

Minutes of a meeting of the **COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE** of
Coleshill Town Council held in the Old Courtroom on Wednesday 27 July 2021.

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

12 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

14 PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of 2 June were proposed by Cllr. Battle, seconded by Cllr. Clayton and **AGREED** for accuracy, unanimously.

15 ART CHALLENGE

Members were disappointed with the decision to locate the art work feature at Cole End Park rather than Station Road and with the fact that their views had apparently been overridden.

However, the County Council Council's Towns Network officer and Creative Giants (the arts agency engaged by it) still wanted to involve the Town Council on the Artist's Brief to be issued to the two different artists who had been allocated to the Coleshill location (one of 8 in the county). The Town Council could comment on the brief and then be involved in some way at the later stages of selection.

The **Town Clerk** was to send the brief to all members as soon as possible, after its receipt.

16 PHONE KIOSK PURCHASE

The payphone on the High Street had been decommissioned a week or so before the meeting but the Town Clerk had consulted with the Chairman of the P&A Committee on the possibility of the Town Council purchasing the kiosk itself, with the phone removed. The adopter had the option for BT to supply power free of charge or to take ownership of the supply. The Council had opted to retain the power supply.

A defibrillator housing was the most obvious use, but the location of the phone box was very close to a defibrillator sited outside the police offices (i.e. opposite the library), so an alternative use to consider might be viewed to be more appropriate, interesting and inviting. A book exchange might not be appreciated by the library or the book shop.

There was no urgency so members agreed to take some time to consider opinions and welcome the views of the community and voluntary organisations, which might want to share responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of the kiosk in a future venture suggested.

17 LOVE COLESHILL'S AGM – VERBAL UPDATE

The Community and Partnerships Manager had attended the recent AGM of Love Coleshill and an acting committee of 4 members had been elected, with Mrs. Deb Bromage as the Acting Chairman.

The group had agreed that it wanted to operate a Late-Night Shop night on Thursday, 25 November, for information.

18 CHRISTMAS FAIR EVENT

The committee were happy that the Christmas Fair could be reinstated after its one-year absence, during the Covid-19 pandemic. The date of 4 December was confirmed and could be publicised.

19 WELCOME BACK FUND

During the Covid-19 pandemic, North Warwickshire Borough Council was allocated EU money in the Re-opening the High Streets Fund, which saw the area receive an initial allocation of £58,600. It had now been offered a second £58,600 through the Welcome Back Fund, to be split between Atherstone, Polesworth and Coleshill. The Borough Council officer had agreed the full £26,840 requested by Coleshill.

The Borough and Town Councils and Love Coleshill were working on some 'beautification' projects and business-supporting events from summer to March 2022, which were to be free to residents. The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the committee had been kept briefed. Over the first few months, there would be some smartening up of the town and throughout the programme, the holding of some Saturday and Wednesday special days for the whole family.

The attraction for 'Stay a While' Saturdays was a Town Hall market and free parking at Chantry House and on 'Wander Round Wednesdays', it was entertainment and a small number of stalls on St. Peter's Walk.

Members were asked to help with sourcing entertainment (for Wednesdays) and stall holders (Wednesdays and Saturdays) and any leaflet distribution round breakdowns for the town for a 'door drop' to all households.

20 COMMUNITY HUB WEBSITE

Four quotations had been obtained for consideration by members for a new Hub website, following the underspend on monies on the HS2 CEF project, which had been specifically to Relocate, Refurbish and Redevelop the Community Hub.

Parish Council Websites Limited had recently completed the Polesworth PC website and was highly recommended by the Warwickshire website officer, who has run training sessions using the template it provided. As a result of its reach, this firm had a large number of parish sites (including Atherstone TC and Abingdon, one of the biggest town councils in the country).

Its quotation was within the underspend amount. It was proposed by Cllr. Hayfield and seconded by Cllr Battle that the Parish Council Websites quotation be accepted.

This was **RESOLVED** unanimously, particularly given it had a proven track record with parish /town councils.

It was also noted that it was possible to ask for additional features to utilise the full underspend amount and members were keen to use a trusted provider to subsequently overhaul the Town Council website.

21 CYCLING FORUM

The Coleshill Cycling Forum had been meeting prior to the March 2020 lockdown and efforts were being made by Cllr. Reilly to restart it.

This committee was content (as proposed by Cllr. Hayfield and seconded by Cllr Clayton and **AGREED** unanimously) for him to recommence meetings as the Town Council's representative, and for the Town Council to provide room and administrative support.

22 COMMUNITY HUB REPORT TO MAY 2021

A report of the Community Hub's background, issues and statistical analysis had been provided. The football numbers had been drastically curtailed by the initial lockdown and then to a lesser extent again by subsequent lockdowns.

It was stressed that the Community Hub was not an Advice Centre but was able to give support, information and signposting. Members were keen to see more about the outcomes of the assistance given. The Community and Partnerships Manager advised that it was not always possible, as those assisted by the signposting then proceeded to deal with other agencies, where the Hub was no longer involved. It was also difficult to quantify the assistance where it entailed ongoing community cohesion or loneliness support.

23 QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Members wished to provisionally book the Town Hall for the Friday night and the Croft for the 'Big Lunch' day of the June 2022 bank holiday weekend.

Rather than appointing a committee at this stage, enquiries would be made with local voluntary and sports groups for their ideas for community events.

24 MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

None.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05 p.m.

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Chairman