



Colwick Parish Council

Community Centre,
Vale Road
Colwick
NG4 2GP
0115 9400571

Minutes of the Colwick Parish Council meeting, held in the Small Hall, Colwick Community Centre at 7:30pm on Monday 20th June 2022

In attendance: Cllr Alison Nunn (Chair), Cllr Hilda Olushola (Vice Chair), Cllr Scott Handley, Cllr Meredith Lawrence, Cllr Femi Ogundipe, Jane Richardson (Clerk) and 4 electors.

22. Apologies for absence: None were received.

23. Declarations of Interest: there were none.

24. To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 20th May and the monthly meeting also held on 20th May: The minutes were approved as a true record, proposed by Cllr Handley, seconded by Cllr Olushola, all in favour. An elected member requested we minute the inaccuracy of the information given in Point 14 (b) of the May meeting minutes in that cars parked and driving on public footpaths is illegal. More information is included below under point 27 elector observations.

25. Updates from previous meeting: the funding application for the Play Area refurbishment has been submitted on 6th June. A decision is expected in September.

26. Declarations specific to this agenda: there were none

27. Observations from electors and reports from Borough and County Councillors:

Colwick Elector No 1: At the previous meeting the elector queried the omission of a hand rail adjacent to the steps that had been installed on the Rectory Recreation Ground flood alleviation bank. The elector has since sent her query to the Environment Agency who confirmed they couldn't install a hand rail at the side of the steps as this would pose an issue with the grass cutting of the bank. The elector suggested the hand rail be installed in the centre of the steps. The Environment Agency will check into this request and report back to the elector.

Also, at the previous meeting there was a discussion regarding the planters in the village and whether there is a Scouts or Cubs organisation in Colwick that could potentially maintain the planters, the Chair confirmed there aren't any Scouts or Cubs in the Village.

Colwick Elector No 2: There are continuing issues with irresponsible parking on Ramblers Close by users of the Country Park, many of which are students. The

elector has reported the issues with evidence of video and photograph footage to Cllr David Ellis, Cllr Lawrence and Cllr Adams but they have not received a reply. They also voiced their frustration at the perceived lack of assistance with their complaint. They are requesting double yellow lines around the affected areas and the installation of bollards on the pavement to prevent parking. They also reported that the notices on the lamp posts in the area about the restricted parking prohibition have been removed and they questioned why as the prohibition was brought in during July 2021 and is effective for 18 months, i.e until November 2022. The issues were further exasperated by the recent Detonate concert at Colwick Country Park.

The elector also reported evidence of drug equipment left under one of the benches on the rectory recreation ground and asked who this should be reported to. Cllr Lawrence advised it should be reported to the police.

Also reported that Contract Furniture are still trading from Mile End Road and they have identified many gas cylinders left in their yard which should be secured under a secure fence to prevent explosions, they have reported the issues to the planning department at Gedling Borough Council

Elector No. 3: Reported the same issues as above. In addition, the elector is an ex-police officer and legal professional, the elector explained at the meeting that driving and parking on the pavement and double parking is illegal but there is no-one enforcing the offences. They are also frustrated that no-one is listening to their complaints and helping to prevent the issues. Both electors feel the issues may give rise to an accident at some point.

The elector also reported the issues with the dust from the Rectory Recreation Ground car park and has concerns over the potential environmental health hazard of breathing in the particles, particularly for the children using the play area. Cllr Lawrence advised he would contact Gedling Borough Council Environmental Health to report this.

Cllr Lawrence responded to the complaints concerning the parking issues, explaining that it is the responsibility of Nottinghamshire County Council as the highways authority to introduce junction protection and enforcement. Cllr Lawrence confirmed he would contact Cllr Adams to ask for assistance on behalf of the electors. He will also contact Cllr David Ellis to query the information given to him about the inaccuracy regarding parking on the pavement not being illegal, he will request a meeting again with Cllr Ellis and Cllr Adams of Nottinghamshire County Council. The Clerk will also request their attendance at the Annual Public Meeting on 22nd July.

Cllr Handley suggested that all residents affected by the issues should email Cllr Adams and that the Cllrs also report the issues on behalf of the residents therefore many complaints will be received in the hope that they will not be ignored.

The residents are within their rights to escalate their complaints by utilising the Nottinghamshire County Council's formal complaints process. If they continue to be dissatisfied with the response to their complaints they can complain to the Local Government Ombudsman for them to investigate.

Cllr Lawrence Update: Cllr Lawrence has attended various meetings and has also stepped down from his position as Secretary of the Colwick Theatre Club. Cllr Lawrence has received reports that the Skatepark on the Rectory Recreation Ground is in need of further repairs despite recent repairs carried out, he will visit site tomorrow to inspect. He will also try to arrange a meeting with the trustees of the charity to discuss the future of the facility. Cllr Olushola asked if the Charity will consult with the young children about their preferences if the Skatepark needs to be rebuilt. Cllr Lawrence confirmed this is a possibility if the Charity are able to consider refurbishment.

