

**DRAFT - MINUTES OF THE COLNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 26TH MARCH 2019
AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr D. Parsons (Chair), Cllr C. Daniels, Cllr M. Day, Cllr G. Prangnell, Cllr C. Pomfret, Cllr S. Purbrick, Cllr H. Heylen and Cllr A. O'Brien.

In attendance: Cllr Neish, Cllr Criswell and 17 members of the public.

1.00 Apologies.

1.01 Cllr Bluff.

2.00 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct.

2.01 Cllr Parsons declared a pecuniary interest item 8.04 (6).

3.00 To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 26th February 2019.

3.01 (12.04) Cllr Purbeck should read Purbrick.
(13.01) Blossoms and Blooms, not the Garden Gang.

Cllr Parsons proposed the minutes be approved. Unanimously agreed.
The Chairman signed the minutes.

4.00 Matters arising from the minutes.

4.01 All matters arising will be brought up under the appropriate heading.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7.40pm.

5.00 Open Forum.

5.01 Land between Retreat Cottage and The Rhees, East Street.

The Clerk asked Cllr Neish to chase up the Estates Team, on behalf of the Parish Council, as she wanted to resolve this matter at this meeting.

The Chairman asked Cllr Neish to report on the information he had obtained from the Estates Team, regarding the Green area.

Cllr Neish read out the information he had received stating, *'I can confirm that it is unlikely that HDC will sell this land over the next few years – it is impossible to say 'never', but it is fair to say that it is unlikely. Recent conversations have confirmed that this land is the only 'green space' within the village of Colne and therefore the council will want to maintain this green space.'*

5.02 Cllr Neish updated Council on HDC matters and answered questions.

5.03 Cllr Criswell updated Council on CCC matters.

The Mick George application for the new route for his lorries should be approved by the beginning of April.

Action

- 5.04 A member of the public spoke in support of the planning application, to be discussed by Council later in the meeting.
- 5.05 Residents of the Rhees, said they would not want the green area to be lost. The resident who put forward the proposal at the February meeting said he would still like to talk with the Council, should the green area become available to buy, so he could add a small garden to his property.
- 5.06 A resident asked if the ditch opposite the quadrangle could be cleared out as it was full of rubbish.

The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 7.55pm.

6.00 Police Matters.

- 6.01 ECops - Correspondences received during March have been emailed to all Councillors, added to the Website and posted on FB.

ALL

7.00 Correspondence.

- 7.01 Cllr Bluff emailed to say she would be resigning from the Council, with immediate effect. The Clerk has informed the Elections Manager at HDC that a casual vacancy now exists and the notice to that effect has been posted. The Clerk will advertise the vacancy fourteen days after the date of the notice.

Cllr Daniels asked that a letter be written to Cllr Bluff thanking her for her time as tree officer.

DP/KP

- 7.02 James from Parish Council Websites has added the 2019 Newsletter in colour to the Website and has also set up the public consultation portal.

- 7.03 All other correspondences have been emailed to Councillors, prior to the meeting.

Cllr Criswell left the meeting at 8.05pm.

8.00 Finance.

- 8.01 The Chairman reported that the Bank account balance at the 28th February 2019 was £35,031.62, with £30,000 on deposit. The VAT claimed back has been banked £1918.98.

There are three outstanding invoices, K. Gibbs for the replacement gutter Order No. 0029 - £400 + VAT and CCC for the noise assessment Order No. 0034 - £475.95 + VAT & CCC for the two village signs, in the region of £750.

Total CIL payments on account £7715.37; which have to be spent within four years on projects for the community.

- 8.02 The Chairman asked if there were any questions regarding the monthly budget sheet, there were none, a copy was signed and filed in the minute book.

- 8.03 The Chairman informed the Council that a donation was due to the Village Hall for the usage of the Small Hall (almost 22 hours) from April 2018 – March 2019. The Hall Hire costs this year are approximately £154. The Chairman proposed a donation of £160 be made. Cllr Pomfret seconded the motion. Agreed unanimously. The Chairman asked the Clerk to raise a cheque.
- 8.04 The Chairman explained to Council that cheque 1195 had been cancelled by the bank, as the recipient said he hadn't received it, cheque 1197 has been issued, hand delivered and signed for.

