

## COLWALL PARISH COUNCIL

**The minutes of the meeting of Colwall Parish Council held at The Jean Simon Room, Colwall Village Hall, Mill Lane, Colwall at 8.30 pm on Wednesday 12th December 2018.**

**Present:** Councillors: Beard, Burston, Butler, Daniels, Evans, Haynes, Rees, Soros, Stock, Trafford-Roberts, Wiseman 3 members of the public and the Clerk.

### **1. Welcome and Apologies:**

The Chairman welcomed those present.

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors James and Cottam.

Following James Wiseman having handed his signed "Acceptance of Office" and "Register of Interest" to the Clerk, prior to the commandment of the 7.30 pm meeting, the Chairman welcomed James onto Colwall Parish Council.

### **2. Declarations of Interests:**

The Chairman reminded Councillors of the need to declare any Interests in items on the agenda and to update their Register of Interests.

None were declared.

### **3. Minutes:**

i) The minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council held on the 28<sup>th</sup> November 2018 were agreed as a true and correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

### **4. Progress Reports –**

#### **i) Flooding at Brookmill Close and remedial actions**

The Clerk reported that she had received an email from in response to her request for a full breakdown of the £11,750 spend to date by BB LP and was advised as follows: 1) Colwall PC are only consultees for the spending of these funds, which are being managed by HC on the PC's behalf and 2) BB LP declined to provide a breakdown of expenditure to date.

IT WAS AGREED there is no point the Clerk spending any further time on trying to get to the bottom of this without the full co-operation of BB LP in accounting for how they are spending the S106 monies.

#### **ii) Colwall Library**

The Clerk reported that:-

a) the Millennium Room Trust are holding a meeting to discuss and will revert.

b) the Colwall Village Society will revert regarding the queries relating to the inventory when they have resolved these with the Millennium Room Trust, following the meeting referred to above.

c) the Clerk and Councillor Cottam are to meet with the Head of Library Services, Jon Chedgzoy, (on the 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018) to discuss drafting the bi-party agreement re the respective responsibilities which are currently set out in the "now expired" tri-party agreement.

## **5. Highways Matters**

### **i) Possible solutions to the speed of vehicles on the Walwyn Road through the village.**

Councillor Stock reported the following:-

“The speed of traffic on Walwyn Road between the Wyche Cutting and the 30mph limit by Picton’s Garden Centre is a regular source of concern of residents.

The road is relatively wide but has narrow or non-existent verges and footpaths. In places the kerb upstand is minimal and ill-defined and as a result, it can be quite threatening for pedestrians.

Walwyn Road has little or no verge past many private accesses and minor junctions resulting in limited visibility to the main road traffic when exiting.

We have previously considered requesting the speed limit to be lowered to 40mph over this length of Walwyn Road but have not promoted it because the character of the road does not suit a 30mph and therefore compliance will be poor. It will also remove the distinction with the existing 30mph possibly leading to increased speeds in that part of Walwyn Road.

To fully address the issue the character of the road would need to be changed by physically narrowing the carriageway, removing the centre-line and cats-eyes and emphasizing the accesses. This produces wider verges and footways improving visibility from accesses and improving the pedestrian facilities. Other traffic calming methods as set out in Traffic in Villages could also be considered.

Such a scheme, however, would be expensive and no mechanism currently exists for the parish to achieve it.

Of course, concerns about traffic speed are not confined to this length of road, there are complaints about speed along the whole length of Walwyn Road, Mill Lane and elsewhere.

Consequently, it is recommended we should take a rather broader view of the issue and consider what might be realistically achieved. This will not be easy, the easy solutions have long since been implemented, so I recommend we take small steps commencing with establishing what speeds are on different lengths of Walwyn Road and at what times of day and the numbers of vehicles involved. This would help us to understand the extent and magnitude of the issue and the most pressing length. It might also give some pointers to mitigation.

The timing of the counts is important, probably best left until the schools are back after Christmas.

I doubt we could get Herefordshire Highways to do this work so we would have to bear the costs.

This initial data could be collected using pneumatic tubes across the road linked to recording boxes which are usually chained to a nearby post. To do 4 counters for a week would cost about £1,100 + VAT. Further sites done at the same time would probably cost about £170 each.

Given the costs involved, before taking this any further I would like to understand the *Council's appetite* for proceeding.

IT WAS RESOLVED 6 counts of the traffic be undertaken in February or March (not when the schools are on half term) at the following locations:-

In the 40 mph zone by Sunfold,

In the 30 mph zones outside Picton Nursery, in front of the Free Church, in front of the Butchers, in front of the Thai and in Colwall Green; at an estimated cost of up to £1,500 plus VAT.

Councillor Stock will arrange.

