

COLMWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Colmworth Parish Council held on
Thursday 3rd November 2022 at 7.00pm at Colmworth Village Hall**

Present: Councillor Palmer, Councillor Frew, Councillor Ball, Councillor Marsh

Apologies: Councillor Pegler.

In Attendance: Three members of the public and Borough Councillor Wootton.

Clerk: Lizzie Barnicoat

2022/061 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor Pegler. It was noted that Councillor Brightman had resigned since the last meeting, with Councillors expressing their grateful thanks to Beverley for all the support over the years.

2022/062 Declarations of interest

There was a declaration of interest from Councillor Frew under finance received for the meeting, it was noted.

2022/063 Approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 1st September 2022

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

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

The Chair adjourned the meeting at this point

2022/064 Public Open Forum

Church Road cameras work been done on them and speeding concerns raised by residents, summary of how the data is processed, the cameras managed, and the figures are on the Parish Council website. Information was also given on the new VAS unit being installed and it was noted the helpful data they would provide.

The gully by 6 Church Road and by Chapel Farm need seeing to, Clerk to report.

10th December is next Chronicle deadline, review of the year and looking forward to 2023 information would be welcome it was noted.

Suggestion of naming the Church to Green Lane Footpath 9, it runs through the Country Park, Clerk asked to seek clarity on if public rights of way can be named.

The Chair reconvened the meeting at this point

2022/065 Parish Councillor vacancy

The resignation had been reported to the Monitoring Officer, election vacancy notice displayed, no election called so Council have the ability to co-opt. Information has been placed on the Parish Council website

2022/066 Planning

22/01796/FUL One and two storey side extension and two storey rear extension at Amboseli 3 City Lane – the Council unanimously agreed no further comment to made on this application as the amendment did not impact on the Council's previous comments.

Bedford Borough Council planning decisions and notifications of planning appeals:

Decisions to be noted

22/00896/FUL Erection of new 1.5 storey detached dwelling with attached double garage and formation of new vehicular access and bridge over moat at Land Adjacent To Moat House, Church Road – Permitted

22/00327/LDE Retention of dwelling (C3) and occupation without compliance of an agricultural occupancy condition at Tenacres, Little Staughton Road - Certificate Refused

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

2022/067 Ward Councillor report

No report received.

2022/068 Highways, East-West Rail and Rights of Way

EWR matters – Cllr. Palmer reported that the next East West Rail Bedfordshire representatives Group meeting is taking place shortly with the last meeting focusing on the business plan. Still awaiting clarity from the new government on if the project will still go ahead given the need to save public monies.

Highways matters included Clerk had continued to receive, circulate and publish the latest average speed camera data to various platforms as usual, including in the Chronicle. The water leak issued on Wilden Road previously had been monitored and followed up with Anglian Water engineers who had provided updates, the maintenance work including work to the ditch has now been completed and there had been no longer standing water on the road. The most recent rainfall has caused another issue, the ditch needs digging as it is right across the road. Anglian Water to be contacted and local authority highways as well by the Clerk.

The Police Road Safety Fund latest regarding a site meeting to look at potential locations for the two highway poles and one activated Vehicle Activated Sign had recently taken place with Councillors Marsh and Pegler in attendance. The two proposed locations were outlined, with the local authority to fit the two highways poles free of charge, once confirmation nearby resident(s) have been consulted and are agreeable the poles installation will be arranged. The pro forma for the sign purchase from Morelock recommended by the local authority as a good supplier is on the agenda, including a yellow warning sign to highlight speeds are being recorded. Clerk to monitor and to check when Police funds will be received.

There had been communication from Little Staughton Parish Council regarding the condition of Bushmead Road to look at having a meeting with the local authority alongside Colmworth, Staploe and Keysoe Parish Councils. The Council agreed clarity should be sought on what improvements the Parish Council are seeking would be useful to understand, Clerk to follow up.

2022/069 Village matters

Thanks given to those who had taken part in the community litter pick event on 3rd September.

