

Coleshill Town Council

Meeting of the **COLESHILL TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Old Courtroom, Town Hall, High Street, Coleshill on **WEDNESDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 2019** at 7:00 p.m.

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

Councillors: - Battle, Clayton, Hammond, Hayfield, Reilly, Sparkes, C. Symonds, P. Symonds and Wallace.

19/39 APOLOGIES

No apologies were received as there was full attendance.

19/40 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None were declared.

19/41 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 19 JUNE 2019

The minutes were proposed to be adopted by Cllr. P. Symonds, seconded by Cllr. Hayfield and **ACCEPTED** unanimously.

19/42 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor's attendance at the annual Ahmadiyya Muslim Community convention in London had been particularly enjoyable and impressive. It was marred only by the minibus breaking down and a late return home.

It had been a pleasure and an honour to stand with the Munday family as the Castletrek soldiers detoured on their route to visit a reception at the Town Hall. The Ale Tasting had been well received by customers at the pubs visited. The collecting tins had been given generous donations, with Mrs. Kate Clayton's raising over £100 alone.

The Woodlands School pupils had delivered a paperweight and a card as a thank you for being involved in the running of the Honesty Shop. This was to be displayed in the corridor cabinet. The Mayor also publicised his Karaoke Night on 20 September.

19/43 PARTICIPATION OF THE PUBLIC

Mrs. Diane Davies asked for Council or Hub support for an Alzheimer's Cafe for Coleshill as well as Water Orton and had two people offering to help. Cllr. Dave Reilly agreed to discuss this at the 9 October Community and Partnerships Committee and invited Mrs. Davies to attend.

The state of grass cutting and pavement sweeping was raised by Mr. David Eyles. The issues were with Borough and County public areas as he was very happy with Town Council maintenance of open spaces. Cllr. C. Symonds agreed to take up the Borough Council services with that authority. Cllr. Reilly advised that, in view of the

Neighbourhood Plan and the Town Centre Regeneration project, he was keen to see the Community and Partnerships Committee discussing the purchase of an enhanced level of service from the Borough Streetscape team.

Cllr. Wallace did suggest that the Town Council's contractor might be asked to change its speed of mowing to avoid more flattening rather than cutting of the grass.

Mr. Derek Axe asked if the WWI 100th Anniversary oak tree planting was due shortly. The Town Clerk believed that members were still to agree the best location as the planned planting on the bank between the football pitches and tennis courts was believed, by tree experts, to potentially cause problems.

There was a further question from Mrs. Diane Davies about the jobs and other benefit to Coleshill of the wave park development. Cllr. Reilly replied that the application had yet to go before the Borough Council Planning Board, so it was too early to consider.

19/44 **TO APPROVE THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings of Planning Committee of 3 July, 31 July and 28 August were presented. Cllr. Wallace was saddened to see that the committee had not objected to the longer Morrisons trading hours, which would disturb neighbouring residents. Cllr. Battle understood this was to be on a one-month trial.

The matter of the High Meadow School expansion application was discussed. Cllr. Reilly informed members that after the committee meeting of 28 August, Warwickshire County Council Regulatory Committee permission had been given (retrospectively) for the temporary classroom so long as it was repositioned to be less intrusive to neighbouring properties. The permanent expansion proposal had been granted as well, such that the temporary classroom would be for 12 months only. Cllr. Wallace asked why a longer-term alternative access was not considered by County Council. Cllr. Reilly responded that it had been assessed but, given the gradient from the Rose Road approach, this was not practical. Cllr. C. Symonds proposed and Cllr. P. Symonds seconded the three sets of minutes en bloc and these were **APPROVED** nem. con.

On the Community & Partnerships Committee minutes of 17 July, item 12 should read "as this was below the threshold level, there was no need for a lengthy, open website tender process". In addition, the correct name for the organisation in item 13 was Coleshill Drama Group. With these amendments, Cllr. Battle proposed and Cllr. Hayfield seconded the minutes and they were then unanimously **AGREED**.

With the Procedures & Amenities Committee minutes of 14 August, the same name correction for Coleshill Drama Group and item 13 reading as "could confidence in a base ..." were changes necessary. In addition, Cllr. P. Symonds had seconded item 15. With these amendments, the minutes were **ADOPTED** unanimously, as proposed by Cllr. Hayfield and seconded by Cllr. P. Symonds.

Cllr. Reilly advised the meeting that the advert for the Hub Coordinator had gone out to various agencies, including the Coleshill Post, and there was already strong interest in applications.

