

**LONDON COLNEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3 APRIL 2019
CALEDON COMMUNITY CENTRE, CALEDON ROAD, LONDON COLNEY, 7.00PM**

PRESENT: Councillors M MacMillan, K Gardner, D Gordon, T Lillico, N Mahoney, M Mortuza, H Pakenham, S Pearl and A Osborne

IN ATTENDANCE: E Payne, Clerk
2 Members of the public

249/19. APOLOGIES

All members were present.

250/19. MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No other declarations were received that had not already been notified.

251/19. CHAIR'S REPORT AND URGENT ITEMS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

251/19.1 Gypsy & Traveller Incursion at Shenley Lane Recreation Ground

The Chairman reported on the incident which had occurred on Friday 29 March. They had moved off the site by Tuesday 2 April and the Clerk had instructed a company to undertake the clean-up. The Clerk will report on the expenditure to the Finance Committee. Members discussed the release of emergency funds for further protection of parish council land and this will be reported to the Finance Committee.

Members thanked the Grounds Staff for their prompt attention to the problem.

251/19.2 London Colney Village Club

The Chairman reported that there were concerns in the village about the future of the village club. He reported that this was not something that the parish council could get involved in but would support the formation of a community group who wanted to investigate the issues relating to the site. An application to register the site as an Asset of Community Value will be undertaken by the Clerk. The current planning application for the site would be considered by the District Council's Planning Referral Committee but there is not date for this currently.

Post Meeting Note: The planning application for the site has been withdrawn.

251/19.3 Village Surgery

The Chairman reported that discussions have been held between the Village Surgery and the Parish Council about the possibility to developing a surgery on land at the Community Centre. The site is being valued and discussions are ongoing. A planning application is being drawn up. Any developments would be considered by future Council meetings.

251/19.4 Watford FC Training Ground

Hertsmere BC had consulted the parish council on an amendment to the current planning application for the temporary dome at the site. The Clerk will distribute the email to all Councillors, a response will be formulated on behalf of the parish council and distributed by email.

252/19. MINUTES

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 6 March 2019 were received and approved as a true record of the meeting.

253/19. MATTERS ARISING NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA

253/19.1 Secondary School Allocations

Cllr Gordon confirmed that the process of secondary school allocations was ongoing. She will meet with the Clerk to formulate a letter to be sent to the Portfolio Holder at the County Council.

254/19. COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

No representative from the Police was present.

255/19. CORRESPONDENCE

255/19.1 Review of Parliamentary Boundary Districts and Polling Places in the City & District of St Albans

Members received this correspondence. Members commented that that the access to the London Colney Children's Centre was difficult with measures in place to make the site secure for children. The handle on the gate is high up and the gate is heavy. Previously an officer has been on the gate to assist members of the public gaining access.

255/19.2 Local Government Boundary Commission for England - Boundary Review

Members received this correspondence and it was noted that this further consultation on the matter will be undertaken with parish councils in September/October 2019. Members noted that there is a discrepancy that relates to the London Colney Ward which could have implications on the shape of the ward, depending on which changes were implemented. The Clerk will ensure that Members are kept advised of any developments.

255/19.3 Bags of Help Centenary Grant

Members received information on this grant funding stream and noted that there was a specific focus on tackling cancer, heart disease and diabetes. The Clerk was asked to make an application for funding towards an additional lunch club.

256/19. QUESTION TIME

256/19.2 A member of the public raised concerns about the security of the parish council sites following the Gypsy and Traveller incident. He thanked the Grounds Staff for trimming the yew trees at Morris Recreation Ground.

256/19.3 A member of the public queried the lack of way markers on the Timberland Trail. He had visited County Hall and collected a supply of new way markers which he would pass to the Clerk. Members asked that this was added as an agenda item for the next Environment & Neighbourhood Committee for a work party to walk the trail and install new way markers. He then went to on voice concerns about the Village Club which has already been dealt with as a matter under the Chairman's Report.

