

COLMWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Colmworth Parish Council held on
Thursday 2nd March 2023 at 7.00pm at Colmworth Village Hall

Present: Councillor Palmer, Councillor Frew, Councillor Ball, Councillor Pegler.

Apologies: Councillor Marsh

In Attendance: One member of the public and Borough Councillor Wootton.

Clerk: Lizzie Barnicoat

2022/091 Apologies

There were apologies for absence received and accepted from Councillor Marsh.

2022/083 Declarations of interest

There was a declaration from Councillor Frew under finance matters, however, no further declaration of interests received for the meeting, it was noted.

2022/084 Approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 26th January 2023

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

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

The Chair adjourned the meeting at this point

2022/085 Public Open Forum

Chronicle next edition will be at the end of March, as always all content welcome, coronation information, Coffee with Cop, litter picking date, as well as new Parish Council elections.

The Chair reconvened the meeting at this point

2022/086 Parish Councillor vacancy

No expressions of interest received to date it was noted, Clerk updated all that As there are local elections in May 2023, work is already commencing on these forthcoming elections which include Parish Council elections. As usual the Borough Council will be producing nomination papers which are complete with the election date, parish name and ward if applicable and these will be emailed to Parish Clerks in the next month. Please remember you are most welcome to contact the Clerk, to receive a nomination paper, and there will also be blank copies of the nomination papers available on the Electoral Commission website. The Borough Council have confirmed that the notice of election for parishes will be published on Monday 20th March, therefore the local authority can start to accept nomination papers in from Tuesday 21st March. The nomination papers MUST be delivered by hand to the Returning Officer at Borough Hall, so the candidate needs to make an appointment to bring these in by either emailing nominations2023@bedford.gov.uk or calling 01234 718078. If anyone requires assistance or further information then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Clerk to obtain electoral numbers for Councillors and share paperwork for circulation, for Clerk to take to Borough Hall and Clerk to share four laminated posters with Councillor Pegler for the parish noticeboards.

2022/087 Planning

23/00319/FUL and 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 – it was unanimously agreed to have no objection to the application, resolution passed.

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To note planning appeal for conversion of existing overnight accommodation barn and the kitchen/restaurant areas to create 2 additional dwellings, whilst retaining the existing pub with living accommodation above regarding NO: 21/01553/LBC Listed Building Consent at The Wheatsheaf Wilden Road Colmworth. It was detailed that in light of the appeal being a standalone appeal for the LBC and not including the FUL application, follow up communication had been made with the local authority to ascertain if without the FUL application going to appeal, even if this appeal were to be granted the work could not be proceeded with until an overturn of the FUL decision, The Borough Council had confirmed this was the correct understanding, this information had been communicated by the Clerk to the appeal applicant to establish if they had received an alternative advice, no applicant feedback received.

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

It was noted there has been the first exchange of the Inspector communications with the local authority regarding the Local Plan seeking clarity on items.

Bedford Borough Council planning decisions and notifications of planning appeals:

Decisions to be noted

22/02535/TPO T1 cedar- removal of dead wood and die back in crown T2 holly- removal of tree. T3 Cedar- removal of dead wood in canopy at The Old Rectory, Church Road – Permitted

22/00308/LBC - Condition 3 - Plinth (Discharge of condition) at Tideswell Church Road – Permitted

22/00308/LBC - Condition 5 - Lime Render (Discharge of condition) at Tideswell Church Road - Permitted

2022/088 Ward Councillor report

Report received, circulated, fly tipping and estate management costs outlined, Town Centre consultation along with East West Rail.

2022/089 Highways, East-West Rail and Rights of Way

EW matters – Cllr. Palmer reported that East West Rail Bedfordshire representatives Group meetings continue to take place as well as latest meeting with Richard Fuller MP information which has been shared with Councillors, with further communications made as well to the government colleagues. Freedom of information requests have some time ago been submitted as well it was noted.

The latest regarding the potential leak further along Wilden Road causing flooding and VAS installation update covered in the action tracker within the minutes below.

Rights of Way issues posts are rotting at the base again, some have been replaced, Councillor Pegler to share locations of some others which need attending to, for Clerk to send on.

2022/090 Village matters

Environment helpdesk follow up item Clerk to share with Councillor Wootton.

Litter pick discussed, Clerk to book event for 29th April at 10.30am at usual locations at Church for meet point and collection from Low Farm.

Village coronation celebrations, event being organised with the Village Hall, and use of the field, event idea outlined. It was agreed by Councillors that dogs will be allowed on the field for this village event to be held on 7th May, for one day only. There is a volunteering event on 8th May at the Country Park which it was noted is covered under the Parish Council insurance policy being mindful of the Council risk assessment documents relating to volunteering activities.

Local Police engagement update on Coffee with a Cop event, request shared with Village Hall.

Website and communications update it was detailed that the website had again received further updates of documents. There is an article ready to go in the next Chronicle edition to highlight again the range of communication methods and platforms being used by the Parish Council for residents to be kept up to date and to engage through.

