

PLEASE BRING TO MEETING
ON 11 MARCH 1998.

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of Colney Heath Parish Council held at the Pavilion, High Street Recreation Ground, Colney Heath on Wednesday 11 February 1998 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT

Cllr. S. Parish (Chairman)
" C. Brazier (from 7.40 p.m.)
" D. Crump (from 7.45 p.m.)
" Mrs. S. Defoe
" F. S. Ellis
" Mrs. H. Lynch
" Mrs. M. Nash

IN ATTENDANCE

D. Becker - 95 High Street
Mrs. G. Moody - Greenleas, Roestock Lane
Miss C. Nash - 26 Park Lane

Mrs. C. Pluck - Clerk to the Council

Cllr. Miss A. Thomas (work commitment)

APPOLOGIES

I. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 1998 and the Special meeting held on 28 January 1998 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a true record.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of meeting on 14/1/98

Page 1 - Colney Heath Farm

Received a letter from the HCC regarding the Council's enquiry about barriers to protect pedestrians from vehicles leaving the highway at speed. The officer dealing with the matter was on sick leave but a leaflet was enclosed which gave details of hazard posts which may be suitable along the stretch of Coursers Road to the front of Colney Heath Farm.
RESOLVED to monitor the situation to establish if barriers or posts were really necessary in this location.

Page 2 - St. Mark's Church - Tree Work

The Clerk reported that the contractor chosen by the Parish Council had now carried out the tree work required in the Closed Churchyard and an invoice had been received.

Page 2 - Trees to rear of 41 High Street

Received a quotation for £85 + VAT for the recommended tree work to be carried out on the willows to the rear of no.41 High Street.
RESOLVED to accept the quotation.

Page 2 - High Street Recreation Ground

The Clerk reported that Rumball Sedgwick had carried out an Interim Schedule of Dilapidation on the Pavilion on 28/1/98.
A report was being prepared which would prioritise the necessary items for budgetary purposes.

Stephen Paul

Stephen Paul

2. MATTERS ARISING (CONT.)

Page 10 - High Street Recreation Ground

The Clerk reported that she was still waiting to hear from the CDC Planning Department on whether planning permission was necessary for the installation of a floodlight for the training pitch at the ground.

Page 11 - Charles Morris Hall

The Clerk reported that the new fence at the front of the hall had now been installed. RESOLVED to ask the contractor when the fence would receive its final layer of gloss paint.

Minutes of meeting on 28/1/98

Page 1 - Bus Shelter for High Street

The Clerk reported that she had contacted the Council's insurance company to enquire about insuring the Council's 10 wooden bus shelters.

The additional annual premium would be £400.

RESOLVED that the Council does not pursue the idea of insuring its bus shelters.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Seminar - Delegation of Functions to Town & Parish Councils

Received an invitation for the Clerk and two Councillors to attend a seminar to discuss delegated functions which would be held at the CDC Chamber on 31/3/98 between 9.30 a.m. and 1 p.m. RESOLVED that the Clerk, Cllr. Mrs. Defoe and Cllr. Ellis attend with Cllrs. Brazier and Mrs. Nash as reserves.

4. SPECIAL BUSINESS

a) Peter's Green to South Mimms Gas Pipeline

Received a draft of the proposed Deed of Easement from the Council's Solicitor to be approved by the Council before execution of the final copy. RESOLVED to query the inclusion of a reference for additional compensation for loss of amenity of the Common for its users; to ask what the 24m easement was for; to suggest that a very accurate map be included in the Deed.

b) Millennium Greens Funding - Shell Land at Church Lane

Cllr. Mrs. Defoe reported on progress with the Open Market Valuation requested by the Council for the land to the west of Church Lane. The Valuation Officer had advised that confirmation, in principle, of the sale of land to the Parish Council was necessary to secure 50% reimbursement of the valuation fee. This needed to be provided to the Countryside Commission who would then instruct the Valuation Office to proceed with a valuation on behalf of the Parish Council. RESOLVED to ask Shell UK to write to the Parish Council agreeing in principle to sell the land subject to agreement on the price.

c) Colney Heath Chronicle - Advertising Rates

Received a request from the Editor of the Chronicle for the Council to review advertising rates for the Chronicle. Cllrs. considered the Editor's suggestions of full page @£45; half page @£25; quarter page @£15. RESOLVED to accept the suggestions for future advertisement rates for the Chronicle.

4. SPECIAL BUSINESS (CONT.)

d) Hertfordshire Constabulary

Reported on the recent decision to transfer the Community Police Officer for Colney Heath to St. Albans Station without securing an immediate replacement.
Received a letter from Superintendent Westwood justifying the decision and assuring Cllrs. that a replacement would be provided as soon as possible.
Cllrs. were concerned to learn of a recent disturbance in the parish where no police response was received despite the previous promise of 24 hour police cover from London Colney.
RESOLVED that the Clerk obtain details of the incident before contacting Superintendent Westwood for an explanation.

e) Hertfordshire County Council - Fire & Rescue Service

Received a further letter from the Chief Fire Officer requesting the Parish Council's response to the proposals to alter the status of the second fire engine at St. Albans and provide a retained fire station at London Colney.
RESOLVED that the Clerk ask for more details of the implications of the proposed changes in fire cover for Colney Heath. If she feels there is cause for concern to arrange for a Fire Officer to attend a future Parish Council meeting to discuss the proposals in detail.

f) Colney Heath Scout & Guide Group

Received a letter from the newly appointed Group Scout Leader informing the Council of his new role and offering the services of 95 young people to help the Parish Council with any community projects.
RESOLVED to suggest projects such as making bird boxes for the Community Park, footpath clearance and various works on the Common. To seek confirmation that the Group has adequate insurance to cover them against any accidents incurred while working on projects with the Parish Council.

5. FINANCE

a) Parish Council Accounts

Received copies of all emergency accounts, having previously been circulated to all Cllrs. RESOLVED that the Chairman's action in authorising the signing, out of meeting, of all emergency cheques be confirmed and that cheques be drawn to cover all current accounts.

b) Charity of Charles Morris for Allotments Accounts

Caroline Pluck, as Honorary Clerk to the Trustees, presented an up-to-date financial report. Cllrs. discussed the three accounts held for the Charity.
RESOLVED to move all but £5 of current and business reserve accounts into capital reserve to maximise the amount of interest earned.

c) Supply of Council Tax Base Information 1998/99

Received details from the CDC Finance Department on the Council Tax Base for all parished and unparished areas in St. Albans.

6. PLANNING

a) Planning Applications

Received weekly lists of planning applications from St. Albans City & District Council.

5/98/2315 - Single storey side and rear extension at Village Hall, High Street, Colney Heath for Colney Heath Village Hall Council.
NO OBJECTIONS

Stephens

Stephen Jay

6. PLANNING (CONT.)

5//98/0028 - Change of use of premises to Class B1 and B8 at Unit 2, Alban Park.
NO OBJECTIONS

5/98/0044 - Erection of 109 houses, garages, roads and sewers at Romans Gate, St. Albans, Phase 2 Highfield North for Wilcon Homes.
NO OBJECTIONS

5/98/0060 - Deemed application on appeal against enforcement at Butterfields Recovery, High Street, Colney Heath.
No longer relevant as appeal granted on 3/2/98.

5/98/0090 - Single storey detached dwelling at the rear of Thanet House, Sleapshyde.
COMMENTS:

1. This application for a "Homelodge" in the rear garden goes against the principle provisions of another building within the Green Belt. Similar buildings have been erected as games rooms, playrooms etc. for the enjoyment of the residential occupiers of the main dwelling. In some cases they then become residential after a period of time.

