

COLWALL PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting of Colwall Parish Council held in the Jean Simon Room Colwall Village Hall, Mill Lane, Colwall at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 22nd March 2017.

Present: Councillors: Trafford-Roberts (Chairman), Butler, Carless, Cottam, Cooper, Daniels, Haynes, James, Kendrick, Rees, Stock, Taylor and the Clerk.

1. Welcome and Apologies:

The Chairman welcomed those present and apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Allen and Beard.

2. Declarations of Interests:

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

None were declared.

3. Minutes:

The minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council held on the 22nd February 2017 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Progress Report –

i) S106 monies - Highways update.

The Herefordshire Council Planning Obligations/Development Manager Yvonne Coleman had today written the following:-

“Dear Mr Stock,

I met with the planning officer and highway colleagues on 7 March to discuss how we progress the section 106 schemes in addition to the highway works in relation to the new primary school.

I discussed with colleagues whether we should be joining up the delivery of the school highway improvements with the section 106 improvements that we have identified. In addition, whether we could do this contractually given that Balfour Beatty are the contracted supplier with regards to Public Realm improvements. Their view is that they don't want any reason for delaying the implementation of the school improvements. There may be simple works that can be done, that we have identified, that could be delivered when the school works are progressing i.e. the delivery of the bus stop at the Mill Lane junction that can then be paid for out of the section 106 monies. In addition they were keen to point out that some of the drainage issues may be resolved by some of the school works e.g. the drainage problem outside the restaurant. They don't want monies spent out of the section 106 that should be delivered by the school contract.

As Kier are the appointed contractor to deliver the school they can also deliver the highway works (required by the condition of the planning permission) without the need for a formal section 278 agreement. There will need to be some form of agreement to ensure delivery and check that the highway plans are to the correct standard. I am meeting with colleagues in Property Services, Education and Highways tomorrow to progress these matters.

I then have a meeting scheduled for 5 April with Balfour Beatty.

I am obviously aware of the timescale for spend of the monies but I am confident that as we have identified a range of potential committed schemes and that Balfour have been instructed we can show to the developer that the monies are committed”.

Councillor Stock will continue to liaise with the Officer regarding this matter.

ii) Neighbourhood Development Plan “NDP” update -

Councillor Stock reported

“Firstly I made a brief comment on the 8th March 2017, outside the public meeting in which I said;

NDP Development

Firstly I need to thank Karen for all her work while I’ve been enjoying the delights of Australia. There were a few administrative duties to do while I was away and it was planned on my return we would present the Plan to you this evening and ask for approval to go forward to Regulation 14 consultation.

However in the event pretty much everything went awry.

The Plan was submitted to Herefordshire for an informal review which has raised a number of significant issues we need to consider or rebut. Some are particularly disappointing, for example they have said we have placed too great an emphasis on the landscape – but say, in brackets, ‘I could understand if it was in the AONB!!! In addition two landowners have stated their timescales for development are more long term and therefore we cannot use them towards our target. As you know we didn’t quite reach the target anyway so this has created a big issue.

To reconsider what we put forward and rebut their errors will take some time and I therefore concluded I could not ask the Council to allow the Plan to proceed to Regulation 14 consultation.

We have arranged a meeting with Herefordshire to discuss the issues and a possible way forward on 21 March and I will endeavour to report fully at full Council on the 22 March.

22 March 2017 Report

We meet with Herefordshire Council yesterday. It was a positive meeting and we went through our NDP and in particular the individual sites and the difficulties of passing the

‘is it deliverable’ test. The Herefordshire Council ‘errors’ I referred to on the 8th were fortunately all explained.

Essentially, given the loss of the new school site, the unwillingness of landowners to commit to develop their land in the Plan period and highway issues on another site we fell well short of our target and we need to look for other sites.

Grovesend has always been presented as the fall back plot so that is now being actively examined. Also, most people will see Mill Lane next to the school as an obvious development site and when the school site was allocated the Council did say the school was a special case which may mean the ‘replacement’ housing may need to be treated slightly differently. This will also be examined.

The NDP Working Group has become depleted with time and given the extent of the current possible changes it is vital we bring the Council along with us and I therefore propose that, subject to Council’s approval, going forward the NDP Working Group will be composed of the Planning Committee. Other Councillors are also welcome to attend. This will allow us to meet twice a month so everyone can keep up to date and informed. Most of the work will be when we don’t have full council on the same night.

The next Planning Committee is on 5th April, when we don’t have Full Council, so I suggest I do a brief re-cap about NDPs generally and, on our Plan a full update to the current position to ensure all Councillors can take an active part in the development of our NDP”.

iii) Library Working Group update

The working party provided the following update:-

“The working group is continuing to pursue the discussions around potential merger of the Walwyn Trust and the Millennium Room Trust. To this end work is being done on the two constitutions. The focus is on the objects, governance & public accountability and the financial aspects.

A detail meeting is planned for 27.3.17 with a further wider group meeting in mid April. This will then inform a millennium room trust meeting planned for late April/May

The Walwyn Educational Trust are also considering if they should remain a separate trust and they intend to discuss that at the end of April.

Following the last Parish Council meeting I spoke with Councillor John Daniels and he raised the issues of the various leases, which are becoming increasingly important as the governance discussions develop. Councillor Daniels has offered to help with this area and we have agreed to meet over the next few weeks to take this forward.

A meeting with Herefordshire Council has been arranged for the first week of April to look at their response to the public survey results and our requests following that, also to consider the use of some S106 monies focussed on library services that are to be spent by May”.

5. Financial Matters.

i) Colwall Parish Council considered the Income and Expenditure for March 2017, as per the list circulated at the meeting.

Councillor Rees thanked the Clerk on behalf of Colwall Village Society for obtain the Rights of Way book.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the payments should be authorised.

IT WAS AGREED Councillors unanimously wished to acknowledge and give thanks for the generous contribution made by DT Waller and Sons, the butchers, towards the maintenance of the Station Garden.

ii) The Clerk advised Councillors that the End of Grant Return had been completed and accepted by the Community Rights Program. This related to the grant for £3,700, which had been secured for the Colwall Neighbourhood Development Plan for the 2016/17 financial year.

The Clerk also advised that a new Grant Application, for £1,800, had been submitted and awarded for the Colwall Neighbourhood Development Plan for 2017/18; this will contribute towards the forecast Consultants fees.

Councillor Stock wished for thanks be extended to the Clerk for securing and administering these Grants.

6. Correspondence for processing.

i) Resignation of a Councillor

Councillor Cooper had tendered his resignation with effect from the Annual meeting, which will be held on 3rd May 2017.

The Chairman extended his thanks to Councillor Cooper for his contribution to the Council, particularly his work in “enhancing participation and public awareness at public meetings” initiative”.

ii) Email request to support the pruning/management of the lime trees in Walwyn Road (close to the library).

IT WAS AGREED that the Parish Council should support this request and that the Clerk write to Balfour Beatty/Herefordshire Council accordingly.

iii) Email – Under 100 days until Civic Day!! Get involved now!

IT WAS AGREED Councillors would get involved independently if they wished to.

iv) Herefordshire Council Code of Conduct Consultation.

IT WAS AGREED Councillors would respond to this consultation individually.

The Clerk would email the details to the Councillors.

v) Email re the condition of footpath CW10

IT WAS AGREED this matter would be pursued by the Village Amenities committee.

7. Correspondence for Information.

None.

8. Reports of Committees.

i) **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the reports from the Planning & Development Committee meetings held on the 22nd February 2017 and the 8th March 2017.were received, approved and adopted.

9. Representatives on Outside Bodies.

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

i) Councillors Cottam and Cooper had attended a Village Hall Management Committee and were pleased to report Wi-Fi is to be installed.

The committee are also currently reviewing the structure of the Trustees and the Committee membership.

10. Date of next meeting:

To confirm the date of the next Full Council meeting, this will be held on Wednesday 26th April 2017 at the Jean Simon Room, Colwall Village Hall. The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.24pm.

Signed: **Date:**