The Chairman proposed that this month's payments be approved, agreed unanimously.

The following cheques were made payable: -

	Payee	Expenditure	Chq. No.	Voucher	Sum
1	TCS Architectural Design Ltd	Technical Design, CDM regulations 2015 Health & Safety	1195	424	900.00
2	TCS Architectural Design Ltd	Technical Design, CDM regulations 2015 Health & Safety	1197	424	900.00
3	Victoire Press Ltd	Parish Newsletter, Order No.0049	1198	426	297.00
4	Came & Company	Council Insurance April 2019 - 2020	1199	427	280.00
5	HM Revenue & Customs 126PR00119052	PAYE 10-12 Months	1200	428	610.99
6	K. Parsons	(Mar) Handypersons Wages 18 Hours and Holiday Pay. Clerk Pay and Expenses (£33.44)	1201	429	622.36
7	Colne Village Hall	Donation for the use of Hall	1202	430	160.00

- 8.05 The Clerk has contacted the internal auditor Michael Williamson from MiJan Consultants and has arranged for him to conduct the audit again this year, an appointment date has not as yet been arranged.

The Chairman has reviewed the Council's risk assessments and amended where required.

- 8.06 *The Chairman declared an interest and took no part in the discussion and Cllr Daniels took the chair.*

Cllr Daniels reminded the council that in previous years they had made an exgratia payment to the Clerk for the additional work, over her contracted hours, carried out in the production of the newsletter. He proposed that Council pay the same as last year, seconded by Cllr O'Brien. Agreed unanimously.

Cllr Pomfret thanked the Clerk on behalf of the Council and said that she had received a lot of good feedback. Agreed Unanimously.

The Chairman re-took the chair

9.00 Planning Matters.

9.01 **APPLICATION REF. 19/00508/OUT** - Land Adjacent The Nurseries Earith Road Colne - Construction of one 3-bedroom bungalow with a large garden

Council recommend approval: 6 in favour, 2 against.

Councils comments: Council do not have an issue with the building of the proposed dwelling. Although, the planned access to the site seems to be too narrow. Council also presume the tree that will have to be removed to obtain the access, does not have a TPO on it.

9.02 **APPLICATION REF. 19/00458/PIP-** Land North East of Fig Tree Cottage, Chatteris Road, Somersham – Permission in principle application for erection of up to two dwelling houses.

Somersham Parish Council has been consulted on this application. Colne Parish Council have been consulted as the adjacent parish to the site. The Clerk has acquired an extension to the 27th March.

Council recommend approval: all in favour.

Councils comments: Council have no objection to this application. Their only concern is the access in relation to the traffic calming measures on the main road.

9.03 **APPLICATION REF. 19/00461/FUL-** Brook Farm, Earith Road, Colne – Demolition of existing Class B1 and B8 buildings and redevelopment for eight dwellings.

Council recommend approval: 5 in favour, 3 against.

Councils comments: A good mix of houses, although the design is not in keeping with other dwellings in the area, it doesn't affect the streetscene.

9.04 Cllr Daniels reported that the 18/02705/FUL - Hyde House, East Street, Colne, planning application had been approved.

10.00 Highways & Byways.

10.01 The Clerk has requested a new three-year maintenance contact from Balfour Beatty Living Places Ltd, after a month and several emails and telephone calls, one has at last been issued. The cost has increase from £85.32 to a charge of a minimum amount of £150, this no longer covers the cost of replacement bulbs.

The Clerk has emailed Balfour Beatty asking them to clarify the new charges, they have emailed back to say, '*for small contracts there is now a minimum charge to cover our costs*'.

The Clerk has contacted Earith Clerk to obtain contact details of the streetlighting firm they now use. The Clerk and has made initial contact with

them, John Henry Group, and waiting for further information on what services and costs they could provide.

10.02 The Clerk has reported the damaged BT cover, verges and the rubbish left on the footpath, at Deadmans corner to CCC.
The Council Street works telephoned to say that Cambridge water would be clearing all the rubbish off the footpath and reinstating the verges. BT have been contacted and they would be repairing the cover in due course, a cone has been put over the hole until the work has been completed. This has now been replaced.

10.03 At the previous meeting, Cllr Purbrick asked for the markings at the High Street/ East Junction to be repainted. Highways will not repaint until the road markings are 70% worn.

10.04 Analyse SID data – Cllr Daniels reported on the speeds recorded on the B1050 near Gable Drive, Earith Road, Colne.

From Earith direction the top speed recorded was 77 mph and towards Earith the top speed recorded was 75 mph. More information can be found on the Parish Website.

11.00 Open Spaces & Village Playing Field.

11.01 The Chairman reminded Councillors that the grass reinforcement matting, for the turning area, down Old Church Lane, still needs to be fitted.

12.00 Bluntisham Road Amenity Land.

12.01 Hastoe have been contacted, regarding them organising an independent tree survey on the willow tree, infill of the front hedge and the Greenacre boundary hedging. A reply has at last been received from a project manager stating:

'I have been asked to look at the above issues and am writing to give you an update.

I have asked our landscape company to report back to us on the works required to the willow tree. We can then look to carry these out. Our contractor has come back to us regarding the hedging and confirms the following.

"Yes, we still have planting to do on the Greenacres boundary due in about two weeks .

We have also got to do some in fill to the front hedge where we carried out the sewer connection .

We will confirm when complete "

12.02 Three fencing contractors have been contacted, with regards to the four-strand wire fence, around the perimeter.

12.03 The Clerk has received a quote from Four season's tree services to clear all brambles, weeds and debris. All dead trees to be cut down and chipped up and left as a mulch, logs to be sliced up and left on site. For a cost of £3000.

MD

- 12.04 The Clerk has chased Mick George for the quotes for the hardcore area and to clear a three-metre corridor to enable the South and East fencing to be erected. As soon as the Clerk is in possession of the quotes, she will call an extraordinary meeting.
- 12.05 Frank Mastrandea, from HDC has emailed to say that his colleague Mandi George would be very interested to talk to the PC about the plans since there may be external grants that could be applied for.
- 12.06 The Clerk has received 45 responses, so far, to the public consultation to decide on the layout of the land. Several residents have offered to help and get their hands dirty, whilst some have offered to buy trees.

13.00 Village Hall.

- 13.01 Cllr Prangnell reported on the village hall meeting on Monday 18th March. The next event is the Hanging Basket demonstration on the 5th April, the judging of the hanging baskets around the village will take place the week before the Blossoms and Blooms Fete on the 13th July.

The Chairman said that he was waiting for all the tenders to be returned for the shed and then the Clerk would organise an extraordinary meeting so the PC and the VH committee can discuss the quotes.

- 13.02 The next Village Hall meeting is the AGM on Monday 13th May 2019 at 7.30pm.

14.00 3Cs - Colne Caring Community.

- 14.01 Cllr Pomfret updated Council on the progress of the scheme, stating that attendance continues to grow.

The End of Life speaker on the 4th March, was very informative.

On the 17th March the 3Cs were on HCR FM 'over to you' radio program, Cheryl and Doreen answered questions.

The Spring Fair on the 23rd March, was very well attended. A big thank you to everyone that helped set up. There were lots of raffle prizes donated and approximately £400 was raised, some of the money will go towards supporting the Garden Gang.

On Friday 29th March from 10am to 4pm the 3Cs would be conducting a bucket collection at Morrisons Supermarket.

15.00 Date of the Next Ordinary Meeting – Tuesday 30th April 2019.

16.00 Matters For Future Consideration.

- 16.01 Cllr Daniels asked that 'Staff contract/training/hours/remuneration', be added to the next Agenda.

17.00 Close of Meeting.

- 17.01 The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm.

Chairman's
Signature.....

Min – 26th March 2019.

Date.....

Minutes are posted here at the same time that they appear on the parish noticeboard which is before they are confirmed and signed as a true record. Minutes for the current and previous month should be treated with caution as they may be revised at the next meeting.

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