**ii) To consider a request for parking restrictions along the West Malvern Road by way of a Traffic Regulation Order**

The Councillors watched a video from the applicant of the parking issues, following which Councillor Stock reported the following:-

The history of this issue is as follows;

On the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017, the Planning Cttee considered the request for a TRO and resolved; **“that the Parish Council considered that Mr Slaters request to be worthy further investigation and 3 Councillors were appointed to investigate if the request met Herefordshire Councils criteria for a TRO”**.

On the 24/5/2017 at the Planning Committee, Councillor Stock summarised the review of the TRO criteria and **“IT WAS RESOLVED that this is (the TRO request) considered further and that the Clerk contact the Locality Steward for his advice, and proposals, for traffic calming methods along this stretch of the Road”**.

This he did, including a site visit on the 22 June 2017, accompanied by Cllr John Stock. His report concluded **“I do not believe that this issue warrants this degree of restriction and therefore it is not recommended.”**

On 30/8/2017 this was discussed at the planning committee where;

**2IT WAS RESOLVED that following the report from the Locality Steward, in which a Traffic Regulation Order was not recommended, this request will not be pursued any further”**.

Our Clerk has discussed this matter with the Locality Steward last week and his opinion has not changed.

Going forward the options and *my comments in italics* are;

1. Balfour Beatty pursues and funds –

*BB LP have already reviewed (2017) and the Locality Steward “did not recommend” therefore BB LP will not fund the cost of a TRO.*

2. Colwall Parish Council pursues and funds –

*This would be against the recommendation of BB LP with no certainty the TRO would succeed. The costs would be borne by CPC.*

3. Mr Slater pursues and funds the TRO himself through BB LP.

The Clerk has subsequently received an email for a parishioner who commented;  
*“I am writing to support Jim Slater in his quest to get some action to alleviate the dangerous situation caused when cars are parked on or near to the blind bends, north of The Purlieu junction with West Malvern Road.  
 Given the fact that there is good off road parking available nearby it seems ridiculous not to encourage visitors to make use of it. A useful by product of an increase in parking revenue might well prove to be a small reduction in the rates we pay to The Malvern Hills Trust”.*

However, you will recall when we last considered this matter our concern was these people are resistant to paying for parking and would just park on the road somewhere else, such as Walwyn Road outside the Wyche Innovation Centre so moving the problem elsewhere requiring more parking restrictions.

IT WAS RESOLVED that Colwall Parish Council did not support the request for a Traffic Regulation Order along the West Malvern Road, as per the recommendation of the Locality Officer in 2017.

It was also suggested that Councillor Rees discuss the issue with the Malvern Hills Trust, at their next Land Management Committee Meeting, and the possibility of them advertising the car-parks on the Hills, especially on public holidays, to encourage visitors to use the car-parks rather than parking on the Highways.

### **iii) Lighting of Evendine Mews**

IT WAS RESOLVED that Colwall Parish Council be happy to support the residents request that there be no additional lighting on the site, leaving the existing lights exactly as it is with no amendments at all.

## **6. Financial Matters.**

i) Colwall Parish Council considered the Income and Expenditure for December 2018, as per the list circulated at the meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the payments should be authorised.

ii) IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk arrange for the replacement oak tree for Colwall Green at a cost of up to £1,000 to include the supply and delivery thereof, the planting thereof and all sundry materials required for the planting as per Village Amenities minute 1/8/2018 ref 9 (page 1611).

## **7. Communication**

### **i) Annual Parish Meeting**

IT WAS AGREED the Clerk would invite Paul Esrich of the Malvern Hills AONB to be the guest speaker at the Annual Parish Meeting.

**8. Correspondence for Processing**

IT WAS AGREED Councillors Cottam, James and Evans would represent Colwall on the Joint Action for Herefordshire Libraries JAHL” Action Group. Councillor Cottam would be the primary point of contact.

**9. Correspondence for Information.**

See Table attached.

**10. Reports of Committees.**

i) IT WAS RESOLVED that the report from the Planning & Development Committee meetings held on the 28<sup>th</sup> November 2018 be received, approved and adopted.

**11. Representatives on Outside Bodies.**

To receive reports from Councillors who have represented Council at meetings since the last Full Council meeting.

i) Councillors Beard had attended the AGM of the Millennium Room Trust at which he had resigned from the Board at the meeting, due to the current conflict of interest.

IT WAS AGREED that Parish Council would not appoint anyone else to be on the Board due to the conflict of interest that the Parish Council now find themselves in regarding the negotiations to dissolve the Trust and the proposed taking over of the responsibilities associated with the Millennium Room.

**12. Date of next meeting:**

To confirm the date of the next Full Council meeting, this will be held on Wednesday 23rd December 2018 at the Jean Simon Room, Colwall Village Hall.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21:22pm.

**Signed:** ..... **Date:** .....

**Table Correspondence**  
**December 2018**

Document 1	Thank you for donation – Citizens Advice Bureau.
Document 2	Thank you for donation - Colwall PCC
Document 3	Thank you for donation – Ledbury and Area CVA
Document 4	Thank you from the AONB for their donation.