

Minutes of a meeting of the **COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE** of Coleshill Town Council held in the Town Hall, High Street, Coleshill on Wednesday 5 June 2019.

PRESENT: Councillor Reilly in the Chair
Councillors: Clayton, Hammond, Hayfield and Richardson
Also present: Cllr. Battle, C. Symonds and Wallace.

1 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies given – full attendance.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Town Clerk was asked to give an outline of the forms of interest used in parish /Town Councils. None were declared.

3 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr. Hammond was proposed by Cllr. Richardson and seconded by herself and was duly **ELECTED** nem. con.

4 PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the 13 February meeting were proposed by Cllr. Richardson, seconded by Cllr. Wallace and **ACCEPTED** as a true record.

5 CHRISTMAS LATE NIGHT SHOPPING

The committee were briefed on the history of the Love Coleshill Late Night Shopping Event. After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr. Richardson, seconded by Cllr. Hayfield and **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Town Council should continue with the 30 November Christmas Fair as it traditionally done so, with voluntary organisation efforts. It was further **DECIDED** that all access to Town Council land be granted to Love Coleshill for the evening of 28 November, that the Mayor should assist with that evening's light switch-on but that the Town Council should not organise an event that night. This was also unanimous.

6 VE DAY 75TH ANNIVERSARY AND UNIFIED GREAT WAR MEMORIAL

A summary had been provided by the Town Clerk of the events being encouraged from 8-10 May 2020, via the coordinators of the www.veday75.org website. Members suggested elements for the Town Council to consider might include the planting of an oak tree, a 40's Dance in Town Hall, researching how the town celebrated VE Day in 1945 and involving all voluntary organisations (as 77 of them had done at the 50th Anniversary).

It was unanimously **AGREED** that Cllr. Hammond should be a Town Council lead member with officer support to encourage efforts, that former Coleshill Remembers members should be contacted and that a consultation with interested groups and individuals should take place.

It was further **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Town Council would ask Mr. Simon Toon to lead a project group to look at costs, funding options, designs and location for a Great War memorial. The principle was that this could unify the four separate tribute panels in the town and ensure all names were on public display.

Funding for May 2020 would need to be part of the 20/21 budget setting. Any Town Council contribution to a unified Great War memorial would also be part of a future budget consideration.

7 CCTV PROVISION

There were a number of concerns about CCTV operation. For Cllr. Hayfield, the issue was that poor image quality meant that they were rarely used in court and Cllr. Richardson felt the bigger security incidents centred around the pubs in the town. Other members were conscious that cameras were often in the wrong location, not focussing in the right way, subject to delay in recovering images and might involve a cost in monitoring. The Town Clerk advised that the Rapid Vision proposal (£14,080 + VAT) provided for a similar monitoring arrangement as Polesworth Parish Council had introduced. Five external cameras (plus 4 in the Town Hall) could be filming all the time but then monitored within the Town Hall, as and when required. This would allow PCSOs to download at their convenience, the need for focus and blockage problems to be resolved more readily but would involve little additional cost.

The Chairman had Community Safety knowledge from another Local Authority and from CID police service. He advised that CCTV was used for two main reasons: for the property owner to protect its own assets from loss and to contribute to the general feel of safety and public confidence in the public realm. He suggested that the committee should give authority to the **Town Clerk** to action the submitted project with Rapid Vision to protect Town Council assets but also to contact Warwickshire Police about how to make better use of CCTV in the public realm. This was proposed by Cllr. Clayton, seconded by Cllr. Hayfield and **RESOLVED** unanimously.

8 HIGH STREET BUSINESS SUPPORT

The Town Clerk, as requested at the February meeting, had prepared a paper to the Committee based on what two Atherstone and Coleshill-contacted agencies had described was possible, utilising the £30,000 that this Town Council had allocated in the budget.

Issues raised were that there was no breakdown as to how the £30,000 might be subdivided by project, whether consultant help was needed, if the Neighbourhood Plan could influence any strategy, whether matched funding could be sourced and if the

Council could use a bid writer. It was also felt that car parking was a separate issue best addressed with the Borough and County Council. The Chairman was keen to ensure that the budget was to cover overall High Street vitality and not just to support current traders. There was a general consensus that the area for support should be defined as being from the Cole Bridge to Shoppers Rest roundabout, including Church Hill. The Committee agree to also look at small business support for all the small businesses in Coleshill. This work programme will be picked up later in 2019.

The Chairman suggested that the Committee should defer any decision until the next meeting, to allow him to bring ideas forward, in liaison with the Town Clerk and Community and Partnerships Manager. This was seconded by Cllr. Hayfield and **AGREED** nem. con.

9 HS2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FUND

The £75,000 grant award to the Town Council to relocate and develop the Community Hub was now official and a Press Release had been agreed with HS2 Limited and issued to media and the website. The Chairman congratulated the Community & Partnerships Manager on the completion of the bid, which, he was aware, was a highly detailed application process requiring a lot of evidential research. He also felt that it was a particularly noteworthy achievement to be awarded the full £75,000 grant as few applicant organisations had, to date, obtained such a success level.

The Community & Partnerships Manager advised that, as well as professional assistance from Borough and County officers, Mr. Nathan Blundell, an independent bid writer, had been heavily involved. This had been without being formally engaged as there had been no certainty of success from which to pay him. In view of the large award now known, members agreed that the Chairman should write to Mr. Blundell to thank him, to provide him a £250 honorarium and the opportunity to work with the Council again in bid work. This was proposed by Cllr. Reilly, seconded by Cllr. Richardson and **AGREED** nem. con.

There had already been quotations sought for the property improvement, telephony and computing works. The Community & Partnerships Manager was seeking alternative supplier quotations for the major renovations and these were to be completed before the Hub Coordinator recruitment could commence.

In order to move the project forward quickly, a sub group of the Committee was suggested. Cllrs. Reilly and Hammond put their names forward and were **APPOINTED** unanimously. The Community & Partnerships Manager was asked to arrange meetings, when required.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35 p.m.

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Chairman