**Minutes of Coldridge Parish Council Meeting 20:00 on Thursday November 24th 2022**

**Present:** **Councillors** Andrew Green, Marion Born, Chris Burrows, Jim Sampson, John Quick John Smith **MDDC Councillor** Peter Heal **DCC Councillor** Margaret Squires

**Clerk** Keyth Richardson

**Apologies** Jeff Burrows

**Open Forum** five parishioners were present but nothing was raised by them

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | item |  |
| 2022/23 -69 | **Welcome by Chairman** | Andrew Green welcomed everyone to the meeting, which started at 19:35 |
| 2022/23-70 | **Recording of meetings** | The meeting was not being recorded  |
| 2022/23-71 | **Apologies** | Jeff Burrows |
| 2022/23-72 | **Declarations of interest** | None reported.  |
| 2022/23-73 | **Minutes** | The minutes of the meeting on September 22nd 2022 were approved and signed |
| 2022/23-74 | **Matters arising** | none |
| 2022/23-75 | **Visit to local employer** | The chairman and vice chairman will arrange to visit C&R construction to discuss traffic flows and speed in the village. It was noted that other motorists are also driving above the “20 is plenty” suggested speed. Cllr Squires reported that, through family links, she had spoken to C&R and an email had been sent to all employees asking them to respect the “20 is Plenty” through the village. |
| 2022/23-76 | **Speed watch** | This should read “speed check” not “Speed watch” which is run by Devon and Somerset Police. Cllr Squires will ask the DCC Highways Engineer for her constituency to hold a handheld speed check early in the morning to see what actual speeds are. There has been a high demand for this service, so it will be while before it happens. DALC and NALC are supporting a national campaign for lower speed limits in residential areas and country lanes, which the Council support.  |
| 2022/23-77 | **Planning Nutwood** | Following a site visit on Thursday November 17th by Councillors Andrew Green, Chris Burrows, Marion Born and John Smith, accompanied by the Clerk, it was agreed that the Parish Council would make no comment on this application. |
| 2022/23-78 | **Planning Long Parks** | The plans were tabled and after a brief discussion a site meeting at 2pm on Friday 25th was agreed with the owners.  |
| 2022/23-79 | **To consider the National Salary Award** | The Councill agreed to implement this award in full |
| 2022/23-80 | **Budget 2023/24** | A draft budget had been circulated prior to the meeting, and copies given to the parishioners present. It was noted that this included £1000 for a possible election in 2023. After some discussion the draft budget was agreed with no changes. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for such a clear and understandable presentation. |
| 2022/23-81 | **Finance**  | The following payments were agreed * 1. Error in Clerk’s wages for September £24.60
	2. Clerk’s wages £369.27
	3. Back pay £60.04
	4. Clerk’s expenses £35.78

It was also agreed to refund the deposit of £25 made in error to the Parish Council bank account by R Herbert Lawrence |
| 2022/23-82 | **Tree Planting** | Some discussion took place on the best place to site a free tree to be planted as part of the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. 1. The green was considered but was felt to have enough trees at present,
2. The grass outside the church has overhead power lines,
3. Planting on the verge alongside the lane leading to Burrow Plot Cross would impede visibility.

John Smith agreed to ask Christine Stanbury if one could be planted on the top road alongside the dog bin and Coldridge sign, as it was felt these items would give the tree some protection for hedge cutting. If the tree survives the Council would consider putting up a plaque to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee. Oak was the preferred choice, and not cherry or ash. |
| 2022/23-83 | **Christmas tree and lights** | It was confirmed the Parish Council will be putting up a tree outside Church Cottage on or about Dec 7tth or 8th and John Smith reported there are sufficient lights, so no more need buying |
| 2022/23-84 | **Coronation** | After a brief discussion it was agreed to see what national plans were made before considering how Coldridge Parish Council would celebrate this on May 6th 2023 |
| 2022/23-85 | **Planning** | Nothing further |
| 2022/23-86 | **Highways** | It was reported that drain had collapsed outside Long Parks, leading to flooding of the property. This had been reported by the owner to DCC Highways, but no significant action had been taken. As the drain was flooded it was not possible to put a camera down it. It might be possible in dry weather. It was agreed the Councillors and Clerk, who were going to the site meeting at Long Parks on Friday would also look at the flooding of Church Lane from Long Parks down to Hobby Moor Cross.The Clerk had reported the pothole outside Whitehall, and this was now outlined in white paint, indicating it will be filled. |
| 2022/23-87 | **Parish Path Partnership** | The Clerk gave a brief outline of this and distributed leaflets. It will be discussed fully at the next meeting |
| 2022/23-88 | **Councillor’s reports** | John Smith has arranged for a talk on Cyber Crime on 20th April 2023 in the Village HallIt was noted that Johnny Monument is the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator The address is coldridgenhw@hotmail.com Margaret Squires reported the DCC was in dire financial straits and because of this DCC Highways is struggling to keep up with the work neededPeter Heal reported MDDC is going through its budgeting process and will be making savings. It is looking to de-carbonise using solar panels, PV panels and heat pumps. As less staff are home working it is easier to speak to MDDC staff which leads to more efficient use of time. The 3-weekly bin collection has led to an increase in re-cycling, and the operatives are monitoring any excessive waste from a single property. Marion Born noted the road from Thorn Corner is still awaiting repair, known locally as the sump buster. |
| 2022/23-89 | **Dates of next meetings** | To confirm the dates for 2023 as January 19th, March 16th, May 18th (depending on election requirements) July 20th, Sept 14th, November 16th. |

The meeting closed at 20.50

Signed: