

Coleshill Town Council

Meeting of the **COLESHILL TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Town Hall, Coleshill on
WEDNESDAY, 29 NOVEMBER 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.

23/100 **APOLOGIES**

There were apologies from Cllr. Hayfield.

23/101 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

No decs of interest were declared.

23/102 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 11 OCTOBER**

The minutes of 8 November meeting were proposed by Cllr. Ford-Terry, seconded by Cllr. Brett and **ACCEPTED** unanimously, without amendment.

23/103 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

None.

23/104 **MAYOR'S UPDATE**

The Mayor thanked all helpers involved in a the Remembrance Day and road closure arrangements.

For the Christmas lights, the Late Night "Christmas Cracker" was to include stalls, entertainment and a Santa's Grotto. Cllr. Wallace had agreed to be the Town Crier for the evening.

Cllr. Wallace had been pleased to attend, as Deputy Mayor, the opening of a room at St. Vincent's House (which she opened as Mayor) and also the Remembrance Service at the Coleshill School (which she attended as a student).

23/105 **POLICE UPDATE**

There had been officer attendance to support the control of the No Right Turn orders at the Green Man junction as there were still problems with some drivers ignoring the new traffic regulation.

PCSO Mark Breeze also reported on car racer (A446) and burglary issues (in the villages rather than the town) and the removal of a car from a man in Wingfield Road who had had to be sectioned.

23/106 **HARWORTH ESTATES APPEAL**

Cllr. Phil Mason, Chairman of Over Whitacre Parish Council, addressed the meeting as a representative of Leys & Whitacre Residents Action Group (LAWRAG). Cllr. Mason, together with Messrs. Ross Jones and Graham Stirrop, had campaigned to have the Howarth Estates Plc complete the renovation of the former Daw Mill colliery site.

The latest situation was that Howarth Estates had appealed on the latest 6-month renovation instruction from Warwickshire County Council and an Enforcement Notice Appeal inquiry date had been set for week commencing 22 January 2024, at Atherstone Council House. This was a 5-day inquiry to decide if Warwickshire County Council were correct to commence enforcement action against Howarth Estates, for failure to restore the site, following closure of the colliery.

LAWRAG asked the Town Council to help by sending a letter or email, detailing its concerns and confirming the council's support for Warwickshire County Council's Enforcement action. A pack explaining the process of submitting comments was to be sent in the next day or so. The more letters received of varying concerns expressed, the more weight is given to the voice of the local community, so members were encouraged to get additional responses.

23/107 **PARTICIPATION OF THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Simon Toon addressed the meeting in his capacity as Sargeant at Arms as he wanted to speak about the Armistice and Remembrance events. He wanted to thank the Mayor, Royal British Legion, Coleshill Town Band, church and vicar, volunteers and staff, but particularly the Deputy Town Clerk, Mrs. Zoe Hillcox-Davies. Coleshill punched above its weight on Remembrance events generally and it had overcome the weather challenge this year. In naval terms, it had been an event that was coded "BZ" (well undertaken).

The cricket club lease was raised by Mrs. Meg Baker, as this was not on the agenda for the evening. Members advised that it was being discussed by them but there was a long time before the current lease expired.

The Council was thanked for all its good work during the year, by Mr. Tony Baker.

23/108 **UPDATE FROM BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

The County Council was represented by Cllr. Martin Watson, who was seeking dates from officers for completion of the Green Man crossing work. Provision of permanent lights at the Cole Bridge was still under discussion. There were various parking issues that had been raised, including relooking at this at High Meadow School at pick up time.

23/109 **TRUSTEE TO THE COLESHILL PARISH TRUST**

As Cllr. Richardson was finishing as a trustee, a vacancy had occurred to serve from March 2024. Cllr. Battle was proposed by Cllr. P. Symonds, seconded by Wallace and was **ELECTED**, unanimously.

23/110 **PATHWAY IN MEMORIAL PARK**

The Town Clerk and Cllr. Wallace both outlined the background on a stretch of grass. From the back of the Millennium Gardens to the hard-surface marked games area, the ground had been only grass covered, rather than the golden tarmac of the other areas.

It was then proposed by Cllr. Wallace and seconded by Cllr. P. Symonds that JP Landscapes be engaged to surface cover the area with Breedon Gravel for £7,451.40 (as per their similar surfacing work at Cole End Park). This was **RESOLVED** unanimously, with the costs charged to the Capital Fund for 23/24.

