

Minutes of a meeting of the **COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE** of Coleshill Town Council held on Zoom on Wednesday 17 November 2020.

---

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

### **19 APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

### **20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were declarations of personal interest on 23 where they were both Borough Councillors and in item 25 by Cllrs. Hayfield and Reilly as they were both County Councillors. There were additional declarations within items 24 and 26 discussions.

### **21 PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The minutes of 7 October were proposed by Cllr. Richardson, seconded by Cllr. Hammond and **AGREED** for accuracy, unanimously.

### **22 BLEF APPLICATION PRIORITIES**

The Council had previously had discussions about an application to HS2's Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF) in the past. There was a scoping report circulated to outline possible objectives and priorities that might feature when preparing a bid. There had been a small workshop when 5 key areas were identified:

- Improved car parking
- Signage
- Town Team support resource
- Event and amenity funding
- Station Rd /Gorsey Lane

After discussion, the Chairman summarised the committee's views. It supported a bid being made that centred around looking at car park improvements and a separate focus on Coleshill North as well as Coleshill South Ward. It recognised that it would need to look at getting some professional expertise to write a bid. A newsletter release was suggested as well. The Town Council could champion the project but needed partner support.

A further small workshop group was required to write a robust business plan with restatement of purpose and timescales. This was proposed by Cllr. Hayfield, seconded by Cllr. Hammond and **RESOLVED** nem. con. It was hoped that this could be provided for the next committee meeting's consideration in February.

### **23 BOROUGH COUNCIL CONSULTATION ON TELECARE**

Details of the North Warwickshire Borough Council's consultation on the Borough Care Telecare Alarm system had been circulated.

As there was no consensus view that the whole committee could support, it was agreed that any members with concerns could respond individually to the consultation.

## 24 CCTV PROPOSALS

Cllr. Reilly declared an interest in this item as he was Cabinet Member at the Borough Council, looking after Community Safety and had offered a £2,000 grant to the Town Council to assist with purchases of equipment.

The Council currently was operating 4 CCTV cameras. It had been in dialogue with North Warwickshire Borough Council for a few years about upgrading its CCTV equipment to better but cheaper models and bringing the monitoring to Town Hall away from the police unit on the High Street. The police were happy with the arrangement and had added 10 more siting requests and provided a plan of locations. In addition, one camera had recently been requested to monitor Sumner Road.

The cost per camera has dropped a great deal and so the additional cameras were within the agreed Town Council budget, with the Borough Council's £2,000 grant. Rapid Vision has prepared a couple of quotations based on moving the existing equipment to be monitored at Town Hall but also any 'new build' costing, i.e. to meet the new police requests. Total costs for Rapid Vision were circulated but, in summary were:

Bringing existing equipment to Town Hall office (3AH quote)	£7,248
New build equipment to Town Hall office (2AH quote)	<u>£11,262</u>
Total:	<u>£18,510</u>

There were additional other costs to be borne from other suppliers for posts, telephony and broadband, particularly required in bringing digital signals from Memorial Park to Town Hall. The above spending was proposed by Cllr. Richardson, seconded by Cllr. Hammond and **AGREED** nem. con.

In addition, members discussed the provision of cameras for the Cemetery garage (for theft issues) but the Town Clerk advised this would cost £2,500 to link up and there were other security options recommended by the police Crime Reduction Officer. It was also suggested to look at scenic images to be captured from the top of the parish church but that needed separate discussion with the church regarding networking.

## 25 LOCAL GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE IN WARWICKSHIRE

Warwickshire County Council had recently voted to start a conversation about moving towards a new form of local government in the county, by submitting its Strategic Case for Change to Government. However, this request had been put on hold by the Government for a year or so.

In Warwickshire there was a county council, five district and borough councils together with over 200 town and parish councils. The district, borough and county councils all provided different services. A unitary council structure for Warwickshire would see all services provided through one or more councils. Town and parish councils would remain but could be expanded and strengthened across the whole county, with additional resources and powers.

There were mixed committee views expressed. As the White Paper had been delayed by the Government, members were content to await the White paper on next stages.

## **26 COLESHILL MANOR FARM**

Cllrs. Reilly and Hayfield declared personal interests as they were members of Coleshill Civic Society. In addition, Cllr. Reilly declared interests as a member of North Warwickshire Borough Council, Tame Valley Wetlands and Lea Marston Parish Council.

The 17th century stable block /farmhouse known as Coleshill Hall Farm represented 3 buildings, reputed to be the former stable block to the now demolished Coleshill Hall. It was within the parish of Coleshill on the Birmingham Road, west of the town centre and before the Woodlands Cemetery. Although the barns were disused, some of the bricks and timbers contained within the barns were in a good condition and the bricks might have been of 15th century origin.

Cllr. Dave Reilly had engaged the interest of HS2 Limited, the Town Council, the Borough Council, Tame Valley Wetlands and Lea Marston Parish Council in looking at future usage of the barns' materials. The HS2 Heritage Partnership (HHP) has been formed with these bodies, plus the Coleshill Civic Society. Cllr. Adam Richardson was the Town Council's representative on that group.

HS2 Ltd has agreed to bear the cost of demolishing the bricks and timbers into sections and arranging transportation on pallets, to a chosen location. The recovered building materials could be transported to and stored on the old tennis courts at Hams Hall, which was land owned by Lea Marston Parish Council. In the future, the materials could be reused locally or, at worst, sold to a buyer as they had a good market value.

Cllr. Richardson and Hammond proposed and seconded to give **SUPPORT** for the proposals outlined by the HHP group.

## **27 MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION**

None.

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

.....  
Chairman