



Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council

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Chair of the Council
Andrea Escott- 07973 386678

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at Colnbrook Village Hall On Tuesday 18th January 2022, commencing at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr A Escott (in the chair), Cllrs Bedi, Bennett, John, Oakley and Rana (who attended at 8pm).
Rebecca Curley, Community Development Officer
5 members of the public

In attendance: The Locum Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

PC/22/001 **Chair's Welcome:** the Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished them a Happy New Year.

PC/22/002 **Receive and Approve Apologies for Absence:** apologies were received from Cllrs Babuta, Kahlon, Small and Smith.

PC/22/003 **Declarations of Interest:** none were made.

PC/22/004 **Public Session:**

- a) *Council tax:* a resident asked if the Parish levy on the Council tax would be reduced this year. The Chairman advised that this would be addressed by the agenda.
- b) *Morlands Close:* the grass has not been cut
- c) *Driftway:* rubbish has been dumped here, on the corner. It was suggested that a parking bay be installed here, which would stop the dumping.
- d) *Vacancy:* to be addressed by the agenda.

PC/22/005 **Groundwork South**
Martin Kennedy introduced himself and the organisation, which is a charity running a Green Team. They took individuals who were out of work and trained them in habitat management. This had been very successful and they planned to hire 5 more young people in the next month. The criteria was that they must be between 18 and 25, and on universal credit. They worked 25 hours a week and were paid above the minimum wage for their work.
Martin advised that they were struggling to find recruits for the vacancies. The Chairman asked him to send information to the Parish Council and the opportunity would be advertised on the Council's website and on social media.

PC/22/006 **Minutes:** - Members approved as a correct record the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held Tuesday 16th November.

Proposed by Cllr Escott, Seconded by Cllr Bennett, all in favour.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

PC/21/188: Star and Garter: The Chairman advised that SBC Enforcement are involved, but are having challenges with staffing at present.

She had emailed the owner of the premises in November, advising them of concerns about fire on the premises, as trespassers have been seen smoking on the site. She has arranged a fire inspection and has advised the owner. She had also established that there is a mortgage on the site, and the charge with Lloyds Bank states that the premises must be kept in a good state of repair.

Cllr Bedi advised that an ecology report was required before any work could be done, due to bats, and the 8 week consultation period had commenced at the beginning of January. She understood that the owner would be on site in February and would send an update to the Parish Council in the next few weeks.

PC/2021/188: Red Lion: the Clerk had been unable to get information on permissions from the website and had not yet heard back from the case officer. **Deferred.**

PC/22/007 Casual Vacancy

The Clerk explained the legal process of advertising a vacancy and advised that there had been no call for an election, so the council are able to co-opt a new member. Discussion ensued on when the vacancy was advertised and who was advised.

PC/22/008 Planning

P/00864/059 Atlantis Lounge, Holiday Inn Express

Advertisement consent to display 1no 3d gold titanium letter halo with warm white LED – front entrance on top of the canopy 1no 3d gold titanium letter halo with warm white LED – side elevation to the building on a free standing post.

No objection

P/16609/006 28 Springfield Road, Slough

Retrospective planning application for the demolition of existing bungalow and building a single dwelling house

No objection

P/09858/029 Land adjacent to Lakeside Road, Colnbrook

Submission of details pursuant to conditions 7 (types and dimensions of all boundary treatments), 8(external materials for other buildings and structures, excluding EV charging equipment), 9 (lighting), 10(Electric Vehicle charging equipment), 11(public availability of EV hub use) and 12(public availability of EV hub use) of planning permission P/09858/024 dated 1/7/21.

Defer

P/19712/000 20 Tall Trees, Colnbrook

Construction of a single storey front and part side extension with a new window arrangement.

Defer

PC/22/009 **Finance and Policy Committee**

- a) *Payment Sheet 8*: members ratified the payments stated. Proposed by Cllr Escott, seconded by Cllr Oakley, all in favour.
- b) *Payment sheet 9*: members ratified the payments stated. Proposed by Cllr Escott, seconded by Cllr Bennett, all in favour.
- c) *Income and payments*: **deferred**
- d) *Bank reconciliation to 31st December*: **deferred**
- e) *External auditors report*: members received the external auditors report and agreed to accept its findings. Proposed by Cllr Escott, Seconded by Cllr Oakley, all in favour.
- f) *Budget for 2022/23*: members agreed to accept the recommendation that the precept request, and levy on residents' council tax, should be reduced by 25% for a band D equivalent property. Subject to review, the reduced amount will be maintained for 4 years, if circumstances allow. Proposed by Cllr Escott, Seconded by Cllr Oakley, 5 in favour, one abstention.
- g) *Grant to St Thomas' Church*: members agreed a grant to St Thomas Church of £600 pa for 2021 and 2022. Proposed by Cllr Escott, Seconded by Cllr Bennett, all in favour.
- h) *Grant of £750 from Slough Borough Council*: Members recorded thanks to Cllr John for making this successful application and agreed that the whole of the grant should go to Pippins School, as being the less funded of the two schools. Cllr John will make the presentation.