23/111 **COLESHILL CALENDAR 2025**

The Town Clerk had circulated a report, based on the outline of the ideas, from Cllr. Tomkinson, for a 2025 Calendar of Coleshill scenes.

Members raised a number of considerations: how would these be sold, who would take on the responsibility for production, sale and storage, was it to be priced to cover costs of printing and a charity benefit, would it be better as an online, by month, calendar with no printer cost outlay, would 12 businesses each sponsor a month, should it be in connection with the Coleshill Partnership, would the recent Warks County Council picture library be better images than those from residents?

The Mayor asked if Cllr. Tomkinson could take back his idea and consider some of these observations made.

23/112 **CHAMBERLAIN WALK PLANTERS**

The Town Council and Coleshill in Bloom had liaised to get the small planters restocked along the narrow part of Chamberlain Walk.

The wider part of the walk had a large trough and a huge trough planter. The Town Councils had hoped the large trough could be replanted and the huge trough planter be demolished to create 2 parking spaces. Cllr. C. Symonds took that as a Borough Council action, but North Warks Borough Council had said it was not prepared to demolish the huge planter as it did not own it (ownership appears unclaimed).

Cllr. Ford Terry proposed and Cllr. Richardson seconded that the large planter was to be filled with easy maintenance shrubs and the huge planter just cleared out. This was **AGREED** nem. con. It was offered that Coleshill in Bloom could assist with the planting if the Town Council purchased the shrubs and maintained them, ongoing.

23/113 **ROSPA REPORTS**

The reports highlighted issues with play equipment at the various Town Council outdoor play site equipment. The cover report highlighted some observations about priority replacement of equipment. Cllr. C. Symonds proposed moving the report.

Various councillors then expressed the desire to ensure that certain replacements were prioritised, particularly the skatepark and the Community Centre play equipment. The question of how these were to be funded was raised, given that the Capital Fund 23/24 had been nearly allocated (after the path decision mentioned in 23/110). It was stated moving the report allowed quotations to be sourced, these would take a while to obtain, to

write a report to council and to get issued as a purchase order and commissioned. It might therefore be best addressed in the 2024/25 budget, anyway.
Cllr. Wallace added that grants were available for play areas. Cllr. Richardson seconded the moving of the report and it was **CARRIED**, nem. con.

23/114 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

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

| Appl. No. | Address | Applicant | Prop. Development | Comment |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PAP/2023/0490 | 16, Ennersdale Bungalows, Coleshill, B46 1EY | Mr Terry Malin | Proposed single storey timber framed domestic garage/workshop to replace demolished garage | No objections. |
| PAP/2023/0496 | 45, Rose Road, Coleshill, B46 1EH | Mrs Glenda Bird | Works to tree protected by a tree preservation order 713/019-20 T1 Oak. | No objections. |
| HS2/2023/0008 | HS2 M42 Coleshill Box Structure Including M42 Coleshill South and North Viaducts, Gilson Drive, Coleshill. | HS2 Limited | Construction of a motorway box structure (M42 Coleshill Box Structure) and two railway viaducts (M42 Coleshill North and South Viaducts), and ancillary works including alterations to M42 motorway, landscaping earthworks, earthworks for track and land drainage including a balancing pond, earthworks for the formation of maintenance access tracks, provision of road vehicle parking, location of permanent security fencing /vehicle restraint barriers and replacement of highway lighting. | The Town Council supported the views of the HS2 SMZ, which was to be submitting comments. |

23/115 **UPDATE FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

None.

23/116 **TOWN CLERK REPORTS**

There had been a National Grid power unit fail near the Swan Hotel and the Balti Cottage. This had affected CCTV coverage and also a Christmas light fixture. Hi-Lite were using

another column to ensure the main cross-road fixture was lit for the Christmas Cracker Late Night Shop event.

Cadent were to offer compensation to the Town Council as a High Street business adversely affected by the pipe repairs project.

The toilet repairs at the Old Market Hall had not progressed well. The first contractor to quote for the work had asked for electrical installation, legionella and asbestos survey certificates. These did not appear to be held by Fisher German (agents for the landlord) or Coleshill Civic Society (previous lessees).

23/117 **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Health and Safety competency checks procedures.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 9.20 p.m.

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Town Mayor