2. The Parish Council has no objections to this application in principle as 50% of a garden can be used for sheds, sunrooms etc. The Parish Council would wish to see the permission heavily conditioned to prevent subsequent conversion to residential, especially considering the previous application on the site which was for a self-contained residential addition to the main house and was refused a few years ago.

5/98/0096 - Single storey side and rear extension at 38 Oaklands Lane.
NO OBJECTIONS:

b) Appeals and Enforcement Notices

Cllr. Mrs. Defoe reported that the appeal by Butterfield Recovery had been upheld and therefore the business was permitted to continue operating from Colney Heath High Street. Cllrs. were concerned that the Parish Council had not received a decision notice on the outcome of the appeal.

RESOLVED to contact the CDC Planning Dept. to ask why no decision notice had been sent to the Parish Council and what justification there was for the appeal being upheld. Cllrs. also discussed their concerns for local residents now that Butterfields were permitted to continue operating on the site in the High Street. RESOLVED to write to the MP for St. Albans stressing the Parish Council's horror at the decision by the DoF to allow Butterfields to continue operating their recovery business in Colney Heath and the terrible effect this would have on local residents.

c) Planning Decisions

The Clerk reported that no planning decisions had been received since the last meeting.

7. OPEN SPACES

a) Colney Heath Common

i) Common Ranger's Report

To receive the Common Ranger's report for January. RESOLVED to ask the HCC to clear the footway along Coursers Road approaching the junction with the Warren Farm Track. The Clerk reported that Toby Lowe had now left the CMS to take up a new post as Portland Ranger in Dorset.

7. OPEN SPACES (CONT.)

RESOLVED to contact the CMS for details of Toby Lowe's successor and to obtain his new address in order to send him the Council's best wishes for his new job.

ii) 25 High Street

Received a response from the Solicitor acting for the resident of the above property in relation to recent requests from the Council for removal of plants from the Common and the relocation of the Common boundary post to the rear of the property.
RESOLVED i) to inform the Solicitor that his letter was discussed at the Council meeting and that it was agreed to proceed with relocation of the Common boundary post.
ii) to ask Royce Paxton to reposition the post as soon as possible.

b) Recreational Areas

Received a copy of a letter from Sandridge Parish Council to Harvesters Football Club regarding their contribution towards changing facilities at the Smallford Playing Field site and suggesting that the Club approach Colney Heath Parish Council for an additional contribution.
The Clerk reported on a meeting she and Cllr. Mrs. Defoe had attended with County Property Dept. on 11/2/98 to discuss the Smallford Playing Field site. The Parish Council's opinions on the future use of the site had been gained before contacting other interested groups for their views.

c) High Street Recreation Ground

The Clerk reported that no applications had been received for the post of Groundsman at the High Street Recreation Ground.
RESOLVED to ask Mr. Howard if he was prepared to continue in the post for a further month while advertising the position in the local Job Centres and in the Spring issue of the Chronicle. Received a letter from the Chairman of the Football Club requesting a Recreational Areas Working Party meeting prior to the Council meeting.

A meeting had been arranged for 10 February but had been cancelled at short notice.
A meeting had since been arranged for 18 February at the Pavilion.
Received a further letter from the Chairman regarding outstanding football pitch fees.
RESOLVED to ask Mr. Howard the dates of recent matches which had been cancelled because of unsuitability of the pitches.
Two representatives from the Football Club attended the meeting and spoke to Cllrs. about their plans for the future of the Club and explained recent problems involving pitches not being marked.
RESOLVED to ask Mr. Howard why the junior pitch had not been marked on recent occasions. To ask that in future if he felt a pitch was unsuitable to be played on, to notify the Clerk or a Cllr. the day before a match.

d) Park Ranger's Reports for December & January

Received the Park Ranger's reports for December & January.

e) Community Park

There was no report on any items relating to the park.

f) Highfield Trust

Cllr. Ellis undertook to give a report on the Highfield Trust at the next Parish Council meeting.