Other village matter updates raised previously will be covered in the action tracker within the minutes below.

2022/091 Country Park, Playing Field, Gardening Club and Triangle

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

Councillor Marsh to arrange for tape to be placed on piece of equipment. Councillor Marsh had instructed the contractor for with plans for the works arranged:

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A report had been received updating Councillors on the latest work which had been taking place with the Country Park and Gardening Club.

Country Park update to include scything insurance clarity had been shared with Councillors, it was noted the Council would require sight of the insurance policy before granting permission.

It was discussed having a stand at the coronation event in the Village Hall so share images of the park, seek ideas and thoughts as well as look to recruit volunteers, Councillor Frew to support with this alongside NF for 7th May, then volunteers on 8th May will carry work as needed in and around the Church and Country Park. With the Council agreeing that JCB Printing to be asked to print items as appropriate to make the presentation of information attractive to interest new volunteers coming forwards. This information will also be shared with the Chronicle alongside financial information for residents, Councillor Palmer to collate.

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

2022/091 Finance

Review receipts and authorise payments – Councillor Frew declared an interest in the item below so took no part in the discussion, the Full Council approved and agreed the following payments, resolution passed.

Backlight Ltd	Administration support January and February	£826.17
Pete Frossell	Hedge cutting Country Park	£48.00
Andrew Brightman	Village Hall tree work	£350.00
These payments below are only for ratification		
lonos	Monthly charge for February email to be ratified	£20.40
lonos	Monthly charge for March email to be ratified	£20.40

Clerk had given notice to Scribe as agreed as part of the 2023/24 budget considerations. Work had taken place on new financial document, which had been shared, some updates being made to improve the effectiveness of the monitoring.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 11th May 2023 at 7pm, Village Hall.

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
 Regular Colmworth Trumpet communications received
 BBC highways regarding average speed cameras data – forwarded and placed on website
 Street Trading (new application), outside of town centre, ALL CONSENT STREETS
 EWR Local Representatives Group communications – shared with Cllr Palmer
 Webnos alerts of defibrillator maintenance checks carried out
 Cllr Wootton Ward Fund communications
 Play area inspection reports – circulated
 CPRE March 2023 Newsletter
 Website communications
 Further Anglian Water communications regarding latest Wilden Road water issue
 Morelock VAS unit communications
 BBC Officer communication relating to planning appeal question

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Village Christmas lights communications
BBC Parish elections May 2023 information
BBC Highways communications regarding Wilden Road flooding
Zurich insurance clarity regarding coronation event
Parish Council insurance clarification regarding scything
Anglian Water communications regarding water tap quote for triangle
CPM Playgrounds Ltd communications and quotation for works
Bedfordshire Police Fund communications
Village Hall booking dates confirmation communication
Village Hall liaison regarding Coffee with a Cop
Local Parish Council communications regarding Bushmead Road
Coronation of King Charles III on 06th May 2023 insurance clarity information - circulated
BATPC Finance Training Programme – Updated
BBC Planning appeal consultation letter – forwarded
BBC Parish and Town Council Network - Presentations
BBC Precept confirmation that Colmworth Parish Council form received
Bedford Borough Local Plan 2040 Examination
Borough Council Ward Fund communications regarding Church gates £1062.20 – followed up
Bedfordshire Police £3,000.00 remittance advice
EWR Co Bedfordshire Local Representatives Group – Agenda and Action tracker for Meeting #8
CPRE February 2023 Newsletter
BBC Developing in the Forest of Marston Vale: Design Guidance Supplementary Planning Document
EWR Co Bedfordshire Local Representatives Group – confirmation of date and invitation for the next meeting
LexisNexis - Arnold Baker 13th Edition - Would you like to order?
Councillor email communications
Website name domain renewal
A428 Strategic Stakeholder Board - Update on Legal Challenge
BATPC Update - Changes to VAT on Sports Facility Fees and to Procurement Thresholds; BATPC News Round-Up
BBC Community Network: Cost of Living Summit, 27th February 2023
EWR Co Bedfordshire Local Representatives Group next meeting
Bedford Borough Council annual Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme Consultation 2023/24
A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet - February newsletter
BATPC 2023-24 Section 137 Expenditure Limit Confirmed
BBC update on HMO designation
New batter replaced at defibrillator at Village Hall
BBC updated contact details for Parish Council – responded to
BBC Nomination papers and Declaration of Expenses forms
EWR Co Bedfordshire Local Representatives Group – Meeting #8 follow-up: slides, transcript and recording now available on Community Hub
EWR meeting with Richard Fuller MP communications
Update : Opportunity for Parish Council Engagement with Bedford Borough Officers – responded to
Scribe and risks spreadsheets to manage public funds
EWR Co Bedfordshire Local Representatives Group – Agenda and Action tracker for the Meeting

Meeting closed at 8.15pm