

Coleshill Town Council

Meeting of the **COLESHILL TOWN COUNCIL** held on Zoom on **WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2020** at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: - Cllr. C. Symonds, Deputy Town Mayor, in the Chair.

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

20/39 APOLOGIES

There were apologies received from the Mayor, Cllr. Richardson.

20/40 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr. Hayfield declared a prejudicial interest in Old Market Hall (for discussion in 20/44).

20/41 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 16 SEPTEMBER

Mrs. Stephanie Clenton asked that her title in the previous meeting be amended from Ms. With that amendment, the minutes were then proposed by Cllr. Battle, seconded by Cllr. Hammond and **AGREED** unanimously.

It was asked that **Cllr. C. Symonds** carry forward the action to write a response to Mr. Axe that explain the income for the whole of the Town Council budget rather than just the precept funding.

20/42 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

In October, the Mayor visited a Coleshill resident, Mrs Ida James, as it was her 100th birthday celebration. He also visited Carters Electrical on the High Street, when Mrs. Di Carter finally closed the business, after many long years, serving the town.

Other events in that month attended by the Mayor were the Royal Leamington Spa Civic Service Sunday 25th, at All Saints Church in Leamington Spa and he hosted a visit to Coleshill from the High Sheriff of Warwickshire, Mr. Joe Greenwell, on Tuesday 27th.

On 4 November, the day before the second Covid Lockdown, the Mayor attended and contributed to the pre-filming of the Coleshill Remembrance Service, in order to stream the service on Facebook. On Sunday 8 November, the local public were then asked to stay indoors and commemorate this occasion privately or online.

In the absence of the Mayor earlier in the day, the Deputy Mayor had attended the Armistice Day wreath laying at the Parish Church and also the plaque unveiling at the oak tree at Memorial Park, to commemorate the fallen at the First World War.

20/43 PARTICIPATION OF THE PUBLIC

No issues were raised.

20/44 TO APPROVE THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings of 30 September and 28 October were proposed by Cllr. P. Symonds, seconded by Cllr. Hammond and **ADOPTED** nem. con.

It was proposed by Cllr. Hammond, seconded by Cllr. Hayfield to **AGREE**, nem. con., the 7 October minutes of the Community & Partnerships Committee.

For the minutes of the Procedures & Amenities Committee of 21 October, minute 26 referred to an annual lease review whereas it should have referred to it being triennial reviews. With this amendment, they were proposed by Cllr. C. Symonds, seconded by Cllr. Wallace and **AGREED** unanimously. As a matter arising on minute 27, the **Town Clerk** was to request that the contractor that removed the shrub beds should return to remove the roots from the soil as well.

20/45 FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR QUARTER 2, 2020/21

These reports of balances, receipts and payments for the quarter had been circulated.

The £1,250 credit was from Severn Trent Water as compensation for being permitted to lay relief pipes under Ennersdale Green from the housing to Station Road drains to alleviate flooding near the properties.

The Town Clerk's claiming of Training and Travel costs should be authorised through the member sign off arrangements on other expenditure items, to provide transparency.

A £3,000+ invoice from Everflow had been charged for water supply at Memorial Park. The **Town Clerk** was to advise members of efforts to challenge this bill was claimed to be due to a meter fault near Memorial Park or the allotments.

The details of the £2,450 shown as Sundry Income were to be detailed to members by the **Town Clerk**.

With these details the reports were **APPROVED** unanimously, as proposed and seconded by Cllrs. P. Symonds and Hammond.

20/46 FORWARD LOOKING BUDGET TURNOUT, 2020/21

Members considered the likely 'headroom' at the end of the year and the options for capital /one-off projects that had not been progressed during the year, for possible prioritisation.

The Town Clerk advised that, of the major projects planned at the start of the year, the Town Hall corridor lighting, some cemetery extension purchases and the CCTV projects might represent costs chargeable in 2020/21. All others were unlikely to become payable in the current financial year.

The **Town Clerk** was to liaise with **Cllr. P. Symonds** regarding the estimated figure for Town Hall costs in the second half of 2020/21 as the figure of £12,000 seemed incorrect.

The report was then proposed by Cllr. Hayfield, seconded by Cllr. Battle and **ACCEPTED** unanimously.

20/47 COVID LOCKDOWN 2 ARRANGEMENTS

The Town Clerk had produced a summary paper for member approval.

In short, the full burial services (including ashes and scatterings), children's play equipment and the skatepark were to remain open. The normal room hiring (non-emergency), tennis courts and outdoor gym equipment were all to be not available.

As far as staffing was concerned, members did not wish to furlough any staff members for a 4-week lockdown period, although that might be for review after 2 December. Staff were already operating Covid-safe Risk Management procedures that involved blended working (in Town Hall and at home on different days) for office-based employees. The caretakers and outside services staff were working as usual.

20/48 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The 26 November Christmas Lights switch on would not be involving any Love Coleshill special events. The Town Council and Hub would publicise the switch on via websites and social media.

The Town Council staffing had recently had its first positive Covid testing but only that employee was self-isolating currently.

Hubtel Ltd (of Nether Whitacre) was in the process of taking over the telephone contract from a previous supplier, offering an instant cloud-based system, at a comparable charge rate.

The January (budget setting) Town Council meeting was to move to Thursday 28 January, as 27 January was set aside the Holocaust Memorial commemoration day and early evening. Members were asked to submit any proposals to the budget, either for spending or savings, by 31 December.

There being no other business, the Town Mayor closed the meeting at 8.30 p.m.



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Town Mayor