

# Parish Council of Coleford

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## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2025

**Present** Cllr Ham (Chairman presiding), Allen, Banks, Bell, Evans, Paterson, Pearce, and Townsend.

**In attendance** 1 member of the public present  
The Clerk, Vickie Watts taking the minutes

### 1. Public Forum

1.1 It was reported that the drain opposite the school next the zebra crossing was blocked and during the recent heavy rain water was spouting up from the drain.

*Action: Cllr Townsend to report*

1.2 The log sticking out of the hedge which was previously reported is still there and will cause damage at some point if not removed.

*Action: Cllr Townsend to report*

1.3 It was reported that 2 streetlights are not working near to the yellow gate on Church Street. There are already 6 not working at Lipyeate and 7 at Stockhill, which have already been reported.

*Action: Cllr Townsend to report. Cllr Ham will discuss with Somerset Highways to press for them to be repaired.*

1.4 It was noted that the Rainier Appeal had been submitted. The initial notification letter was dated incorrectly with a January date which was subsequently amended to the 21<sup>st</sup> February. The appeal documents were also not available online until the 24<sup>th</sup> February after the Clerk contacted the planning department. It was mentioned that the Council might pursue a highway consultant to help defend the appeal. It was also suggested that a meeting be arranged with the planning officer to discuss a strategy for the appeal. It was agreed that this should be pursued by Cllr Ham.

*Action: Cllr Ham to action.*

### 2. Apologies for Absence (acceptance of any reasons offered)

Cllrs Douglas-Burke, Moulding and Swords sent apologies which were accepted by the Chair.

### 3. Declaration of Interest and Dispensations granted since last meeting

There were none.

### 4. Co-option of Councillors

There were none.

## **5. Planning Applications**

- 5.1 2025/0213/FUL - Development of a private non-illuminated equestrian arena with access track. Land At Cherry Gardens Farm, Newbury

Councillors had considered the plans prior to the meeting. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Bell and seconded by Cllr Paterson that the application be recommended for approval.

*Vote: 7 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstention (Somerset Councillor)*

**Action: Clerk to notify the planning department**

- 5.2 2025/0273/HSE – First Floor Side Extension and Single Storey Rear Extension, 32 Preachers Vale, Coleford

Councillors had considered the plans prior to the meeting. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Allen and seconded by Cllr Bell that the application be recommended for approval.

It was noted that no consultee list was available on the planning portal. It was agreed that the Clerk would highlight the absence to the planning officer and state that the Parish Council hoped the neighbouring residents had been correctly notified of the application.

*Vote: 7 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstention (Somerset Councillor)*

**Action: Clerk to notify the planning department**

## **6. Agree bank reconciliation**

The Clerk prepared the bank reconciliation which was checked by Cllr Bell and found to be in order.

## **7. Discuss whether to purchase a WWI / WWII metal woman from Royal British Legion**

Councillors had been given the opportunity to consider the information about the RBL metal unknown woman at war statue. It was agreed that a right facing, Lest We Forget version should be purchased for £175.

*Vote: 7 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstention (Somerset Councillor)*

**Action: Clerk to make the purchase**

## **8. Update on the Coleford Menshed**

Cllr Pearce confirmed that arrangements were in place ready for the Menshed meeting on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March at 10.30am. All Councillors were encouraged to spread the word and the Clerk to promote the agenda.

**Action: Clerk to promote. Cllr Ham to arrange refreshments**

## **9. Select an additional member for the allotment working party group**

After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would approach an allotment holder to see if they would be prepared to join the working party to be a spokesperson and conduit between the Council and the allotment holders.

**Action: Clerk to progress**

## **10. Discuss plans for the Annual meeting of the Parish – 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

It was agreed that the Clerk will send invitations to the village groups for the meeting which will take place on the 26<sup>th</sup> March which will follow any planning meeting if required.

**Action: Clerk to action and promote**

**11. Date of Next Meetings:**

It was agreed that the Parish Council meeting due to take place on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025 would be postponed to Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

Annual Meeting of the Parish following the Planning meeting if required 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025

It was noted that the Shepton Local Community Network meeting would take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025.

The meeting ended at 20.22hrs

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