The Christmas lights were discussed, it was agreed the approach to be the Clerk to write to the Secretary at The Barns for the lights to be on please from 28th November to 5th January with the Gardening Club kindly agreeing to fund the electricity, the Parish Council grateful for this.

As discussed at the last meeting, Councillors Pegler and Knight, had previously met with Village Hall representatives to discuss the trees raised previously. Andrew Brightman had looked at the two trees by the Village Hall to review them as there had been concern expressed if they fell, there would be damage to the building. A presented quotation was considered and discussed, it was unanimously agreed to accept the quote for £450.00 for the work to be carried out, Clerk to feedback and Councillor Pegler to liaise with contractor.

Parish Council communication update summary was given, there has been a lot of work on the Parish Council website to bring the resource up to date and to make the experience more user friendly with local information now more accessible. Article in the Chronicle previously done promoting the site, there to be further promotion in the next Chronicle, Councillor Marsh to arrange article and to expand the Country Park information on the website. The suggestion of the Parish Council posting on the Facebook page raised previously was discussed, it was agreed not to post on local group pages, the Parish Council profile continue to be updated with local news and information on.

2022/067 Ward Councillor report

Cllr. Wootton arrived at this point of the meeting, report shared including lynch gates suggestion for the village to apply for a Rural Grant fund. Free School Meal voucher update, LED street lighting updates, sustainable transport for schools, investment zones, Avian flu and Warm Spaces.

2022/070 Country Park, Playing Field, Gardening Club and Triangle

Councillor Marsh has continued with inspections, these have been circulated to Councillors. The external inspection report had been reviewed with a list of repairs collated for taking forwards for the

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work to be quoted, the Clerk had sent on to a potential contractor for Cllr. Marsh to meet onsite to look at items that need repair. Cllr. Marsh was thanked for his work on this area.

The Playing Field hedge cut was raised, Clerk was asked to seek quote from Andrew Stringer, with Councillor Frew able to meet on site.

Hedge cut from Queens Road to the Church on the main road has been left with debris on the path, what can be done to clear the area, Clerk to follow up.

Water tap at triangle by Church suggestion, investigation to be made with Anglian Water by Clerk.

Country Park meeting about dogs with local authority Officer had not taken place due to availability challenges.

Country Park Working Group risk assessment reviewed, updates made and shared, unanimously agreed to approve.

The noticeboard for the Country Park it was noted could be a Ward Fund item, Clerk sent information again to Cllr. Wootton seeking support for some items the Parish Council are looking for support with. It was raised about the drivers insurance for the damage at the triangle against the drivers insurance if any claim could be successful, Clerk to ask local Police if this is possible.

The next season grass cutting was discussed following quote received which had been circulated ahead of the meeting with potential options considered. It was unanimously agreed to accept the quotes from Morgan Pell, W T Saunders, so these would be appointed contractors again for next year and built into the budget.

2022/071 Finance

Review receipts and authorise payments – see below

The Full Council approved and agreed the following payments, resolution passed. *Councillor Frew declared an interest in the agenda item so took no part in the vote.*

Nina Frew	Reimbursement of expenses relating to Country Park	£35.08
Community Heartbeat	Annual support for defibrillator	£162.00
W T Saunders	Country Park paths mowing	£95.48
W T Saunders	Playing Field cut 6	£76.14
Morelock Ltd	VAS unit	£3717.60
Backlight Ltd	Administration support September and October	£826.17
Mazars	External audit fee	£240.00
These payments below are only for ratification		
Ionos	Monthly charge for October email to be ratified	£20.40
Ionos	Monthly charge for September email to be ratified	£20.40
W T Saunders	Playing Field cut 5 to be ratified	£76.14
W T Saunders	Playing Field cut 4 to be ratified	£76.14
Morgan Pell Farms	Country Park grass cutting to be ratified	£780.00

External audit – conclusion notice had been displayed, report had been circulated, posted on the website, minor matter arising was noted.

VAT update given, challenges accessing the online system had continued therefore a paper submission had been made.

