

# COLESHILL PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES

Of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7.00 pm, held at the Village Hall, Barrack Hill, Coleshill

Parish Councillors:	Tony Treacy (AT) Chair Ben Morgan (BM)	Jon Herbert (JH) Nigel Suttie (NS)
Parish Clerk:	Lynda Jackson (LJ)	
County Councillors:	0	
Members of Public:	0	

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs. Tim Butcher, Carl Jackson (all Bucks) Cllrs. Gemma Clifford-Newman, Louise Templeton (CPC)
- 2. Minutes of previous meetings:** It was moved by AT and **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023 be signed as a true record of the meeting.
- 3. Declaration of Interest:** JH 6i)
- 4. Councillor vacancy – 1**
- 5. Matters arising:**  
**Meeting Closed: 19:01**

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### DEMOCRATIC PERIOD-

- *Email from Clenemer Cottage making Council aware of recent flooding to the property after heavy rain. (Issue discussed as part of transport report)*
- *Email from Terry Reilly regarding the recent grassland cutting on the Common. Mr Reilly felt the recent grass cut was not a good advert for the village and questioned why the Chiltern Society was not used if they have a more suitable machine (Issue discussed as part of CMC report).*

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### Meeting re-opened: 19:02

**6. Clerk's Report: - Bucks Film Service**– It was **agreed** that AT would speak to John Jeffords about taking photographs of places in the village that may be used by film companies and generate extra income for the village.

**Litter-picking co-ordinator** – Council had been made aware that the current co-ordinator would step down after the November litter-pick. An advert is in the current edition as no-one has so far come forward to take over. It was **agreed** that another article would be included in the Xmas newsletter giving more information that would suggest flexibility and that waste can be arranged to be collected by Buckinghamshire Council.

**Meeting dates 2024** – LJ had issued a list of dates that were **approved**.

**Clerks Forum** – LJ had circulated a summary of a Clerks forum she had attended.

### 7. Report from Planning, BC updates:

i) ) **Ref. No: PL/23/3046/FA** Ambleside, Tower Rd, Coleshill **NO OBJECTION**  
**Ref: PL/23/1645/FA** Bowers Mill Farm, Magpie Lane, Coleshill **NO OBJECTION**

ii) **Bucks update** – No-one available to attend.

iii) **Transport report** –JH had circulated his report prior to the meeting. As no response had yet been received from Martin Tett it was **agreed** to chase after 2 weeks if Cllr Carl Jackson is unable to

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get a response from the Head of the Transport committee. JH advised he had met with the LAT regarding the recent flooding on village road and confirmed that the drain into the pond will be replaced in approx. 6 weeks. Several other gullies have also been identified for unblocking.

**iv) D day 80<sup>th</sup> beacons** -It was **agreed** to send the information on to the editor of the newsletter and Richard Valentine.

**v) Beaconsfield neighbourhood plan -publication of plan proposal– Noted**

**vi) Speed limit change for Magpie Lane PID**– as per details in transport report circulated

**vii) Polling station review – Noted** no changes required to present facility.

**8. Report from Open Spaces:** NS & LT had provided reports that were circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.

**i) Monthly Play inspections & PROW report** – LT had contacted a Play equipment company to obtain a quote for replacing what remains of the multi-play area. It was agreed that LJ would contact Align to get more details of their funding schemes to determine whether CPC would be eligible. Council also thought it would be useful to find out how many families use the play area at present before pursuing replacing equipment.

**ii) CMC report** – NS advised that the CMC had met recently to discuss extending the picnic and bench area of the grassland by having regular grass-cuts to make it suitable for family play. The CMC agreed not to go ahead with the proposal for the following reasons:

- *the ‘articles of association’ require them to maintain the common for the protection of the natural environment. For their human visitors, their aim is to enhance the enjoyment of the natural beauty of the common rather than to change the common to accommodate human activity. So, we concentrate on maintaining clear and safe footpaths and providing clear views onto the common. Some additional clearing of vegetation near the picnic area and on the margins at the east end of the grassland was agreed. This would go part way towards implementing Mr Reilly’s proposal. The CMC believe the majority of villagers would support this approach. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Mr Reilly explaining their decision to prevent him feeling that his suggestions were ignored.*

NS continued with the grassland strategy for next year. Although the Ecology report advises that the grassland should be cut late July and then again at the end of September the CMC have voted that they will only do 1 cut in September to protect the wildlife especially the butterflies.

The CMC have now used all the spare aggregate on the paths (except for one bag which will be used to maintain and level out dips) which will make winter walking much easier. NS confirmed the work on the woodland next to Chalk Pitt house has now been completed. A quote for support work from the Chiltern Society has been received for 2024-25 they are able to provide 2 working sessions annually at a cost of £250 per session.

**iii) The Rides tree work quotes** – 2 quotes had been received to remove several trees to open up The Ride. The quote from Cedar Park Tree Care Ltd was **approved**.

**iv) Xmas lights check** – see item 7ii)

**v) Willows trench work – email from Park End cottage to Cllr. Herbert**– an email had been sent to JH in response to the letter sent by Council confirming they were unable to go ahead with work. It was **agreed** that a 2<sup>nd</sup> letter be sent to the resident explaining the Council’s decision is final, but an alternative could be that they arrange for the work themselves after first seeking Council’s approval.

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**Vi) Xmas lights check** – JH had checked that the lights were working although only the lower two thirds. It was **agreed** that with the assistance of AT & BM the bulbs will be cleaned and where possible some of the higher bulbs replaced and the integrity of the cable and joint checked.

**9. Finance:** The RFO had provided a report which was circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.

**i) Cashbook, Bank balances and reconciliation as at 30.09.23** – the previously circulated documents were **agreed**, there were no outstanding issues.

**ii) 2<sup>nd</sup> qtr. review of expenditure vs. budget 2023-24-** Council agreed that expenses were in line with the budget and did not foresee any unexpected costs before year end.

**iii) 2024-25 proposed budget & email from newsletter editor** – In order that the budget can be finalised before setting the precept at the December meeting JH will seek a quote for tree works required at the Jack Adams field. The quote once received will be updated onto the budget spreadsheet. AT suggested that the spreadsheet should be updated with, if necessary, a precept that brings the net balance to zero. The editor of the newsletter had written to CPC suggesting in his opinion it was unfair that any excess received from Xmas greetings donations is `swallowed up` in the general PC budget and that there was no transparency and if there was then he believed that residents reactions would not be wholly positive. The editor has made a request that 2023 donations are ring-fenced or administered separately for the sole use of the newsletter. AT advised that in the past CPC has subsidised the cost of the newsletter and it is only recently that there has been a surplus. JH advised that it is not only the current cost of the newsletter but also that of the Clerks time ensuring payments are received, set up and paid in a timely manner. It was **agreed** that a separate accounting system was not necessary and should not be set up for the newsletter income but that if there were to be any surplus it should be used for community communications.

#### 10. Items for payment:

The payments CB23-68-through to CB23-75, CB23-78 for October totalling £1801.54 were **approved**.

#### PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR OCTOBER 2023

CB No.	NAME	ITEM	TOTAL	VAT	NET
CB23-68	L Jackson	September pay	647.45	0.00	647.45
CB23-69	L Jackson	Ionos fee, top up & IONOS My website now, postage, parking	70.28	5.80	64.48
CB23-70	Pamela Reynolds	newsletter printing	277.00	0.00	277.00
CB23-71	A Davis	editor software for newsletter	19.97	3.33	16.64
CB23-72	Jack Taylor	mushroom tree	70.00	0.00	70.00
CB23-73	Buckinghamshire Council	dog bin emptying	446.40	74.40	372.00
CB23-74	IKON ICT	office subscription	10.30	0.00	10.30
CB23-75	ABS	stationery, shredding, cartridge	25.14	4.19	20.95
CB23-78	R Amarasinghe	grass cuts September (2 x pond)	235.00	0.00	235.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>		1801.54	87.72	1713.82

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**11. Councillors reports for areas of responsibility:**

**New website update** – AT advised the meeting that he had investigated other links of website providers and that although not too expensive to set up they would then take over the administration which comes at an extra cost. It was **agreed** to stick with IONOS and that as time permits continue to set up the new website through volunteer means.

**12. Next Meeting date:** Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023 7.00 pm at Coleshill Village Hall

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**20: 26pm.Meeting Closed.**

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Signed ..... Date .....