

Coleshill Town Council

Meeting of the **COLESHILL TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall, Coleshill on **WEDNESDAY, 26 JULY 2023** at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: - Cllr. Battle, Town Mayor, in the Chair.

Councillors: - Brett, Ford-Terry, Richardson, C. Symonds, P. Symonds, Tomkinson, Wallace and Wynn.

23/34 APOLOGIES

There were apologies from Cllr. Hayfield.

23/35 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr. Wallace declared a personal interest in 23/43 as a member of Coleshill Drama Group.

23/36 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 21 JUNE

The minute 23/26 of 21 June's meeting needed to be amended on to say Eight members' Declarations of Interest forms (apostrophe movement). With this amendment they were proposed to be adopted by Cllr. Ford-Terry, seconded by Cllr. Brett and **ACCEPTED** unanimously.

23/37 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cllr. Wallace said that the area designated for the Cricket Club's storage cabinet had been the subject of complaints received by her about poor grounds maintenance. In addition, she had not known of the £10,800 cost for roof repairs until receiving the minutes. The Town Clerk advised this had been discussed with members via email.

23/38 MAYOR'S UPDATE

The Mayor had attended two significant events since the last meeting. One was to celebrate the Festival of Eid with Redditch, Worcester and Stourbridge Council and the other was the very enjoyable Civic Service at Alcester.

23/39 CADENT LTD – AUTHORISED WORKS

Cadent Gas Ltd. repaired the underground pipe work, as an agent for British Gas. Mr. Neil Prestige of that company advised the meeting that it had authority from Warwickshire County Highways to dig up pipes in the High Street, for up to 11 weeks. From the end of July, Cadent was due to close sections of the road on one side.

As County Councillor, Martin Watson informed the Cadent representatives of the timings for the Green Man Crossing project. It was agreed that the two projects needed to be coordinated and the Cadent personnel would refer their scheduling back to the timetable planner at Trinity, another division of Cadent Gas. Cllr. Watson agreed to ensure that

there was coordination between Cadent and the County to minimise the number of instances of needing to dig up the road surface.

23/40 **PCSO UPDATE**

There were no PCSOs available. It was suggested a higher ranked officer could be asked to attend in future, when PCSO cover was not possible.

23/41 **PARTICIPATION OF THE PUBLIC**

Issues raised by Mr. Mark Jones were that the Town Council had better use of its funds than to buy stage lighting and he thought there were a number of issues with the purpose, independent representation and constitution of the Coleshill Partnership. He commented that the Coleshill Carnival was not featured on the Council and Hub websites or media.

Mr. David Eyles spoke about the poor maintenance of the Lanesborough House roundabout central reservation. Cllr. C. Symonds knew this to be Borough Council responsibility and said that a new director had the work in hand.

The Forget Me Not and Young at Heart groups had recently received grants from County Cllrs. Martin Watson's member fund. He added that the County Council cabinet had decided not to progress any interest in joining the West Midlands Combined Authority.

Cllr. Peter Fowler reported on his Borough Councillor work on tidying the Cole Bridge and footbridge area, similarly the Chassieu Walk embankment (with the Environment Agency), more tree planting and improvements to bus stop signage.

23/42 **FINANCIAL REPORTS, QUARTER 1 2023/24**

There was a total held in all accounts of over £125,000 but this was high at the start of the half-year as the precept had recently been received.

The expenditure was roughly one quarter of the year's figure, which was to be expected at the end of Quarter 1. The income was a lot higher than for one quarter of the year's total, largely because of the precept having been paid for a half year.

The reports were **NOTED**.

23/43 **TOWN HALL SPOT LIGHTS**

A report on the replacement of the Town Hall spot lighting had been circulated, after Cllrs. P. Symonds and Wynn had met with representatives of Coleshill Drama Group and Coleshill on Stage.

The Town Clerk reiterated that the matter of the LED replacement lighting had first been raised by Coleshill on Stage a year earlier. That organisation had requested permission to upgrade the lights, not for a grant or Council costs to be incurred to do so. Only in the light of that request being tabled, was it (in November 2022) brought to the attention of the Council of interest within Coleshill Drama Group to have an LED replacement programme, as well and a £10,000 grant offer made to it.

The report from Cllrs. P. Symonds and Wynn was that the lights should belong to the Council and not a hirer. It was made clear that, while Coleshill on Stage now had a revised

quotation of £34,250 from the preferred supplier, the group was categoric that it was looking to give ownership of the lights to the Council, even if CoS contributed to the cost.

Cllr. Wallace asked if members had received and read the letter of 21 July that she had written to the Council, as Chairperson of Coleshill Drama Group. Members said they had. The letter gave 6 conditions to be met by the Council before CDG could agree to what had been proposed. Cllrs. Brett, P. Symonds and the Mayor described the letter as non-compromising, telling the council how to act, too demanding and very strong in tone. Some of these demands were read out loud to the meeting.

It was **RESOLVED**, nem. con., as proposed by Cllr. Richardson and seconded by Cllr. Ford-Terry that the Council should seek the required funding for an LED-based spotlighting system for the Town Hall, to a maximum of £40,000 budget. It should obtain grant funding where available, in collaboration with Coleshill Drama Group and Coleshill on Stage, while the Council kept control and ownership of the equipment.