Stephen Park

8. HIGHWAYS

- a) Public Transport
Passenger Transport Update for February 1998.
RESOLVED to include any passenger transport information in the Chronicle.

b) Smallford Trail

There was no update on any items relating to the Smallford Trail.

c) Footpaths & Bridleways

Cllr. Brazier reported on footpaths and bridleways in the parish.

d) Parking on Verges

Received a request from the CDC Technical Services Department for details of any problems

experienced in the parish relating to parking on verges.

RESOLVED that the Cllrs. contact the Clerk with any information to be forwarded to the CDC.

e) Highfield Estate

Received information on recent naming and numbering of new homes on the Highfield Estate.

9. COUNCIL OWNED (OR TRUSTEE) BUILDINGS

a) Village Hall

Received Cllr. Brazier's report on the recent meeting of the Village Hall Council.

RESOLVED to remind Mr. Stayton about the Parish Council's request to fill in the potholes on the Common to the rear of nos. 81 - 75 High Street and top up the surface of the car park at the Village Hall.

Received a letter from the Chairman of the VHC suggesting appropriate wording for a sign to

direct visitors to alternative car parking at the Parish Council car park.

RESOLVED to obtain a quotation for a sign to read

"ADDITIONAL PARKING FOR VILLAGE HALL USERS IN THE HIGH STREET

RECREATION GROUND CAR PARK ADJACENT TO COLNEY HEATH JMI SCHOOL".

Received a letter from the Chairman of the VHC requesting that the Council give consideration

to contributing towards the cost of providing sensor lighting outside the hall.

RESOLVED to agree to pay for the light but defer payment until the 1998/99 budget was

received in April 1998.

b) Charles Morris Hall

Cllr. Ellis reported on any matters relating to the Charles Morris Hall.

The Management Ctee. had met on 10 February and various items relating to the Parish Council

had been discussed.

RESOLVED i) obtain a quotation for the straightening and repainting of the hinges on the

vehicle and pedestrian gates to the front of the Hall.

ii) obtain a quotation for repositioning of the goal on Tyttenhanger Field and the

provision of a new goal net.

iii) that the RAWP provide an audit of all footpaths within recreation areas.

10. OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

a) CBTA

Invitation to attend Valentines Dinner & Dance at the Village Hall on 14/2/98.

b) Herts. & Middx. Wildlife Trust
Wildlife Matters - Spring 1998

Stephens

10. OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS (CONT.)

c) Hertfordshire County Council
Environment Magazine - January 1998

d) Hertfordshire Police Authority

Notes of Public Meeting held on 27/11/97

Agenda for PCP meeting on 3/2/98.

St. Albans Division - consultation form for 1998/99 Policing Plan.

e) Local Government Commission for England

Periodic Electoral Review of St. Albans - Final Recommendations

f) NPFA

NPFA news - autumn/winter 1997

g) Rural Action

The Wildlife in your Churchyard.

14/3/98, St. Peter's Church, London Colney

h) St. Albans Community Forest Association

Forthcoming Events & Newsletter 19.

i) Watling Chase Community Forest

Upper Colne Valley Steering Group meeting - 14/1/98.

11. STAFF

There were no matters relating to the Council's staff.

12. ST. ALBANS CITY & DISTRICT COUNCIL

19/1/98

Planning S/C South

20/1/98

Parish Liaison Joint Committee

21/1/98

St. Albans Festival & Millennium Committee

28/1/98

Full Council Meeting

29/1/98

Health S/C

3/2/98

Road Safety Advisory Committee

13. URGENT BUSINESS

a) Manhole covers in Camp Road/Hill End Lane

Cllr. Mrs. Lynch brought Cllrs. attention to the loose manhole covers in the Camp Road/Hill End

Lane area of the new highway.

