

Minutes of a meeting of the **COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE** of Coleshill Town Council held on Zoom on Wednesday 7 October 2020.

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

9 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

11 PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of 3 June were proposed by Cllr. Richardson, seconded by Reilly and **AGREED** for accuracy, unanimously.

12 UPDATE ON THE COMMUNITY HUB

The isolation period from March to August has been extremely disturbing for the mental well-being for a number of clients who were now requiring a high level of support from the Hub. The Hub was in regular contact with this 'watch' list of clients.

The revised plan (from late August) had been to have at least one officer and one volunteer in the office each day with a single client at a time. Staff would continue contacting Hub users /residents /clients by phone and email but it was suggested that the Community & Partnerships Manager and /or Hub Coordinator should visit clients at the front door only, with the a specified two-metre distance between them, and with both parties wearing masks. This would enable the most isolated clients to see a friendly face, be able to express their needs, concerns and fears, and then have any follow up from the Hub or signposted services. This was **RESOLVED** unanimously.

Some groups introduced via the Hub (like Knit and Natter and STITCH groups) were returning to room use but were to be offered a bigger room in the Town Hall area (only if it was available and not wanted by a full-price hirer) to continue/re-establish their group. There was no loss of income from this upgrade offer.

It was also noted that Citizen's Advice Bureau had not received a grant from the Town Council this year and would not be able to provide the Hub with the same number of visits. The Chairman suggested the **Town Clerk** should contact the County Council Localities and Communities Manager about the Elected Member grants scheme, as soon as possible.

13 MEMORIAL HOLOCAUST DAY

The Mayor wished to propose that the Coleshill Town Council commemorated the annual National Holocaust Memorial Day, with an event on the Coleshill Croft at dusk on Wednesday 27th January 2021.

Rabbi Pink was prepared to attend and Rev. Nick Parker was to make the parish church available if the weather was poor. The Mayor had some camera equipment and

planned to have the event filmed and broadcast on Facebook and YouTube. He was also prepared to publicise it via local Facebook pages and the local Herald and Post newspapers. The Chairman proposed a £500 budget and an officer assistance, which was seconded by Cllr. Clayton and **RESOLVED** unanimously. It was stressed that the gathering needed to comply with Covid-safe legislation and guidelines at the time.

15 HIGH STREET IMPROVEMENT FUND

The Chairman gave a verbal update. The Council has allocated a budget sum of £30,000 in the 2020/21 budget for town centre development under the heading of the High Street Improvement Fund. Up to £10,000 had been allocated to the Parish Buzz service and the Council had made contact with Heartflood Limited about proposals /ideas but no assistance had yet been commissioned. There was a changing town centre environment with more residential and fewer retail properties and a move to a stronger evening economy.

It was unfortunate that County and Borough Council activity had not provided any coordinated effort for Coleshill. The Chairman therefore felt that the Town Council needed to determine and then lead on the vision for the improvements. It would need to steer a course with voluntary and business groups.

HS2 Ltd had a Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF) and there had been a push for applications from the Coleshill area, although there was no tight time scale for bids. The **Community & Partnerships Manager** was asked to arrange some one-hour member workshops so that Town Councillors could agree the content of its vision.

16 CHRISTMAS FAIR

In light of the current Covid19 situation, members were requested to re-consider the appropriateness and safety of holding the timetabled Christmas Fair in the Town Hall on Saturday 5th December. There was a unanimous decision to **CANCEL** the Fair.

Other considerations for Christmas 2020 were discussed. The Late-Night Shop arrangements on 26 November were timetabled but were for Love Coleshill to agree to continue or cancel. The usual Christmas streetlights were due to be sited and lit as normal, via Turnock Limited. However, Commbus also usually fitted the internal lighting to Fifield Hall and another supplier installed two trees with lights (£155 was the Commbus cost in 2019). There were very few of the usual December high profile bookings in the hall and members **RESOLVED** to save some of this cost by cancelling the internal lights and the tree within the Town Hall but keeping the tree and its lights normally sited in front of the Caretaker's House.

17 PARISH BUZZ

The £10,000 commitment from the Town Council was matched with proportionate contributions from other parishes on the two routes, plus the County Council grant fund. The Parish Buzz service commenced on Wednesday 5th February 2020 and, prior to the Covid19 halt in the service, passenger numbers were relatively low on the Water Orton and Curdworth journey.

On 6 June 2020, the service recommenced, on the back of requests from some residents who were regular users of the bus service. In order to revitalise this facility

Cllr. Reilly negotiated an extension to the service to the Asda Superstore at Minworth, which had been well received. The **Community & Partnerships Manager** was to contact Asda, Minworth to see if it was willing to contribute to the service costs.

18 MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

The North Warwickshire Borough Care was running a consultation on the Lifeline service review, with a deadline of 18 November for responses. The next Community & Partnerships meeting was also on this date. The **Town Clerk** was to check whether an extension for a consultation response was possible, i.e. after discussion at the meeting.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40 p.m.

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Chairman