Budget plan for 2023/24 had been shared with all Councillors ahead of the meeting, showing detailed information on the current budget position, expected year end and proposals for expenditure next year. Cllr. Palmer gave a summary to all present, outlining the reserve levels with careful management continuing across the year. It will be a future agenda item.

The Parish Council unanimously agreed to support an application from the Church for Rural Grant application to be made, noting the Parish Council were not expecting financial support within the budget so unable to provide a monetary contribution, Clerk to liaise with Councillor Pegler and Kate Abrahams.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 5th January 2023 at 7pm, Village Hall.

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Actions/Updates:

It was noted regular social media and village circulation communications have continue to be made between meetings.

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[agreed to use](#)

Going forwards the Council were to use attached action tracker for ease.

Correspondence list

Playing fields hire communication - circulated
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
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
BBC Volunteering Officer ongoing communication regarding litter pick collection points
Cllr Wootton Ward Fund communications
Play area inspection reports – circulated
Website administration communications
HMRC Government Gateway communications
Mazars confirmation of Annual Return year end report – circulated
Parish and Town Council Network - Marketplace Event - 29 September 2022 information – circulated
Community Policing Priority Update – forwarded
CPRE September 2022 Newsletter
EWR Co Local Representatives Group for Bedfordshire – Meeting #4 summary note, meeting #5 sign up and confirmed future meetings dates
Colmworth Parish Council - AGAR queries
Resident communication regarding Denybrook update – responded to
Tree quotation for Village Hall trees
Website communications
BATPC Finance Training Programme – Updated
Resident donation towards planning consultant costs
EWR Co Local Representatives Group for Bedfordshire – meeting #5 moving virtual
Newsletter and Ampthill-Flitwick Forum respectively
Community Heartbeat Invoice
Luton Rising - keeping you updated
PCC's Annual Parish Council Conference - Invitation - 04/10/2022
REMINDER INVITE Parish and Town Council Network Marketplace Event - 29 September 2022
Zurich ref 27220000338 Impact claim 8.5.22 – responded to
Village Hall Management Committee representative communications
BATPC Protocol on Marking the Death of a Senior National Figure
BATPC Proclamation Wording
Parish Councillor resignation – responded to
BFR 2015, Colmworth Village Hall, Church Road, Bedfordshire, MK44 2JX (M00000009134) : Site Check submitted (1065)
BBC second half of precept received
BBC Election Officer communications regarding vacancy
BATPC National Moment of Reflection 18th September - Suggested Script for Local Ceremonies
BBC Little Barford Conservation Area Designation: Pre-draft Consultation Event
Resident communication regarding donation to planning consultant fees – responded to
BBC Temporary Road Closure Wilden Road Renhold 22-076

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Road Victims Trust Remembrance Service, Sunday 20 November 2022
EWR Co Bedfordshire Local Representatives Group – Rearranging Meeting #5
BBC Emergency Temporary Road Closure 2022 -086
Colmworth Parish Council - audited AGAR 2021-22
BATPC Update - Model Contract Message from NALC, AGM and Marketplace Reminders and Vacancies
CPRE October 2022 Newsletter
BATPC AGM 20th October 2022
BFR 2015, Colmworth Village Hall, Church Road, Bedfordshire, MK44 2JX (M00000009134) : Site Check submitted (1065)
Parish and Town Council Network - ICB - different roles within primary care
Anglian Water communications regarding Wilden Road water issue
FOR INFORMATION Local Plan 2040 representations published
Zurich insurance clarification followed up
BBC bridge repairs communication
BBC Community Volunteering Update
BBC VAS site meeting communications
Morelock VAS unit communications
CPRE November 2022 Newsletter
Community Priority Update and "Have Your Say"
A428 - November Newsletter and live online webinar
EWR Co Bedfordshire Local Representatives Group - meeting #6 slides, transcript and recording and reminder to register for meeting #7
Update: 2022-23 Pay Award Agreed
Resident communication regarding planning

Meeting closed at 8.30pm