RESOLVED to contact CDC Transportation & Development to ask that the covers be examined

and repaired so they do not move when vehicles drive over them.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.20 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

Stephen Paul

DATE

11/03-98

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL - STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

FEBRUARY

ITEM	BUDGET ALLOCATION	MONTHLY EXPENSE	PREDICTED EXPENSE TO DATE	ACTUAL EXPENSE TO DATE	UNDERSPEND (-)
ADMIN					
Salaries	16289	1384	13612	13798	-186
Wages	11410	798	9510	9824	-314
Office Accommodation	612	51	510	510	0
Copying	1020	70	850	917	-67
Telephone	633	0	528	700	-172
Mileage	2053	136	1710	1457	253
Subs. & Dons.	674	44	284	145	139
Courses	102	0	90	0	90
Petty Cash	1056	0	880	800	80
Office Equipment	663	0	550	1743	-1193
OPEN SPACES	34512	2483	28524	29894	-1370
Grass Cutting	8000	0	8000	4781	3219
Common	1000	0	833	1273	-440
Boissy Park	400	0	400	403	-3
Roestock Park	1600	0	1300	32	1268
Community Park	500	0	375	70	305
Gloucester Playground	400	0	230	0	230
High Street	1700	673	825	2423	-1598
Sleapshyde Pgd. & Pond	1500	0	350	276	74
Tythenanger Pgd.	700	0	400	515	-115
St. Marks Church	200	640	148	673	-525
Dog Bins	1900	53	1724	2116	-392
BUILDINGS	2350	66	2350	5656	-3306
Village Hall	2350	66	2350	5656	-3306
Building Fund	10000	0	0	0	0
Bus Shelters	5200	0	4900	6400	-1500
Notice Boards	400	0	300	293	7
Pavilion	657	0	657	495	162
MISCELLANEOUS	4000	0	2250	2364	-114
Chronicle	4000	0	2250	2364	-114
Miscellaneous	5750	0	4000	2902	1098
Contingency	1000	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	81769	3915	57566	60566	-3000
INCOME	10604	1078	9841		
BALANCE 1996/97	39397	(GENERAL ACC. OF £67197			
LESS OVERSPEND	-3000	LESS BUILDING FUND £20000 AND COMMON FUND £7800)			
BALANCE 1997/98	36397				

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 11 FEBRUARY 1998

PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS

A) EMERGENCY PAYMENTS

HMWT - membership subs. 97/98	25.00
Wages Account - December payments	700.00
C. Pluck - December salary & allowances	1,185.18
	1,910.18

£

B) CURRENT ACCOUNTS

Inland Revenue - January	484.07
Kall Kwik - January account	69.69
Eastern Elec. - air raid shelter lighting to 27/1	14.51
CVS - 1998 subs.	9.00
Sportsmark - Tennis Court re-painting	323.13
Oakapple Landscape - Tree work in Closed Churchyard	640.00
William Lawrence Advertising - VH Public Notice	65.80
Review Newspapers - Advert for Groundsman	335.02
SDK Kilsyth - Dog Bin service to 30/1/98	52.64
Groundwork Hertfordshire - 1998 subs.	10.00
	2,003.86

BALANCES AT 9/2/98

Current Account	3,939.77
Business Reserve	6,498.30
Capital Reserve	69,799.43
Wages Account	501.03
Map - current account	140.85
Map - business reserve	551.17
Included in Capital Reserve Account:	
Common Trust	7,800.00
Building Fund	30,000.00

MONIES RECEIVED AND BANKED SINCE 14/1/98

Colney Heath Football Club - February rental	217.67
Colney Heath Football Club - 1997/98 Insurance premium	495.00
Colney Heath Football Club - contribution towards pitch fees	350.00
S. Lloyd - January tennis takings	15.60
	1,078.27

BALANCES AT 9/2/98

Current Account	97.44
Business Reserve	431.17
Capital Reserve	3365.82

CHARITY FOR CHARLES MORRIS FOR ALLOTMENTS ACCOUNT AT TYTTEHANGER GREEN