

Coleshill Town Council

Meeting of the **COLESHILL TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Old Courtroom, Town Hall, High Street, Coleshill on **WEDNESDAY, 2 MARCH 2022** at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: - Cllr. C. Symonds, Town Mayor, in the Chair.
Councillors: - Axe, Battle, Clayton, Hayfield, Richardson, Sparkes, P. Symonds and Wallace.

21/74 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies received – full attendance.

21/75 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

21/76 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS FULL COUNCIL MEETINGS

The minutes of the Meeting on 26 January were **ADOPTED** unanimously, as proposed by Cllr. Wallace and seconded by Cllr. Battle, with the amendment of 21/63 to refer to 'along Birmingham Road' rather than 'across Park Road'.

As a matter arising, Cllr. Axe asked that the Neighbourhood Plan be added to the next full Town Council agenda.

21/77 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Coleshill Town Band Concert had raised nearly £500 for charity and had civic heads attending from Leamington Spa, Whitnash and North Warwickshire Borough Council. The Town Band was thanked for its performance on the night.

The Atherstone Ball Game had been attended by the Mayor on 1 March.

21/78 DEPUTY MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT

Cllr. Dave Reilly was thanked for his Town Council service. After his resignation from the Council, the position on the councillor vacancy was that North Warwickshire Borough Council were to advise if 10 electors had requested a bye-election, by the 4 March deadline. If this did not happen, the co-option route would be possible.

With regard to the Deputy Mayor position, Cllr. Wallace proposed that Cllr. Battle be appointed to fill the role until May. This was seconded by Cllr. Sparkes and **AGREED** nem. con.

21/79 PARTICIPATION OF THE PUBLIC

Mr. Mark Jones enquired about the flying of the Ukrainian flag. Cllr. Richardson had ordered one, which had not been received to date, but would be Town Hall displayed.

Mr. Jones also asked for Town Council support in a campaign to collect diabetic medicines and sweets to be shipped to Ukraine. Members agreed to collecting boxes going into the Town Hall office and the Community Hub.

County Councillors Dave Humphries and Martin Watson updated the meeting on the Green Man crossing consultation review. It was hoped to have the original plans revised to permit left turns at the junction and for the Cole Bridge to be permanently controlled by traffic lights.

Cllr. Axe suggested that the A446 speed limit could be reduced from 70mph to 50mph. Cllr Dave Humphries suggested that he write to Highways England but that the County Councillors would support this proposal.

The Civil Parking Enforcement scheme was in place. Cllr Wallace asked that the enforcement plan and Cllr Watson's attendance be scheduled for the next Town Council meeting.

21/80 COMMUNICATIONS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

None to report.

21/81 QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

The Mayor had discussed ideas with residents and had a number of these to take further: Seven Decades of Music Concert (Town Hall or the Croft), beacon, piper, bugler, London Pageant outside broadcast on a screen, Jubilee lunch and display of bunting. Cllr Wallace and representatives of the Coleshill Carnival Committee were keen to have specific activities agreed and diarised so that other groups could work around the definite plans (e.g. Tennis Club, Cricket Club, Coleshill Drama Group all were keen to plan functions).

Cllr. Hayfield wanted the Town Council to be a facilitator rather than an organiser of events. Cllr. Axe suggested a display board in the Town Hall could be provided for community groups to indicate their planned activities.

The **Mayor** was to hold a meeting on 4 March and also circulate some ideas for producing some commemorative items.

21/82 RECENT WATER LEAKS

Two Section 75 letters had been received from Severn Trent Water, indicating the landowner's legal obligation to correct water leaks that had been discovered.

The Town Council had been experiencing high charges from Everflow Ltd since a meter change in spring 2021 at the Stonebridge Allotments. A leak there had been attended to by Water Plus on 1 March. A full report was due to be made available to the landowner within 24-48 hours of the visit, but it was believed it would report that the leak was on the customers' supply pipe. The Head Groundsman had seen where the leak was occurring, so it would not take a contractor long to identify and fix.

