

Minutes of a meeting of the **COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** of
Coleshill Town Council held in the Town Hall, High Street, Coleshill on Wednesday 23
November 2016.

PRESENT: Councillor Farrell in the Chair
Councillors: Farrow, Jones and Wallace

36 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr. Battle.

37 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were declared.

38 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS HELD

It was proposed by Cllr. Jones and seconded by Cllrs. Wallace to **ACCEPT** the minutes of the 12 October Meeting as a true record.

39 ANNUAL MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR THE MEMORIAL PARK

The Deputy Town Clerk had produced a month by month programme of intended routine maintenance Memorial Park works. Cllr. Wallace highlighted that the new raised beds presented additional maintenance cost and wanted them removed. She was supported by Cllr. Jones. Cllr. Farrell gave a Chairman's ruling that the agenda was to discuss annual duty scheduling and not the merits or otherwise of the planting.

There were no suggestions for amendments to the maintenance programme. It was duly proposed by Cllr. Farrell, seconded by Cllr. Farrow and **ACCEPTED** nem. con.

40 EASY-ACCESS ROUNDABOUT AT THE MEMORIAL PARK

A report outlined that the easy access roundabout that had been installed in 2012 had been recently repaired but that the visiting contractor advised that the 35 mm lip about ground level meant that it was not a true easy-access piece of equipment. Rectification of the situation by the original supplier was being pursued, subject to proof of responsibility at the time of installation.

The full modification would most likely be at a 4-figure cost. Rather than the Council incurring such cost, Cllr. Farrell proposed an additional play item be added to the 2017/18 budget submissions. This was seconded by Cllr. Jones and duly **RESOLVED**.

41 SUGGESTED CEMETERY IMPROVEMENTS

A list of suggested improvements had been circulated. Members were agreeable to all of these being progressed and noted that the review of cemetery regulations

would need to be an agenda item at a future meeting. There was strong support for the idea of installing 4-5 push taps to allow the unhygienic water butts to be replaced but it was advised that the push taps needed to be of such design as to allow a variety of water carrying receptacles to be easily filled. The list was proposed by Cllr. Farrell, seconded by Cllr. Jones and duly **AGREED**.

42 POLICE AND CRIME /SAFETY AGENCIES

The following recommendations were proposed by Cllr. Farrell, seconded by Cllr. Farrow and duly **RESOLVED** for the **Town Clerk** to arrange:

1. Invite PC Chris Bell and Sgt. Mitch Oakley to the 15 February Community & Environment Committee meeting.
2. Arrange a meeting with Councillor David Reilly and Mr. Robert Beggs of North Warwickshire Borough Council to discuss community safety matters.
3. Discuss registration with the Warwickshire Rural Watch Scheme website.

43 MEASURES FOR CONTROL OF CRIME & ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Members supported the measures in the previous item plus the planned liaison with PCSO Craig Marsden in monitoring CCTV and camera positioning and adapting a lighting column on Station Road to be able to take a CCTV camera.

There was also support for the idea of parking a police car on the High Street as a crime deterrent. As Civic Parking Enforcement was expected to be implemented in the North Warwickshire Borough Council area in early 2017, the **Town Clerk** was asked to ensure that, when meeting Mr. Robert Beggs, the control of restricted time parking in Coleshill streets was set up to be monitored by CPE officers.

The report was proposed by Cllr. Jones, seconded by Cllr. Wallace and **AGREED**.

44 OPPORTUNITIES ON WI-FI AND CCTV IN MEMORIAL PARK

Cllrs. Farrell and Jones, as Borough Councillors, had previously discussed the use of the Portas Fund available (around £10,000) with a view that an enhanced Wi-Fi and self-monitored CCTV operation in the Memorial Park would be a suitable use of this fund.

A potential supplier of Wi-Fi and CCTV had been contacted for costs. The suggested total cost for a Wi-Fi network and 15 CCTV cameras that could be live-monitored remotely was just under £32,000. There would be further costs for lighting columns (roughly £1,000 each) and their cabling underground. Cllr. Jones warned against the use of Meraki equipment, as he understood such switching devices were available from other manufacturers more cheaply. He also suggested the CCTV coverage might go further throughout the town than just the park. Cllr. Wallace had issues about large-scale illumination of the park and the merits of broadband in it and whether the Council should fund it for commercial operators to benefit.

The proposal at this stage was to consider the options, for which a figure would need to be included in the 17/18 budget. Cllr. Jones and Farrow proposed and seconded this stage and it was **AGREED**, by majority. Mrs. Rosalie Whitehead (on behalf of Love Coleshill) had advised that Warwickshire County Council wished to support Wi-Fi in town centres. The **Town Clerk** was asked to liaise with Ms. Katherine Marks at County Council and Mr. Robert Beggs of the Borough Council to obtain further detail of the options available.

45 CHARGING FOR OVERSIZE GRAVES IN THE CEMETERY

The Town Council engaged an outsourced grave technician for full interment grave digging. This service provider charged an additional fee for digging out an 'oversize' grave. This was normally £50 but could be £100 for even larger graves.

Over recent months, the Council had interred two 'oversize' coffins into its cemetery and had charged the premium for doing so of £82 (in addition to the standard grave digging charge), in accordance with the agreed table of Cemetery Fees.

Before discussing the appropriate charging arrangement, the Chairman raised the matter that, as the charge levied by the Town Council was passed to the funeral director, Cllr. Wallace might have an interest in the matter as a funeral director. Cllr. Wallace agreed to leave the room and the ensuing discussion.

Cllr. Farrell and Jones proposed and seconded that the actual amount of grave technician's charge be passed on rather than a fixed price and this was **AGREED** unanimously.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10 p.m.

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Chairman