

VILLAGE AMENITIES COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the meeting of the Village Amenities Committee of Colwall Parish Council
held on Wednesday 4th October 2017 at 7.30pm in the Jean Simon Room, Colwall
Village Hall.**

Present:

Councillors: Councillors: Butler, Carless, James, Kendrick (Chairman), Rees, Trafford-Roberts, co-opted member Freda Ballard, Chris Englefield and the Clerk.

1. Welcome and Apologies.

The Chairman Councillor Kendrick welcomed those present.
No apologies were received.

2. Declaration of Interests.

None were declared.

3. Minutes.

The minutes of Village Amenities Committee held on Wednesday 2nd August 2017 were approved, and signed by the Chairman at the meeting.

4. Amenities Budget.

i) A summary of the 2017/18 Amenities Committee's was circulated; the Clerk discussed the detail and confirmed expenditure is in line with the 17/18 Budget.

ii) The 2018/19 Budget was presented for consideration. This is similar to the current year's budget allowing for small increases for costs associated with the Christmas tree/lights, play equipment inspection, Railway garden maintenance (as per the current contract) and the grass cutting.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the committee would recommend to Full Council that the budget as presented 2018/19 will be £18,895.

iii) IT WAS RESOLVED that the quote from Branchworks (Q1371) for the Pollarding of the Willow in the Charlie Ballard Reserve at £540.00 be accepted.

5. Sites Overview.

Orlin Road Play Area (CE) Reported to be in good condition following the installation of the new swings.

War Memorial Garden (GR) Reported to be in good order. New silk poppies will be installed for the memorial service and Councillor Rees is looking into the options for the 2018 centenary of WW1.

Allens Meadow (CE) Reported to be in good condition.

Walwyn Meadow and Library Building (PK/GR) Reported to be in good condition. Councillor Rees drew the Councillors attention to the pilot "wild flowers" area at the front of the Meadow.

Colwall Green (PK) Councillor Kendrick reported a successful meeting had been held with the Director (Duncan Bridges) of the Malvern Hills Trust "MHT" on the 15th August. It has been agreed that the condition of the area will be reviewed twice in the Spring of 2018, as the agreed twice yearly cutting of the area has failed to materialise in recent years, the grass area is becoming rather "shabby" with encroachment of unwanted species and has become generally unkempt, new tree saplings also need to be removed.

The Director also advised that they MHT would file a “Letter of Intent” that the “D” in front of the former primary school, should revert to “village green” following closure of the school in early 2018.

Finally, it was noted the autumnal cut of the grass remains outstanding (due October).

Brookmill Close Play Area (PB) reported to be in good condition.

Aunt Alice (GR) was reported in good order, time keeping is weather dependent. One of the light bulbs which illuminate the clock face has failed and is to be replaced.

Railway Gardens (NC) reported to be in good order.

Nature Reserve (GR) The reserve is reported to be in good condition.

6. Parish Matters

i) Councillors are encouraged to consider what future 106s/CIL monies could be directed towards in the Parish. Councillor Butler agreed to provide details to the Councillors of the type of things S106 monies have been allocated towards, from the 3 most recent new developments in the Parish.

ii) Possible reduction of Street Furniture

IT WAS AGREED Councillor Kendrick would co-ordinate a walk through the village on a Sunday in November which a view to making a record of the street furniture and also take the opportunity to remove any out of date advertising e.g. Teak Sale at the Village Hall signs

iii) Colwall Library

Councillor Kendrick briefed Councillors and asked Councillors to consider in the future if they wished for the library to fall under the remit of the Village Amenities committee.

7. Parish Notice Boards, Village Seats and Litter Bins.

i) All Parish Notice Boards were reported to be in good order.

ii) Village Seats and Parish Litter bins were all reported to be in good order.

Thanks had been extended to the committee for the new dog waste bin installed by the Colwall Park Hotel.

8. Footpaths

The Footpath Officer, Councillor Butler reported the following:-

“A few remedial actions; some ongoing:

CW42 – Stile in need of attention

CW31 – Trim back growth opposite Sprindrift

CW42A – Trim growth around stile & finger post

CW8 – Fallen tree across footpath

CW16 – Ease locking mechanism on ‘5 bar’ gate

CW4 – Handrail on footbridge loose

CW1/CW7 – Branch across CW1

CW42 – Support post for stile loose

CW3 – Broken top bar on stile

Contact with one of the volunteers, who is a member the Orchard Group, resulted in their request for Parish Council support in their application for funding from GWR to make (mark) a circular ‘Orchard Heritage Trail’.

Herefordshire Council Rights of Way Improvement Plan Consultation

Councillor Butler reported that he has reviewed the Herefordshire Council consultation document regarding Rights of Way Improvement; this is a legally required review, after the original plan 10 years ago.

“There are 5 main aims & priorities:

- Enhance health, well-being and enjoyment of life
- Increase economic prosperity
- Improve local transport networks and travel choice
- Provide access for all
- Increase community involvement

Colwall isn't mentioned directly, although we would be covered to some extent by the Malvern Hills AONB management plan which is referenced”.

Councillor Butler was thanked for his work with this document and IT WAS AGREED Councillor Butler would respond on behalf of Colwall Parish Council, and compliment Herefordshire Council on progress to date

9. Correspondence

i) Email from the Orchard Group regarding potential supply and planting of some local varieties of fruit trees in the Parish open spaces.

IT WAS AGREED Councillor Rees would liaise with Helen Stace, of the Colwall Orchard Group, regarding possible planting in Allens Meadow (subject to MHT consent), Orlin Road and the War Memorial Garden, and the maintenance thereof.

10. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting of the Village Amenities Committee will be held on Wednesday 6th December, at 7:30pm, in the Jean Simon Room at Colwall Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

Chairman.....

Date.....