PC/22/010 **Services Committee**

Cllr Bennett updated members:

- a) *Recreation Ground*: all the items highlighted in the inspection report had been dealt with. New gates had been installed at the entrance. It was hoped to do a larger project in the recreation ground this year, with ideas such as 5 a side football, a skateboard area, jogging facilities, perhaps a basketball court.
- b) *Christmas trees*: one had been vandalised but had been replaced. New contracts will be researched this spring, to ensure best value. A new Christmas tree point had been installed at Brands Hill. When the trees were lit, carols were sung and tea laid on in the church.
- c) *Lampposts*: It is planned to repaint the lampposts.
- d) *Screens*: it is planned to have DVD screens in local facilities, to display information. One has been installed in the pharmacy.

- e) *Green Flag*: a new application is being made.
- f) *Planters*: provision has been made in the budget for expenses funding for the volunteers who look after the planters.

PC/22/011 Youth Engagement

The Parish Council acknowledges that 62% of residents who completed the recent Strong, Healthy and attractive Colnbrook survey were worried about the ongoing anti-social behaviour described.

The Parish Council resolves to reduce anti-social behaviour within Colnbrook with Poyle and following the unsuccessful grant application will allocate £5,000 of our capital reserves for two youth workers from to launch an intensive 15-week programme of 10 hours each week, commencing as soon as possible (February). The youth workers will work with our disengaged young people and their families to tackle anti-social behaviour directly and work towards reducing such behaviours including; the use of catapults, reckless use of quad bikes, and to reduce offending amongst our disengaged young people generally.

In addition, the Parish Council resolves to underwrite grant applications currently being written for a yearlong youth engagement programme, to be held in Westfield Community Centre one evening each week with youth workers from Aik Saath. This would ensure planning could go ahead to begin the programme in June / July and if the grant applications are unsuccessful, funding would be available. The total amount would be *circa* £5100, or part thereof.

CLlr John made the following points:

- a) She would like to see the concept broadened to include diversity and inclusion.
- b) She would like to interview the youth worker to ensure that they are engaged in inclusion.
- c) How do we select the people who go into this programme.
- d) Are Thames Valley Police involved in this programme.

It was agreed to ask one of the youth engagement team to make a presentation at the February meeting.

Proposed by: Andrea Escott, Seconded by: Sean Oakley All in favour.

PC/22/012 Newsletter

Members agreed to the production of an A5 newsletter in March. CLlr Bedi to liaise with the Clerk.

PC/22/013 Neighbourhood Action Plan

Rebecca Curley reported as follows:

The draft had gone out to consultation before Christmas, feedback had been received and followed up and amendments made.

She proposed that the plan comes back to the February Parish Council meeting for adoption. It will be a live action plan, that can be amended and changed as time progresses,

and will be a constant agenda item, so that it can be referred to when necessary. This was agreed. **Agenda item: February meeting: motion to be agreed.**

Ms Curley advised that the Nutritional Health Plan health check would follow shortly.

PC/22/014 Green Flag Award 2022

Cllr Oakley proposed that the original 5-year plan is extended by one year to tie in with the Parish Council electoral term, and then becomes a 4-year plan when a new council is elected. This was agreed.

PC/22/015 Queens Platinum Jubilee

A Beacon is planned.

Colnbrook Residents Association are expected to request funding for events for the Jubilee.

There will be 3 events:

- 6th February: the day the Queen ascended to the throne. The Scouts will lead a small parade and there will be a church service.
- 4th June: Village hall working with CAST, a hog roast.
- 5th June: Family picnic in the fields behind St Thomas Church.

Schools, Scouts and Dignitaries will be asked to reserve the dates.

PC/22/016 Areas of Responsibility

- a. Colnbrook Village Hall Trust – Cllr Bedi: the hall is up and running and taking bookings again, restrictions are still applied. The coffee morning will resume on the 17th February.
- b. Berkshire Association of Local Councils/ HALC – Cllr Escott: advice to only meet in person, when necessary, there had been a good informal session at the beginning of the month, subject to review, face to face committee meetings may resume in February.
- c. Local Focus Forum: - Cllr Bennett/Cllr Bedi: the next meeting will be on the 25th January.
- d. SBC Audit & Corporate Governance Committee – Cllr Escott: nothing to report.
- e. Colnbrook Residents Association – Cllr Babuta: report elsewhere on the agenda.
- f. Neighbourhood Action Group – Cllr Escott: this parish is now a Neighbourhood Watch designated area. Also working with '20 is Plenty'. Clean up Colnbrook Day will take place on the 26th March. The schools and Scouts will hold a clean-up day on the 25th March.
- g. Flood Action Group – Cllr Bedi: a meeting is planned with the Environmental Agency to discuss preventative measures.
- h. Westfield Residents Association – Cllr Kahlon/Cllr Bennett/Cllr Viridi: nothing to report.
- i. Museum Sub-Committee – Cllr Rana: the museum is now open again.

- j. Conservation Area Sub-Committee – Cllr Babuta/Cllr Bennett/Cllr Bedi: nothing to report

PC/22/017 Chairman's Questions and Correspondence

- a) *Jubilee Plans*: enquiries are being received about the Parish Council's plans. Cllr Escott was hopeful that she and Cllr Bedi can work together on this.
- b) *Star and Garter*: the officer dealing with this premises had now left the council. The Enforcement department was very much depleted.
- c) *CCTV*: the CCTV at Budgens still needed to be repaired.

PC/22/018 Date of next meeting: Tuesday 15th February 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.09pm.

DRAFT