There was to be a follow up meeting between the working group of councillors and performance groups to agree funding sources and where CDG's letter of 21 July could be further addressed, as necessary. It was additionally **AGREED** that Cllr. Ford Terry should assist the working group, as he felt he had the expert knowledge in the area of lighting.

23/44 **COLESHILL FOOD PANTRY**

Members considered a request from the organisers of Coleshill Pantry to relocate the facility from the Methodist Church to the Community Hub.

Members voted to **DECLINE** the opportunity, unanimously. It was felt that if a Food Pantry was ever to be considered in the future by the Community Hub, it would be without many of the current facility's features, particularly a franchise fee, debt and contractual obligations to funders.

23/45 **TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ON THE COLESHILL PARTNERSHIP**

There had been both Council members and officers involved with the formation of the newer business group, the Coleshill Partnership. That body had elected a new committee recently and Cllr. Caroline Symonds as its new Chairman. The Town Council needed to decide its means of being represented on the partnership. Cllr. C. Symonds reported that the industrial estate businesses had not engaged much with the Coleshill Partnership. It had focussed on the Levelling Up Fund through Borough Council and other funds through the County Council.

It was proposed by Cllr. Wynn, seconded by Cllr. Tomkinson that Cllr. Brett should be the formal liaison member with the group. Cllr. Tomkinson was happy to deputise.

23/46 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

These were the agreed comments to forward to the Borough Council:

Appl. No.	Address	Applicant	Prop. Development	Comment
DOC/2023/0040	Trajan Hill Spinney,	Jessup Partnerships	Application to discharge conditions 9 (temporary	No objections.

	Trajan Hill, Coleshill		access), 10 (Construction Management Plan) and 11 (landfill operations plan) - of Planning Application PAP/2015/0584 dated 8/11/2016.	
PAP/2023/0265	Dorset Cottage Bed and Breakfast, 202 Coventry Rd, Coleshill, B46 3EH	Coventry Road Cottages Limited	Change of use from bed and breakfast (C1) to Sui Generis Housing Multiple Occupation (HMO).	No objections.
PAP/2023/0250	141, High Street, Coleshill, B46 3AY	Mr Dean Poulton	Construction of 2 new dwellings.	There should be a condition, on completion of the work. The driveway to the Tennis Club / Cemetery should be resurfaced to an original or better condition.
PRE/2023/0087	Curdworth Cutting, Marston Cutting, Dunton Wood Embankment	HS2 Ltd	Construction of engineering earthworks to form two railway cuttings (Curdworth Cutting and Marston Farm Cutting). Engineering earthworks to form a railway embankment (Dunton Wood Embankment). Construction of two overbridges (A4097 Kingsbury Road Overbridge and Footpath M16 Accommodation Overbridge), and the construction of a railway Dive-under.	No objections.
PAP/2023/0209+ PAP/2023/0211	The Swan Hotel, High Street,	Miss Tracy Homer -	Advertisement consent for illuminated signage.	No objections.

(Listed Building Consent).	Coleshill, B46 3BL	Mitchells & Butlers		
PAP/2023/0295	39, Stonebridge Road, Coleshill, B46 3HA	Mr Jason Gaffey	Erection of single storey front and rear extension, and two storey side extension to form bedroom and sun deck, front and rear roof dormer and roof extension.	No objections.
PAP/2023/0203	International Automotive Components, Highway Point, Gorsey Lane, Coleshill, B46 1JU	Mr Sam Towers - Logicor	Prior Notification: The installation of 607 kWp of solar photovoltaic panels and ancillary equipment on the two southern facing roof pitches of the building.	No objections.
BBV Contract No 1MC09	In the region of M42 Motorway Box to Coleshill No.2 Embankment.	Balfour Beatty Vinci Ltd	Noise impact assessment related to the Consolidation Proposed Scheme Design.	No objections.
PAP/2023/0275 and LBC PAP/2023/0276	Pertemps, 131 High Street, Coleshill, B46 3BP	Mr Durim Cekrezi - D C Construction (Midlands) Ltd	Change of Use to provide 8 apartments with additional partitions and doors as necessary to create the new living spaces, with window alterations.	No objections.
PAP/2023/0319	6 Fairview Mews, Parkfield Road, Coleshill, B46 3LB	Mr Philip Hackett	Proposed Works to Trees in a Conservation Area. Works to trees in a conservation area - reduce the height of the sycamore trees.	No objections.

23/47 **UPDATE FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

The Patient Participation Group was being reformed and Cllr. Wallace had been asked about her availability but there had been no follow up, since.

23/48 **TOWN CLERK REPORTS**

The Town Hall roof repair had been completed on 21 July, as per the contract, with no issues to date. Three of the four King's Coronation benches were sited and many of the Acer trees. The Deputy Town Clerk had started assembling work to submit in the CiLCA process, but registration was not required until the first items were submitted.

23/49 **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Carried forward:
4-Year Plan Review.

In addition:
Benches in the sunken garden – after the Green Man Crossing project.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 9.40 p.m.

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Town Mayor