

Coleshill Town Council

Meeting of the **COLESHILL TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall, Coleshill on **WEDNESDAY, 11 OCTOBER 2023** at 7:00 p.m.

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

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

23/67 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies – full attendance.

23/68 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr. Wallace declared a personal interest in 23/77 as she was a member of the Coleshill Drama Group.

23/69 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 13 SEPTEMBER

The minutes of 13 September meeting needed the word ‘on’ removing from the last line of 23/59. With that amendment, they were proposed by Cllr. Richardson, seconded by Cllr. Wallace and **ACCEPTED** unanimously, without amendment.

23/70 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

23/71 UPDATE REPORT FROM THE PCSOs

PCSO Mohsin Yaqub was in attendance and said most of the local officer investigation time was taken with car and bike theft and two recent burglaries of unoccupied houses. PCSO Mark Breeze had joined and there were renewed efforts to start a Speedwatch group.

In response to questions about instances of car racers, the PCSOs asked that these were 101 reported as time and date information was helpful in deciding visits. PCSO Yaqub was to arrange, with colleagues, for some Sunday night observations to take place.

23/72 MAYOR’S UPDATE

The Mayor had received very little in the way of invitations during the last 4 weeks but he had unveiled a scarecrow as part of the Coleshill Partnership campaign.

23/73 PARTICIPATION OF THE PUBLIC

It was the concern of Mr. Steve Graham that the High Street was experiencing many vacant retail units and a lack of variety in sorts of shops. Cllr. C. Symonds reported that there were several new tenants lined up to go into vacant properties.

A few residents referred to the sewerage smells in the High Street, which was related to the Cadent pipe replacement work. The Town Clerk had been in contact with Cadent and Seven Trent Water and the latter organisation were awaited to attend to a sewerage pipe leak, while Cadent had been stood down from completing their work. Their end date had been retimed to 20 October because of the delay.

Mr. Mark Jones referred to his letter and email to the Mayor, for which he had not had a reply. One of the issues raised was the lease of the Memorial Park pavilion and its terms with the cricket club. Members wanted to address this, on a future agenda item.

23/74 UPDATE FROM BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Peter Fowler reported on his Borough Councillor work, including liaising with the police on car racers and the County Council on litter clearance responsibilities.

For the County Council, Cllr. Martin Watson reported on the Green Man project and Cllr. Dave Humphries on school parking issues. He promised that the Town Council would be consulted on any Traffic Regulation Orders affecting yellow line changes.

23/75 FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR QUARTER 2, 2023/24

Total balances were at £190,782.02, largely because the second half precept had just been paid. Income at the half year was at a very healthy level, particularly cemetery fees and room hire.

The overspend on Town Hall Supplies and Maintenance was queried. This was down to the unbudgeted, large repair cost for replacing the felt on the roof. The Airtime Rental figure from Rapid Vision was an annual charge for the expanded CCTV system.

23/76 EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

Moore Auditors had noted that the Notice of Public Rights was dated as the same dated as the Town Council meeting. The earliest date allowed was the next working day after. In addition, Box 11A was missing a n/a and a rounding to the nearest £1 had been carried out inconsistently on two boxes.

The report was **NOTED**.

23/77 SPOTLIGHTING FOR THE TOWN HALL

The November 2022 meeting of the Town Council considered the merits of a new era LED lighting system for the Town Hall, after a request was made in spring 2022. The March meeting asked two members to meet and further investigate options with the main performance groups.

A revised quotation was sought in spring 2023 and this was £34,250 pre-VAT. It was revealed, at the November 2022 meeting, that Coleshill Drama Group, had a £10,000 grant offer from a Coleshill trust. It was assumed that the grant would be made available to the Town Council, if it was to make the purchase from the supplier. Coleshill On Stage also believed it could access monies from granting bodies, possibly a £10,000 grant, as well. That would leave a £14,250 outlay for the Council.

Cllr. C. Symonds proposed the procurement of the equipment, as quoted by Production LX, predicated on Coleshill On Stage getting its grant. This was seconded by Cllr. Brett and **RESOLVED** nem. con.

It was a mere statement of fact from Cllr. Wallace that the Coleshill Drama Group had not yet asked the Grammar School Trust about whether its grant was still receivable if the Council was to be the purchaser of the equipment. Members were content that the Council might need to assist both performance groups in taking on the grant applications, if this was deemed necessary by the funding bodies to which they were applying.

The savings from the supplier using the existing wiring would be negligible but there might be some use made of the support bars. **Cllr. P. Symonds** said there was still a need to respond to the Coleshill Drama Group's letter but that there was never an intention to charge any hirer for the use of the lights.

