

Minutes of a meeting of the **OUTDOORS AMENITIES COMMITTEE** of Coleshill Town Council held in the Town Hall, High Street, Coleshill on Wednesday 16 July 2014.

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PRESENT: Councillor Courts in the Chair  
Councillors: Truman, Wallace and Wootton  
Also in attendance: Cllrs. Gascoigne and Simkin.

**1 APOLOGIES**

There were apologies from Cllr. Farrell.

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No interests were declared.

**3 PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Accepted as a true record.

**4 APPOINTMENT OF A VICE CHAIRMAN**

Cllr. Courts proposed Cllr. Farrell to take the position as this would help with the control of the Memorial Park project. Cllr. Wootton seconded this proposal and it was **ACCEPTED**.

**5 ALLOTMENTS**

(a) Allotment Holders Meeting

The Allotments Holders informal meeting notes had been circulated. The Chairman referred to the fact that each site now had a spokesperson and that an Allotments Competition would be run in August. Mr. Buttress had agreed to not enter but help with the judging, along with the Chairman and the Deputy Clerk. There had been discussion about the possibility of providing additional car parking in the corner of the South site near to the A446.

(b) General

A man had been spotted and reported for dumping tree cuttings in the entrance to the Stonebridge site. After the vehicle registration was traced, he agreed to collect the cuttings and also helped to clear some other items. The Council agreed to not pass his details to the Borough Council's Environmental Control section.

In relation to the surface water problem in the northern part of the Stonebridge site, Severn Trent had recommended a visit by an agency, H2O Utilities. This agency had reported that it was not a leak from within the site and was not likely to be chlorinated water. They believed the source might be a land drain, possibly some distance away from the site. They recommended that Severn Trent be re-contacted to assist with finding the source location and owner.

## 6 CEMETERY

Work had commenced to clear the grass on the ashes plot near to the tennis courts. The **Chairman** was asked to consider the use of a stone edging rather than timber and to arrange for the build-up of each commemorative plaque with more soil to raise the levels.

## 7 CHURCHYARD, ST. PETER'S WALK & CROFT

Cllr. Wootton raised a request for the drooping branches of trees near the entrance to the Churchyard to be tidied up in advance of the 10 p.m. WW1 Service planned for 4 August. Cllr. Wallace also asked that the St. Peters Walk shrubs be cut back where overgrown and for nettles to be removed. The **Town Clerk** was to arrange these actions.

A meeting had taken place between Cllr. Wootton and Mr. Brad Steele, the stone mason, resulting in the previously circulated report. Members did not wish to progress the correction of the spelling of two names in the stonework as that would itself damage a significant piece of heritage work. The pointing would be necessary within 2 years but the cleaning was worth arranging straight away.

Coleshill in Bloom had planned a WW1 floral tribute on the grass section facing down Church Hill, which entailed a triangular area boarded by 9 feet timber lengths. This was possibly to be a refreshed design during the 4 years of WW1 remembrance. The regimental badge was to be within the frame, enclosed for security. Some commercial concerns and local government funds were expected to contribute to the cost so the Council was being asked to allow the design. This was proposed Cllr. Truman, seconded Cllr. Wootton and **AGREED**.

## 8 MEMORIAL PARK

There had not been the planned meeting with Moore Environment to launch this project, prior to this meeting. One had subsequently been arranged involving Cllr. Farrell and the Town Clerk on 24 July and there would be an update after that.

Members had requested that additional litter bins be built into the current year budget. The Town Clerk advised that there was no specific figure agreed but that it was part of the Park Development budget. Cllr. Wootton proposed and it was **AGREED** that the priority sites were to be within the Millennium Gardens and on the side of the Pavilion nearest to the tennis courts as these locations were not likely to be changed by the Park Development project. The 'Park Ranger' style of steel bin (as provided by Earth Anchors) was favoured as it was in keeping with 3 other existing bins. However, the **Town Clerk** was to consider cost comparisons for the solid glass-fibre style of bin and also to check if the 'Park Ranger' design was available with 4 supports rather than 2, to be more resistant to abuse.

The Coleshill Women's Institute had offered to purchase some 'Inspiration Roses', the WI Centenary Rose, available to branches to celebrate the national organisation's centenary. The local institute had asked for a designated area and to have a plaque. It was **AGREED** that the WI be offered the areas either side of the Memorial Park gates and plaques. They were to be asked to help with the plants upkeep once planted.

The **Town Clerk** was asked to see if weeding of the shrubbery near the Millennium Gardens could be addressed.

## **9      STATION ROAD PLAY AREA**

The rubber base in the play park had evidently been vandalised. The **Deputy Town Clerk** had arranged for Hags to visit as soon as possible.

## **10     CORRESPONDENCE**

Cllr. Richards had been to a Love Coleshill meeting where the noticeboard had been further discussed. The group had asked for a reconsideration of the need for the Town Council to have control over any updating of such a facility. The Committee reiterated the Town Council's view that it did not want to lose control over a noticeboard on its land. It felt that a smaller board on the other side of the road (near to Books Revisited) was more suitable.

## **11     REPORTS FROM THE TOWN CLERK**

Nothing to report.

## **12     ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was a request for the hedges in front of the Town Hall to be trimmed to window height, which the **Town Clerk** would put in place.

Items 13 and 14 were discussed in the confidential section. The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35 p.m.

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Chairman