BUSINESS LOCAL ECONOMY FUND

Love Coleshill had a Business Plan to progress but needed resource help from the Town Council to apply for the HS2 Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF).

Cllr. Symonds supported a joint application with Love Coleshill but was keen that the application did not overlap and was in collaboration with the Borough and County Council plans. In seconding, Cllr. Wallace’s concerns were that that the Town Council should not be an events organiser and that a business facilitation contractor should not tell the members what they already knew. Chamberlain Walk improvements were seen as a good example of Town Council spending to improve the attractiveness of the town and the Neighbourhood Plan was important in control of the wrong sort of development.

It was proposed by Cllr. Symonds and seconded by Cllr. Wallace that a sub-group of Councillors and Love Coleshill representatives should be formed and this was **ACCEPTED** nem. con. As the elections were imminent and the new committee membership would not be decided until the May meeting, the sub-group composition was probably best agreed in June.

18/73 STORAGE CONTAINER AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Coleshill Scout pack leaders had requested storage at the Community Centre through the provision of a 20 feet container unit on the grass behind the car park.

Cllr. Symonds proposed support for the request on the basis that internal building works had proved difficult and expensive, storage would be released for other hirers and a second hand container seemed acceptably priced. Cllr. Mason requested that anti-graffiti paint be used but Cllr. Wallace further suggested that the scouts could be asked to decorate it.

Cllr. Wallace was pleased to note that the Scouts were prepared to contribute and seconded the proposal. It was recommended that the Council contribution should be £1,000, the Scouts should be responsible for contents insurance and to pay £50 per quarter in hire charge. This was all **AGREED** unanimously. Furthermore, the Mayor and Town Clerk were authorised to agree the supplier, colour, design, shelving, delivery and ground preparation arrangements.

18/74 **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

PKF Littlejohn (Auditors) has published its 2018/19 accounts timetable. Submissions need to be by 1 July. The Town Council needed to agree accounts at the 19 June meeting.

Two members of the outdoors staff had become adept at mole trapping to control the population, where previously this work had been given to contractor specialists.

The Town Hall defibrillator had been temporarily removed as it needed replacement battery, pads or repair.

18/75 **STAFFING MATTERS**

The Town Clerk had circulated a report regarding staffing issues in relation to the operation of the front desk cover and with the caretaking staff, specifically related to cleaning.

It was **AGREED** unanimously that Mrs. Jeanette Baker should be offered an additional 4 hours per week to assist with the cleaning duties of the Town Hall.

In relation to the front desk cover, Cllrs. Breeze and Wootton proposed and seconded that Mrs. Julie Gregory should be offered an additional 2 hours per week but on a 3-month trial basis from April to June. A report from the **Town Clerk** was required at the 19 June Town Council meeting on the trial.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:10 p.m.



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Town Mayor