19/45 **FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR QUARTER 1, 2019/20**

The accounting reports to 30 June were presented, showing £312,760.35 in balances.

Cllr. Wallace asked about the composition of the licences budget spending heading. The Town Clerk advised that this was not just the liquor licence but also the Performing Rights Society /PPL payments, which were the largest elements.

The member also enquired about how recent payments from the Simon Lord Digby Trust to the Community Hub were recorded as these did not appear to be shown in the Town Council's receipts or accounts. The **Town Clerk** agreed to investigate as he was not aware of there being a Community Hub account in operation or of any recent receipts.

The reports were **NOTED**.

19/46 **GRANTS SCHEME AWARDS FOR 2019 /20**

The Grants Task Group met in August and discussed the recommended payments.

It was queried by Cllr. Hayfield why the Fifth Coleshill Brownies camp was as high as a £1,414.00 project. The application was primarily to cover the cost of foreign travel. Members then **AGREED** the Task Group recommendations nem. con., as proposed by Cllr. C. Symonds and seconded by Cllr. P. Symonds:

Coleshill & Water Orton Memory Cafe	£500.00
Coleshill Guild of Church Bellringers	£1,000.00
Coleshill Scout Group	£1,000.00
Coleshill Town Ladies FC	£1,000.00
Coleshill Twinning Association	£500.00
Contact the Elderly	£150.00
Fifth Coleshill Brownies	£1,000.00
First Coleshill Brownies	£1,000.00
Love Coleshill	£1,000.00
North Warks Citizens Advice Bureau	£1,862.00
Young at Heart	£900.00

Cllr. Reilly hoped that the Community & Partnerships Committee might discuss a closer connection with the Coleshill Twinning Association.

19/47 **MAYORAL ROLL OF HONOUR**

A report had been circulated which outlined the options available for different styles of a roll of honour for naming former Mayors of Coleshill. Cllr. C. Symonds presented the merits of the report.

In view of the fact that the Meriden Rural District Council board (commemorating mayors from 1893 to 1975) was wooden, Cllr. Wallace was keen that any new purchase of board should be of similar material and that the Honorary Freeman boards (vinyl designs) could be in another location.

Cllr. Hayfield was content to purchase two boards at the same time, given the prices circulated, which Cllr. P. Symonds thought might also allow a discount. It was suggested by Cllr. Reilly that boards might be able to use the wood from trees felled to allow the HS2 route to be cleared. It was **DELEGATED** to Cllr. C. Symonds and the

Town Clerk to make the purchases. Members were relaxed about the options to either purchase from reserves or to budget for the spending in next year's budget.

19/48 **STAFFING COMMITTEE**

The Council's Standing Orders referred to matters affecting the relationship between members and staff being under the remit of the Employment and Grievance Committee. The Procedures and Amenities Committee had discussed forming a Staffing Committee as a sub-committee of itself instead.

Members discussed the options. There was not sufficient clarity on which members would be on this Committee and how to deal with 7 of the standing orders which had a relevance to how this committee might be constituted. Cllr. Wallace proposed and Cllr. Hayfield seconded that the matter be referred back to the Procedures and Amenities Committee for further discussion. This was **RESOLVED** nem. con.

A more pressing consideration was the selection of an interview panel for the Hub Coordinator role. Cllr. Reilly had earlier emailed his planned timetable which referred to himself, the Town Clerk and the Community & Partnerships Manager as interviewers. He proposed this and was seconded by Cllr. Sparkes, stressing that those involved needed to be sufficiently trained.

An amendment was proposed by Cllr. Wallace to replace one member of staff with Cllr. C. Symonds, which was seconded by Cllr. Hayfield. She was keen to see a stronger member involvement. A vote was taken on the amendment which was **AGREED** by majority vote, 6 to 1.

19/49 **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

The Town Clerk advised of a number of planned future dates:

Mayor's Band Concert – 5th October 2019

Bonfire Evening - 1st November 2019

The Carnival Committee's Santa run – 10th,12th,13th and 19th December 2019 for around Coleshill and the 20th December on the High Street.

Carnival Weekend - 28th June 2020.

Food Festival in the Croft - 11th and 12th July 2020.

Bonfire Evening 6th November 2020.

The Healthy Living organisation has asked that the Honesty Shop not run for the time being while it considered how to regroup on the project across 11 sites in North Warwickshire.

The meeting closed at 8:45 p.m.



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Town Mayor