

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 8.05 pm on Wednesday 27th February.

Present: Chairman – Trafford-Roberts, Councillors: Beard, Burston, Butler, Cottam, Evans, Haynes, James, Lane, Rees, Wiseman, 1 member of the public, County Councillor Johnson and the Clerk.

1. Welcome and Apologies:

The Chairman welcomed those present.

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Daniels, Soros and Stock. Following Rod Lane having handed his signed “Acceptance of Office” and “Register of Interest” to the Clerk, prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Chairman welcomed Rod 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.

The meeting was suspended to receive a representation from County Councillor Tony Johnson

Councillor Johnson reported that he had spoken to the Rights of Way Team following the Clerk contacting him regarding the temporary closure of the footpath over Colwall Railway Station footbridge (and lack of an official diversion which has left walkers stranded). It transpires that temporary diversions or closures of footpaths are currently not “subject to consultation” with Parish or Town Councils. The Clerk had suggested to Councillor Johnson that this should be reviewed and if possible future request should be subject to such consultation as the Parish or Town Councils have local knowledge which would be helpful for the Rights of Way Team in making decisions about such matters. Early indications are that the procedure will be changed to reflect this recommendation.

£24m is to be spent on Public Realm including the Roads during 2019/20 (£27m 2018/19).

Plans for student accommodation in Hereford City Centre to support the University have been unveiled; this will be very important development both the City and County

The meeting was reconvened.

3. Minutes:

i) The minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council held on the 23rd January 2019 were agreed as a true and correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

ii) The minutes of the Parish meeting of the Parish Council held on the 30th January 2019 were agreed as a true and correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

4 Co-option onto Colwall Parish Council one casual vacancy.

i) Following receipt of an application form and confirmation of eligibility

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Parish Council co-opt Stephen (Steve) Philip Stratton onto the Council to fill the casual vacancy.

The Clerk will email out the welcome packs and invite Steve to the next Full Council meeting on the 20th March 2019, when subject to signing the “Acceptance of Office” Steve will become a Councillor of Colwall Parish Council.

5. Progress Reports –

i) Flooding at Brookmill Close and remedial actions

Councillor Stock reported through the Clerk:

“Following our last meeting when it was agreed our Chairman, assisted by me, would meet the landowner I requested the latest plan showing the proposals from Joel Hockenhill by email dated 28 January 2019.

I repeated the request on 22 February 2019 and received the drawings the same day from Mark Hadley.

Subsequently, on 25 February, BBLP contacted me to say unfortunately they had sent through incorrect drawings which may not be affordable and a more achievable solution has been prepared and both are being costed. When the costs are to hand the proposals can be confirmed.

BBLP have also offered to send a representative to join us for the meeting with the landowner”.

ii) Colwall Library

Councillor Cottam reported that herself, Councillor Evans and the Clerk had met with the Head of Library Services, Jon Chedgzoy in March to discuss the recruitment of new volunteers for the Library following interest from 2 Parishioners, the details of which have been forwarded to Jon and his team.

The plan is to advertise for volunteers during the next few weeks and see if there are sufficient for an additional team (of 6 people) to extend the current opening hours further. The Clerk had also chased up through Jon Chedgzoy the outstanding legal matters regarding the reassignment of the sub lease.

The meeting was suspended to receive an update from Head of Library Services, Jon Chedgzoy about the potential outsourcing the delivery of Library Services on behalf of Herefordshire Council.

iii) S106 Highways Prioritisation

Councillor Stock reported through the Clerk

“On Thursday 24th of January 2019, I walked through the village with Mark Hadley and Chris Meanwell of Balfour Beatty Living Spaces to discuss possible highway improvements – essentially footway improvements on the route to the school.

Chris and Mark took details and photographs and will get prices for the work which they will supply to us. We can then choose what we wish to be done up to the total of the money available”.

The Clerk also reported that she has subsequently chased up BBLP (on the 26th February 2019) for the costings referred to in the report above but is awaiting their response.

iv) AONB Signage

IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk should respond as follows:-

Sign 1 was the preferred choice for the County Border

At the entrance to the Village/Parish Sign 2 was preferred – the text for Colwall needs to be larger than that of the AONB.

It was felt that “within an AONB” was preferable (and the Malvern Hills bit should be a small logo in the bottom corner).

Alternatively a separate strip sign identifying that Colwall is in the MHAONB to sit below existing Colwall signage would be acceptable.

6. Financial Matters.

i) Colwall Parish Council considered the Income and Expenditure for February 2019, as per the list circulated at the meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the payments should be authorised.

7. Communication and Public Engagement Working Party

Prior to the meeting Councillors had received the initial report from Working Party together with proposed actions.

The next meeting of the working party will be held on Wednesday the 27th March

IT WAS RESOLVED that a survey should be undertaken to ascertain which forms of communication the Parishioners wished to be used to inform them of current matters that the Parish Council are dealing with.

8. Correspondence for Processing

i) Herefordshire County Cabinet update 4th February 2019.

The contents were noted but not commented upon.

ii) Hereford Transport Package “HTP” Walking, Cycling, Bus and Public Space Consultation.

Councillor Rees reported that she had reviewed this paper and its main focus is on and around Hereford City Centre. IT WAS AGREED Councillors Rees will respond on behalf of Colwall Parish Council and that the response should be that “It is recommended that there is a joined up policy introduced for alternative transport within the County as well as Hereford City Centre”.

iii) Malvern Hills AONB - Public Consultation on new guidance for external lighting and for development visible in views to and from the Malvern Hills AONB .

IT WAS RESOLVED that Colwall Parish Council support that new guidance as stated above and that we will refer to this document in the Colwall Neighbourhood Development Plan”.

iv) Letter from the Malvern Hills Trust –Charity Commission Scheme to amend Malvern Hills Act dated 24th January 2019.

IT WAS RESOLVED that Colwall Parish Council would be amenable to either extending the term of the current Board for 12 months or to re-nominate our current nominee (Councillor G Rees) subject to re-election to the new Board due to take office in November 2019.

8. Correspondence for Information.

None

9. Reports of Committees.

i) IT WAS RESOLVED that the reports from the Planning & Development Committee meetings held on the 23rd January 2019 and the 13th February 2019 be received, approved and adopted.

ii) IT WAS RESOLVED that the report from the Village Amenities Committee meeting held on the 13th February 2019 be received, approved and adopted.

10. Representatives on Outside Bodies.

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

i) Councillor Rees reported that the Malvern Hills Trust had received the support of a local group of cyclists, who had helped with the clearance of scrub on the Hills.

ii) Councillor Cottam had attended a meeting of J AHL (Joint Action Group for Herefordshire Libraries).

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Colwall Parish Council library working party were pleased to be invited to attend the meetings, but can only do so as a non-voting member.

11. Date of next meeting:

To confirm the date of the next Full Council meeting, this will be held on Wednesday 20th March 2019 at the Jean Simon Room, Colwall Village Hall.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 09.40 pm.

Signed: **Date:**