23/78 PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

Roughly £1,000 of this year's Town Council Grants Awards monies had not been fully allotted. There was an opportunity to use some monies to help promote, set up and establish a Parent and Toddler Group in the Old Court Room of the Town Hall. The start-up fund would be to help provide matting, some musical toy items, glue sticks, paper, pens and crayons, etc.

The Old Court Room was currently not booked regularly on Tuesday mornings and it had been suggested to only charge a minimal fee once the group was established and successful, so it could then be run independently from the Hub/Town Council.

Concerns about room capacity, storage space, helper numbers, room charges, staff commitment, child-supervision qualifications and helper to child ratios were raised but not seen as issues. Cllr. P. Symonds and Ford-Terry proposed and seconded the allocation of £750 in grant to the group and this was unanimously **SUPPORTED**.

23/79 WARM ROOM PROJECT

The Coleshill Warm Room has been running in the Hudson Room (Tuesday to Thursday mornings) since the beginning of November last year. The Community Centre Warm Room has been successfully operating since March this year (Tuesday mornings only). These two rooms have been well supported and are offered free to the local people in and around Coleshill.

It was the view of Cllr. Richardson that the groups had mental health support benefits more than the narrow remit of heating cost sharing and proposed that the current arrangements should continue, with no end date agreed at this stage. This was seconded by Cllr. Brett and **AGREED** unanimously.

The Mayor was keen to stress the previous point that a degree of flexibility by the groups in the way of room swapping might be needed in some cases.

23/80 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

Appl. No.	Address	Applicant	Prop. Development	Comment
PAP/2023/0365	Glentworth, Blythe Rd, Coleshill, B46 1AH	Mr Phillips	Raising the roof of the property to include two storey extensions to front and rear.	No objections.
PAP/2023/0371	84, Coventry Road, Coleshill, B46 3EE	Mrs Julia Bowdler	Works to trees in Conservation Area.	No objections.
PAP/2023/0401	141 High Street, Coleshill, B46 3AY	Mr Dean Poulton	Listed Building Consent Application: Urgent repair works to front Portico.	No objections.
PAP/2023/0372	Land 100m, rear and west of Meadow Croft, Gilson Rd, Coleshill	Ms K Bains	Change of use of land to dog exercising area with off street parking (Retrospective).	No objections.
PAP/2023/0373	Cole End Park, Lichfield Road, Coleshill	Gillian Crump - Warks County Council- Forestry Section.	Proposed Works to Trees in a Conservation Area. T1 Prunus padus (1G6W) - section fell at ground level.	No objections, subject to the planting of a replacement tree.
PAP/2023/0428 and 0436	22, Gerards Way, Coleshill, B46 3FG	Mr Alan Conningsby	Works to trees in Conservation Area.	No objections, subject to the planting of replacement trees being removed under PAP/2023/0436.
PAP/2023/0430	Harvester Wheatsheaf Inn, Station Road Coleshill B46 1HP	Mrs King C & R Contracts Ltd	Works to tree in Conservation Area.	No objections.
NWB/23CM019	Coleshill Food Waste Ad Plant, Marconi Way, Coleshill, B46 1DG	Severn Trent	Variation of Condition 2 (approved documents and plans) Alternate Roof Design.	No objections.
DOC/2023/010 2	James Munday Rise, Lichfield Road,	Mr & Mrs Moore	Application to discharge cond. 3 (contamination report)	No objections.

	Grimstock Hill, Coleshill, B46 1LE		and part discharge cond. 4 (remediation report) of p. permission PAP/2016/0723 dated 19/7/2017.	
PAP/2023/0225	R S Connect, Roman Way, Coleshill, B46 1HG	J Saich - Clear Span Buildings Ltd	Erection of a building to link two existing buildings.	No objections.

23/81 **UPDATE FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

The Simon Lord Digby Trust had held one meeting since new vicar, Rev. Sarah Tillett, had started in her role. She had not been available for that one, but it was hoped that she would continue the arrangement to chair the future trust's meetings.

23/82 **TOWN CLERK REPORTS**

Bulb planting was to continue at Station Rd on Saturday 14 October with a further 8,000 purchased.

The Town Clerk had taken up an offer of donated, free, second-hand furniture from the NEC. This entailed some carpet tiles for the Mill Room and plastic chairs for the Old Court Room reception area.

There had been no response to the appeal request for LANTRA Road Closure-trained volunteers. Members were supportive of running a further training course for additional trainees for next year.

The 8 November meeting was due to be held in the Community Centre. If any newer members wanted to see the building on a separate occasion, this could be arranged.

23/83 **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Carried forward:

Cricket Club lease of the Pavilion building (to include grass cutting arrangements).

Planter replacements.

Memorial Park pathway (tennis courts to the mound).

Swan neck lights on Church Hill – repainting.

Town Hall parking control and the use of Chantry House.

Councillor training and policy review.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 8.50 p.m.

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Town Mayor