28. Correspondence: A clothing bank has asked us to consider placing a clothing bank in the car park which can provide an income opportunity. It was decided we wouldn't take up this offer, proposed, seconded and resolved.

29. Planning: None were received

30. Finance: Cllr Nunn circulated a report to the Councillors for payments made, payments to be noted and payments requiring approval for payment. They are:

Payments Made since the last Parish meeting:

3rd May NALC fees £458.10, 4th May Returned Deposit S Smeaton £50.00, 10th May Direct Debit for Water Plus £37.23, 18th May Sage Accounts £39.60, 19th May Talk Talk £27.95, 20th May Wages Total £1772.20, 20th May PAYE £205.40, 23rd May Total Energies Gas £ 92.17, 23rd May Total Energies Elec £27.07, 1st June GBC Waste £182.00, 6th June BT Group £45.60, 10th June E Husarik Returned deposit £50.00, 10th June H Denton Returned Deposit £50.00, 10th June DD Water Plus £ 37.23, 16th June Sage £39.60, 17th June Wages Total £1784.13, 17th June PAYE £205.60, 17th June SD Bullion returned deposit £50.00

Payments to be authorised:

R Lord Returned deposit £50.00, Gedling Borough Council leaflets & Distribution £ 578.00, A Nunn Mileage 20/21 & 21/22 Audit £39.60, D Dixon Internal Audit £ 125.00

Payment not yet taken from Bank to be noted:

Total Energies Elec £ 42.40, Total Energies Gas £ 76.19, Talk Talk £27.82

Payment Receipts from the 22nd April: £3408.75

Finance proposed, seconded and resolved.

30. Main Business:

- a) An elector has applied to the Parish to become a Councillor. The elector was present at the meeting and agreed the Clerk could read out her resume to those attending the meeting. We were unable to approve to co-opt at this

meeting as her name wasn't included as an agenda item therefore decision deferred until the next meeting.

- b) Promotion of the Geographical area of the Parish. This agenda item had been raised by an elector who has been advised that some residents have stated they don't (as a personal preference) identify as living within the Parish Council. It was agreed the Clerk will request a map from Gedling Borough Council that covers all resident's properties in the Parish, when received we will promote the area in the notice board and on the Parish Facebook page.
- c) Website. The website has been offline for two months and this needs to be rectified as soon as possible as it is a legal requirement that the Parish has an operational website. Cllr Nunn agreed to contact the local resident who was managing the website on the behalf of the Parish to try to get this up and running again.
- d) Rivendell Care Home sponsorship of community planters. The Clerk will contact the Care Home to understand what sponsorship they can offer.
- e) Future of St John's Church. It has been reported the Church of England may not be replacing the Vicar and may also be selling the Church. This will have an impact on the shared use of the car park and the rear area as community centre users use the areas. The Clerk will write to the Archdeacon to enquire about their future plans and remind them of the shared space in the car park and rear areas and to request to be kept informed of any future plans.
- f) Garden Competition. Only 1 application received therefore a decision was made to extend the deadline to the end of July.
- g) Annual Parish Meeting. The meeting was arranged for 24th June however, as there has been no publicity circulated within the Parish it was agreed to postpone until 22nd July. Cllr Lawrence agreed to produce a poster and the Councillors agreed to share the task of delivering the posters to the 1500+ Parish electors. The Clerk will invite the Police, Tom Randall MP and NCC Councillor Mike Adams and Cllr David Ellis, the elected member for Public Protection.
- h) The Internal Audit has been carried out. There are some considerations that have been reported back to us which have been considered and actioned. A full copy of the feedback report is available on request. Requests to be made to the Parish Clerk.
- i) Training – A reminder that new Councillors should consider the training on offer for new Councillors from the Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils. The Clerk also has opportunities for identified training.
- j) We need to add the Bookings Clerk as a signature on the bank account to allow refund of payments to community centre users when required. It was proposed, seconded and resolved.

- k) Community Centre Update. The discussions were of a sensitive nature regarding a member of the Parish staff, therefore the electors were asked to leave the meeting by the Chair. A discussion followed regarding the Council Policy on staff issues, i.e. sickness, management responsibilities and non-fulfilment of work duties. The Councillors agreed to either hold an Extraordinary General Meeting to discuss in detail or consider another option of resolving.

The meeting closed at 9:30pm in order for the meeting to be compliant with the Council's standing orders for the duration of meeting being kept to a maximum of 2 hours.

31. Date and time of next meeting: Monday 18th July in the Small Hall, Community Centre

Signed by the Chair.....

Or Vice Chair.....

Date:.....