Another leak has been reported by Severn Trent Water, after a complaint to Water Plus Ltd from the tenant to the pavilion, Coleshill Cricket Club. It had been deemed to be the landlord's (Town Council's) responsibility and had to be fixed by 3 March. The Mayor and Town Clerk had agreed that C&M Kiernan Pipelines should be booked to attend on 3 March. This would be at a rate of £800 per day but it was not known how many days it would take to find and fix the problem.

Members **SUPPORTED** the actions as above.

21/83 **CHARGING FOR CHRISTMAS FAIR STALLS**

The Christmas Fair has traditionally been organised for voluntary bodies to raise money from stalls, allocated free of charge. There were some more commercial stall holders at the 2021 Fair and members considered a charging policy.

Cllrs. Hayfield and Wallace jointly proposed that small /single stalls were charged £5, and the larger /double stalls were charged £10, which was seconded by Cllr. Battle and **RESOLVED** unanimously.

21/84 **WELCOME BACK FUND**

During March, due to be completed were the QR coded points (by Enlighten Ltd) at either end of the footprints trail from Morrisons to the end of Chamberlain Walk, the tunnel at Chamberlain Walk had a ceiling in poor condition that MCM would bolster and paint white, ProServe would do weeding, repainting and varnishing of some public realm items and there were to be two bus shelter repairs and jet washing of the others, by Andlin Cleaning.

It was looking hopeful for the fund to pay for one finger pointer on the new set of finger posts at the cemetery drive (Lovers Walk). **The Mayor** offered to speak the Borough Council officer about the possibility of the fund covering the cost of the Town Council to replenish the two large brick planters on Chamberlain Walk. Members noted that this would probably make the Town Council responsible for ongoing upkeep of these planters. It was also agreed that **the Mayor** would speak, within the Borough Council, about the removal of the planter alongside its car park to allow more parking spaces.

Cllr. Axe agreed to write an article for the Coleshill Post on the features of the Welcome Back Fund.

21/85 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

These were the agreed comments:

Appl. No.	Address	Applicant	Prop. Development	Comment
PAP/2022/0056	Land 40m West Of 20 And 21, Chattle Hill,	Western Power Distribution -	Hedgerow removal of 20 metres	No objections, so long as the reinstatement of

	Lichfield Road, Coleshill	Mrs Sophie James		the hedgerow was a condition.
PAP/2022/0080	Land to rear of 70, Church Hill, Coleshill, B46 3AD	Mr Richard Illman	Works to tree in Conservation Area - Fell Beech tree	No objections, subject to a suitable replacement tree being planted.

21/86 **REPORTS FROM TOWN CLERK**

There had been a NCSC report that the Town Council website was vulnerable without a specific plug in. Neither the Council staff nor its IT advisor felt they had the expertise to apply the necessary fix. A sister company to the IT advisor had quoted £60 per month to maintain the site on an ongoing basis, rather than a single exercise.

Members were aware that one web designer (Parish Council Websites Ltd from VCS) had been commissioned to complete a rewrite of the Community Hub website, using the HS2 grant money underspend. That work was at an early stage, but members were keen to see a new Town Council website rather than costs for maintenance. The Town Clerk was asked to seek a quote for a complete rewrite of the current site, by Parish Council Websites Ltd.

21/87 **FUTURE MEETING AGENDA ITEMS**

Neighbourhood Plan
Civil Parking Enforcement Scheme Plan
Security of the Cemetery and Town Hall

Rather than an agenda item, members wanted to see a Complaints Policy that could cover the Community Hub as well as the Town Council's operation.

21/88 **TO APPROVE THE PREVIOUS CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**

The minutes of the 9 February Staffing Committee were proposed to be an accurate record by Cllr. Hayfield, seconded by Cllr. Axe and **ACCEPTED** nem. con.

In relation to the item on a possible change to caretaking arrangements, Cllr. Hayfield and the Town Clerk were asked to liaise over a further report to the 30 March meeting with the inclusion of possible cost scenarios.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 9.10 p.m.



.....
Town Mayor