

LONDON COLNEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28 AUGUST 2019 CALEDON COMMUNITY CENTRE, CALEDON ROAD, LONDON COLNEY, 7.00PM

PRESENT: Councillors K Gardner (Chair), D Gordon, H Pakenham (arrived 8.05pm), S Pearl, L Winstone

IN ATTENDANCE: E Payne, Clerk

3 members of the public

56/19. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Lillico (work), Cllr MacMillan (health), Cllr Mahony (no reason given) and Cllr Mortuza (family).

57/19. MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations had been received that had not already been declared.

58/19. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 2019 were received and approved as a true record of the meeting.

59/19. MATTERS ARISING NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA

59/19.1 Condition of River Colne

The Clerk reported that the Environment Agency had advised that work would be undertaken to the River Colne during August. She hadn't reported the possible water extraction to the agency.

60/19 CHAIR'S REPORT AND URGENT ITEMS

The Chair reported on the excellent attendance for Picnic in the Park and thanked all the staff, Councillors and volunteers for making the event such a success.

61/19. COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

Apologies were received from the Police who had supplied a written report. The next Priority Setting Forum meeting is in September and if Members have any concerns, please report them to a Councillor.

62/19. QUESTION TIME

62/19.1 A member of the public reported that in the Parish Council's newsletter of October 2018, there had been an article on Considerate Parking Month. He reported that there is no change to behaviour, and he had been attacked outside his house when challenging a driver for inconsiderate parking. The resident was encouraged to report the incident to the Police and any parking issues to Parking Enforcement at the District Council.

62/19.2 A member of the public asked if there had been any developments on the situation regarding the water levels in the River Colne. He was advised that the Clerk had received an email from the Environment Agency that routine maintenance on the River Colne would be undertaken during August, dependent on other works. The Clerk was

asked to contact the Environment Agency to set up another meeting, like the one organised by SADC in April 2018. The resident reported a fallen tree on Broad Colney Lakes which is blocking the river and the Clerk will report this to the Environment Agency.

63/19. MINUTES

63/19.1 Planning Committee – 13 August 2019

Members received the minutes of this committee. Cllr Gordon reported that her declaration of interest had been recorded incorrectly and was not a pecuniary interest. There were no recommendations to Council. It was **RESOLVED** to:

Adopt the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 13 August 2019 as a true record of the meeting.

64/19 FINANCE

64/19.1 Income & Expenditure for period ending 30 June 2019

Members received the income and expenditure reports. Members queried the miscellaneous income entry and it was explained that this was the S106 funding from SADC that had been used on Walsingham Way Play Area. Cllr Gordon reported to the meeting, as the Chair of the Finance Committee, that a review of reporting accounts would be undertaken by the next Finance Committee. It was **RESOLVED** to:

Approve the Income and Expenditure Reports for the period ending 30 June 2019.

64/19.2 Payments Authorised for period 1 – 30 June 2019

Members received the payments to be authorised report and it was **RESOLVED** to:

Approve the Payment Schedule for period 1 – 30 June 2019

64/19.3 Receipts Received 1 – 30 June 2019

Members received the receipts received report and there were no questions.

65/19. OFFICER'S REPORTS

65/19.1 Grounds Maintenance Manager's Report

Members received the Grounds Maintenance Manager's report. Cllr Pearl reported that residents of Napsbury had mentioned that the pavilion is looking scruffy. The Grounds Maintenance Manager reported that the outside of the building would be cleaned by the end of September 2019.

65/19.2 Community & Events Officer's Report

Members received a report from the Community & Events Officer on future events. There were no questions

65/19.3 Membership of NALC/HAPTC

Members received a report on the costs relating to membership of NALC/HAPTC. Members considered that if the parish council were to join, then the benefit of

membership should be monitored to ensure that the council was receiving adequate value for money. It was **RESOLVED** that:

- a) London Colney Parish Council will join HAPTC/NALC.*
- b) The benefits of membership will be monitored.*

65/19.4 TREE SURVEY QUOTATIONS

Members received a report on quotations for tree surveys. It was **RESOLVED** to:

- a) Appoint Contractor B to undertake tree surveys at a cost of £2,404.*
- b) Ask the Finance Committee to release funds from General Reserves for the Tree Surveys to be undertaken*

65/19.5 QUOTATIONS FOR REPAIRS TO PATH ON FOOTBRIDGE AT VILLAGE GREEN

Members received quotations for repairs to the path on the footbridge at the Village Green. Members noted that one of the contractors had quoted to repair the wall that runs parallel with the village green. It was **RESOLVED** to:

- a) Appoint Contractor C to undertake the repairs to the bridge and wall at a cost of 1,460.00*
- b) Release funds from General Reserves*

8.05pm *Cllr Helen Pakenham arrived*

65/19.6 DRAINS AT LAND ADJACENT TO VILLAGE GREEN

Members received a report regarding an issue with drains at the village green and its contents was noted. Members noted that the resident had undertaken the work on the drains without referring it to the Parish Council. Members considered that ownership of the land in question needed to be confirmed before any works or recompense to the resident was considered. Once ownership is established then the matter will be considered further by Council. It was **RESOLVED** that:

The Clerk will establish ownership of the land and report to a future meeting.

65/19.7 FESTIVE LIGHT QUOTATIONS

Members received a report on the tender process for the Festive Light contract. Members considered the two quotations in the light of the frequency of column testing. HCC Highways recommends columns are tested every 30 months and this had been quoted by Contractor B whereas Contractor A had quoted for testing annually. Members considered that because of the nature of the site, an annual test was warranted. It was **RESOLVED** that:

Contractor A is awarded the Festive Lights Contractor for 2019-2023 at a total cost of £43,530

65/19.8 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Members received a report with a proposed timeline and process structure for the neighbourhood plan. The contents were noted. It was **RESOLVED** to:

Adopt the Neighbourhood Plan Timeline and Process Structure

65/19.9 MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES

Members received a report regarding introducing a Scheme of Members' Allowances for 2020/21. This had been raised in response to a request from SADC who set allowances at a Remuneration Panel. It was **RESOLVED** that:

London Colney Parish Council will not introduce a Scheme of Members' Allowances

66/19. CORRESPONDENCE

66/19.1 Walsingham Way Tree Project

Members received correspondence from a resident who suggested a tree planting project at Walsingham Way Play Area. Members considered that a project of this nature deserved greater consideration and it was **RESOLVED** that:

The matter is referred to the Environment and Neighbourhood Committee.

67/19 PLANNING

Members considered the following applications:

67/19.1 5/2019/1911 - Installation of front roller shutter at 162 High Street London Colney AL2 1QF

Comment: No objection

67/19.2 5/2019/1912 - Certificate of Lawfulness (proposed) - Change of use from A1 to A2 at 162 High Street London Colney AL2 1QF

Comment: No objection

67/19.3 5/2019/2050 - Advertisement consent - Installation of front roller shutter and one non-illuminated fascia sign at 162 High Street London Colney AL2 1QF

Comment: No objection

Cllr Gordon declared an interest in this item as she had awarded a grant from her County Council Locality Grant to the applicant, St Albans District Credit Union.

68/19. MEMBER'S POINTS OF INTEREST RECEIVED IN ADVANCE

None received.

69/19. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ON OTHER AUTHORITIES

Cllr Gordon reported there had been no meetings at the County Council. She had received a request from SADC for some of her locality budget to fund signs in Gurney Court Road for 'hedgehog warning signs'. She considered that as London Colney had its own hedgehog rescue organisation, it would be more relevant to support the installation of warning signs in hot spots around the village. The Clerk is liaising with the hedgehog organisation and this will be reported to a future Environment & Neighbourhood Committee meeting.

Cllr Pakenham had nothing to report.

Cllr Gardner had chaired the Planning Enforcement Task & Finish Group meeting on Planning Enforcement. One of the recommendations from the meeting was for members to receive additional training which would be offered to parish and town councils.

Cllr Gardner reported that she had 'called in' the planning application for Perham Way if minded to grant.

70/19. REPORTS OF EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED

There were no external meetings attended.

71/19. 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.

DRAFT

