

COLMWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Colmworth Parish Council held on
Thursday 29th June 2023 at 7.00pm at Colmworth Village Hall**

Present: Councillor Pegler (Chair), Councillor Palmer, and Councillor Ball.

Apologies: Councillor Marsh, and Councillor Frew

In Attendance: Two members of the public.

Clerk: Lizzie Barnicoat

2023/14 Apologies

Parish Councillor Marsh and Councillor Frew.

2023/15 Declarations of Interest

None received but it was noted Councillor Pegler is going to settle an invoice for the planning consultant who made representation on the Local Plan hearings.

2023/16 Approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 11th May 2023

The Council accepted the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

Councillor Pegler – Proposed. Councillor Palmer – Seconded. All in favour

The Chair adjourned the meeting at this point

2023/17 Public Open Forum

Church Road concern over speeding even with speed cameras, those working at Tythe Farm and dropping at nursery are not covered by the cameras. Clerk to chase the average speed camera data as it has not been received for a few months. Clerk to request siting of local authority enforcement vehicle in the parish, Parish Council also offered to support to follow up issues as well on behalf of concerned residents to nursery and some local businesses to highlight the problem. Issue also to be raised with the police when visiting next week.

Resident raised the play equipment, it would be a shame to lose it was outlined, comments encouraged to be sent on to Clerk.

Highways surface issues raised, sending pictures for the Clerk to forward on to Highways Helpdesk was encouraged.

Hedge between Manor Farm Cottages and the bend heading north out of the village before the speed camera by the Church, which needs clearing back across the footpath which is badly overgrown, Clerk to follow up.

The Chair reconvened the meeting at this point

2023/18 Planning

23/01117/TPO walnut tree T8 remove limbs over hanging neighbours property at 4 Burnix Court - Councillors had no concerns.

Local Plan 2040 public hearing sessions update for Block 1 – planning consultant had attended the hearings which have now been completed, with Block 2 starting again in September. The considerations by the inspector are expected to be known in the spring time. Councillor Pegler had offered to commit up to £6k of personal funds on paying for the consultant.

To consider any planning applications received after the publication of the agenda if applicable – none received.

Decisions to be noted

23/00585/TPO T1 Yew - Reduce tree in width by 2 to 2.5 metres, cutting back to viable growth points, Reduce tree in height by 2 metres, cutting back to viable growth points, Crown lift to 2.5 metres from ground level at Rosedene Little Staughton Road – Permitted

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23/00248/FUL Removal of chimney stack at Tideswell Church Road - Permitted

23/00249/LBC Removal of first-floor chimney breast and above chimney stack with internal alterations to partition walls at Tideswell Church Road – Permitted

23/00987/TELLN The Electronic Communications Code (Conditions and restrictions) (Amendment) Regulations 2017 - The replacement of 3no antennas at 19.00m and installation of associated ancillary equipment on the lattice tower. The installation of 1no. GPS node and 3no Remote Radio Units (RRU's) with the replacement of 1no cabinet at ground. (This is a notification only to the Local Authority who have no determining powers) at Communication Station At Bryher Farm Colesden Road, Wilden - Response Sent

23/00319/FUL Insert Bi-folding doors to the West elevation, 3 conservation style roof windows to the West elevation, 1 conservation style roof window to the South elevation and 2 on the East elevation. Remove the existing door and window to the South elevation, replace existing bedroom doors on the South elevation with a window and replace front door with a stable style opening door at The Old Piggery 3 Church Lane – Permitted

23/00320/LBC Insert Bi-folding doors to the West elevation, 3 conservation style roof windows to the West elevation, 1 conservation style roof window to the South elevation and 2 on the East elevation. Remove the existing door and window to the South elevation, replace existing bedroom doors on the South elevation with a window and replace front door with a stable style opening door. Internal alterations to remove the wall between the kitchen and dining area along with partition wall adjustments to the sleeping/bathroom area at The Old Piggery 3 Church Lane – Permitted

22/01421/FUL Erection of three-bedroom dwelling & associated works at Land At Channels End Road – Refused

21/03099/FUL Redevelopment of surplus storage yard and buildings to provide 3 dwellings at Storage Land To The Rear Of Mill Cottage Mill Road - Withdrawn

2023/18 Highways, East-West Rail and Rights of Way

EWR matters – Cllr. Palmer reported that there has now been a final route announcement from East West Rail, there has been a further meeting of the Bedfordshire representatives Group as well. A public event was held in Ravensden recently, survey works continue it was noted.

The latest regarding the potential leak along Wilden Road causing flooding has continued to be pursued with the local authority Officers. The gully report shows there has been jetting from the culvert down to Greenkeepers Cottage which is clear. It appears digging of the ditches further out is needed with the local authority able to send letters to the associated properties if needed, Clerk to request these are to be sent.

Little Staughton Road repairs raised at the last meeting were followed up with Bedford Borough Council and confirmation repairs would extend was received and shared with Councillors.

No further update on VAS poles having chased again and Wilden Road signage had been followed up, awaiting response.

2023/19 Village matters

Litter pick event is not able to be accommodated in August, first weekend of September provision booking of equipment on 2nd September. Clerk to check date and circulate on various outlets.

The Parish Council currently has vacancies it was noted and there is the ability to co-opt given the recent call for election still, notice in latest Chronicle.

Coffee with Cop event update, Police have confirmed they are attending on 6th July, this has been advertised. Clerk to check access to refreshments.

In light of recent burglary in the village, some reports of vehicles pulling into driveways and then leaving again, please remain vigilant and if anyone has any information or footage then please do come forward, Clerk to follow up.

Draft bulky waste service for 29th July at two locations, has been advertised in the Chronicle by the Clerk.

Area of land at rear of Little Staughton Road is covered in brambles, it has got rats, Clerk to escalate to Environment Agency, as it is partly owned by the local authority.

Internet connection resident communication, for Channels End with Clerk to follow up upgrade latest.

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2023/20 Country Park, Playing Field, Gardening Club and Triangle

Councillor Marsh has continued with inspections, these have been circulated to Councillors.

Councillors discussed at the last meeting the quotation to remove the climbing frame in light of the cost implication to carry out the necessary repairs. It was agreed to have a communication with the costs of removal, repair and maintenance to go on social media and website with ideas welcomed to come forward plus in Chronicle, this had all been done.

Clerk to explore alternative options including funding for a new structure.

Cllr. Marsh identified jobs: and and stain benches, clean and paint entrance gate, fix fencing, paint slide, replace dog signs.

Playing Field usage request received and circulated, Clerk to respond with this agreed on the basis of pristine condition left and no dogs allowed as it is a dog free area. At the same time to raise about the speeding between cameras that are visiting the village, please can you ask parents to be respectful of the speed limit and the Parish Council are reminding all local businesses of this..

Other matter updates raised previously at the last meeting will be covered in the action tracker within the minutes.

2023/21 Finance

Review receipts and authorise payments – see below and it was noted VAT reclaim of £xxx actioned, awaiting payment.

Case needs to be fitted to the Village Hall wall, Clerk to seek quote Gavin Jones, Clerk to ask permission for the work and Parish Council to pick up the cost.

The Full Council reviewed the Internal audit report – following the drafted year end documents shared at the last meeting, Kim Webb had now undertaken the internal audit for the Parish Council, report had been shared, there were no matters arising it was noted.

Completion of Annual Return Section 1 and 2 - now the Annual Governance internal review has been carried out, there is confirmation that the presented document is a true and accurate reflection of the Council position. All Councillors had received the full transaction information for the financial year, bank reconciliation, completed Annual Return, and other supporting documents. It was unanimously agreed, resolution made to approve Section 1 and Section 2 of the Annual Return, form to be signed Clerk to make external audit submission.

Councillors reviewed and agreed the following payments, resolution passed.

Backlight Ltd	Administration services	£826.17
Kim Webb	Internal audit	£95.00
Zafety	Defib case	£594.00
Zurich	Insurance renewal	£536.00
W T Saunders Ground Care	Playing field grass cut 2	£78.42
W T Saunders Ground Care	Grass cutting Country Park	£106.08
These payments below are only for ratification		
Ionos	Monthly charge for May email to be ratified	£20.40
Ionos	Monthly charge for June email to be ratified	£20.40

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 7th September 2023 at 7pm, Village Hall –to be held in the Randall Room.

Actions/Updates:

This continue to be displayed in the action tracker below.

Correspondence list

NALC Events Bulletin emails
Age Partnership email promoting services
BBC Planning weekly list email
Online playgrounds promotional information
CPRE update emails
NFP Workshops bid writing information
Beds Police crime statistics – circulated
Chronicle article communications - submitted
BBC Agenda for Standards Committee
Regular Colmworth Trumpet communications received
Playground & Public Park Services promotional information
Street Trading (new application), outside of town centre, ALL CONSENT STREETS
EWR Local Representatives Group communications
Webnos alerts of maintenance checks carried out
CPRE May and June 2023 Newsletter
BBC Officer communications on village litter pick in April
BATPC New Councillor induction training
Colmworth Village Hall booking communications
Colmworth Village Hall annual report
BBC Local Plan public hearings information and communications
HMRC Government Gateway communications
Internal auditor communications
Puddleduck request to use playing field
BBC Officer communication following up items from May meetings
Councillor clarity on tree budget circulated
Zurich insurance communications and policy documents
Staploe Parish Council internal audit benchmarking – responded
Colmworth Village Hall AGM invite – responded to
Report of rubbish dumped on Mill Road to BBC
BATPC New Councillor induction training
BBC alert African swine flu in pigs
A428 Caxton Gibbet to Black Cat project update
Resident communication regarding internet and paintings – Chair responded to
BBC Rural Bulky Waste service – forwarded
East West Rail route announcement
Councillor communications regarding graffiti on the play equipment
BBC Recycling Event to promote
BBC Riseley Neighbourhood Plan communication
Coffee with a Cop communications
Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue communication regarding defibrillators
Resident concern regarding straw nuisance – responded to
BBC Great Denham Neighbourhood Plan communication
BBC Network meeting event on 20th July – forwarded
Mazars LLP AGAR reminder deadline approaching

Meeting closed at 8.10pm