257/19. MINUTES

257/19.1 Environment & Neighbourhood Committee Meeting – 12 March 2019

Members received the minutes of this meeting. The Chairman reported on the installation of the new information board at Cooper's Wood and the allotment tenants meeting. Members discussed the success of the litter pick which had been attended by nearly 100 people who had collected over 80 bags of rubbish. It was **RESOLVED** to:

Adopt the Minutes of Environment & Neighbourhood Committee meeting on 12 March 2019 as a true record of the meeting

257/19.1 Finance Committee Meeting – 14 March 2019

Members received the minutes of this meeting. Members noted the adoption of a Dignity at Work/Bullying and Harassment Policy. There were no further comments. It was **RESOLVED** to:

Adopt the Minutes of Finance Committee meeting on 14 March 2019 as a true record of the meeting.

258/19. FINANCE

258/19.1 To note Parish Council expenditure year to date.

This report was received. The Chairman sought clarification on several items.

258/19.2 Expenditure for the period 01/03/19 – 28/03/19

Members received this report and it was **RESOLVED** to:

Approve the expenditure for the period 01/03/19 – 28/03/19

258/19.3 Receipts Received for the period 01/03/19 – 28/03/19

Members received this report and it was noted.

259/19. OFFICER'S REPORTS

259/19.1 Grounds Maintenance Manager's Report

Members received a report from the Grounds Maintenance Manager. Members were advised of the type of work undertaken by Community Payback and were advised it including painting of railings around the play ground and play equipment painting. Members asked if the railings over the bridge could be included. Members asked about the condition of Shenley Lane Recreation Ground following the recent incident and were advised that the condition was not as bad as it could have been. There is some damage but no deep ruts. The ground had been quite dry and was reasonably firm. Some remedial works will be undertaken.

Members raised concerns about the condition of the path across the bridge on the village green and were advised that a contractor would visit the site on Friday 5 April 2019 and a quotation for resurfacing the path would be obtained.

259/19.2 Riverside Trees

Members were advised that one quotation had been received. The trees are not dangerous but would benefit from some work being undertaken in Autumn 2019. The quotations would be taken to the Finance Committee for the release of General Reserves.

259/19.3 Events Officer's Report

Members noted the report from the Events Officer and its contents were noted. Members commented on the success of the Litter Pick. The Events Officer was asked to contact The Base about having a stall at Larks in the Park.

Members queried about parish council membership of the Business Networking Group. The Clerk will investigate and report to a future meeting.

259/19.4 Communities 1st – Drop in Hub at Caledon Community Centre

Members received a report requesting use of the community centre for a drop-in hub by Communities 1st. It was **RESOLVED** to:

Grant free use of the Caledon Community Centre to Communities 1st for a twice monthly drop in hub

260/19.3 PARISH COUNCIL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

- a) Members proposed the formation of a Parish Council Award for Outstanding Achievement which could form part of the Community Awards event. It was **RESOLVED** to:

Implement a Parish Council Award for Outstanding Achievement

- b) **Outstanding Achievement Award to Thomas Miller**

Members were advised that Thomas Miller had recently attended the special Olympics in Abu Dhabi as part of the UK's equestrian team and had won 2 Gold and 1 Silver medals. It was **RESOLVED** to:

Award Thomas Miller a Parish Council Award for Outstanding Achievement

The Clerk was instructed to organise an awards event and advise Members accordingly.

261/19. MEMBER'S POINTS OF INTEREST RECEIVED IN ADVANCE

261/19.1 Unauthorised Car Parking in Community Centre Car Park (Cllrs Gordon & Gardner)

Members discussed how to prevent unauthorised car parking in the community centre car park. Security of the site was discussed considering the recent Traveller incursion at Shenley Lane and the Clerk will prepare a report with costings for the Finance Committee for consideration including collapsible bollards, a height barrier and commercial car park enforcement company.

262/19. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ON OTHER AUTHORITIES

- 262/19.1 Cllr Gardner reported on her attendance at the SADC Scrutiny Committee where a new policy on Bullying and Harassment was adopted, based on ACAS guidelines. There will be a new monitoring officer at the District Council and training on the Code of Conduct will be undertaken after the elections which might be extended to parish and town councils.

- 262/19.2 Cllr Gordon reported on Full Council at Herts County Council including motions on climate change and bee pollinators.

263/19. REPORTS OF EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED

There were no external meetings attended.

264/19. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

To resolve to exclude the Press and the public from the following items in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960.