

APM2011.04.19

At the **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** of COLEHILL PARISH COUNCIL held in the Betty Webster Committee Room at COLEHILL MEMORIAL HALL on **19 APRIL 2011**.

PRESENT

Cllrs Keith Baker, Mike Bartlett, Pat Francis, Sue Gretton, KD Johnson, Dave Mitchell, David Packer, Graeme Smith and John Warren.

APOLOGIES

Cllrs John Bell, Susan Davies, Janet Dover, Coirin Duff, Tony Holloway, Don Wallace, District Cllr David Morgan and Mr David McIntosh (Chief Executive EDDC).

IN ATTENDANCE

District Cllr Mike Dyer (Chairman EDDC), Mr David Barnes (Strategic Director EDDC), PC Steve Brett, Mr John Gooch, Mrs Veronica King (Dialaride), Mrs Kath Pike (Colehill District Guides), Mr David Topping (Colehill and Wimborne Youth and Community Centre) and Mr Francis Vine (Age Concern).

460.11 WELCOME

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr KD Johnson, welcomed the Members present.

461.11 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 April 2010, having been circulated were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

462.11 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Reviewing items dealt with during a very busy year, Cllr Johnson made particular reference to the following matters:

(a) Allotments

The Council's application for allotments at By-the-Way had been refused. The search for suitable land continued and a number of other possible sites were being investigated.

(b) Library and School Crossing Patrols

Once again the library was under threat of closure and Dorset County Council planned to withdraw funding from the crossing patrols. Members of the public were looking to the Parish Council for support and guidance.

(c) Canford Bottom

It seemed likely that there was little the Parish Council could do to influence the decisions surrounding the "hamburger junction". However we might be able to achieve some benefits for our electorate by representation to the Highways Agency and County Council to mitigate delays and disruption during the works.

(d) Colehill and Wimborne Youth and Community Centre Fundraising was ongoing and further support was being sought. The Parish Council had committed much already and must remain at the core of this important feature for the youth of Colehill.

(e) Colehill Country Fayre and Newsletter
The Council should continue to build on the successes of the Country Fayre and newsletter, exploring new avenues to publicise the work of the Parish Council.

(f) Core Strategy
It was important that the Parish Council was involved in the process to consider what development happened, particularly where it affected Colehill.

(g) Localism Bill
The forthcoming Localism Bill might bring considerable changes to the powers and responsibilities of parish councils. The abolition of the Standards Board for England and the removal of the rules about predetermination might offer opportunities and freedoms, but might also present pitfalls.

(h) Good Relationships
The Council continued to have good relationships with the police, the church, the Guiding and Scouting movements, our six local schools and the local business community.

(i) Elections
The Council held an open morning to encourage people to stand for election but the attendance was a disappointment. Sadly four Members would be leaving us and those who remained would stand uncontested.

The Chairman concluded his report by thanking the Members for their support and inviting comments or questions about the matters raised.

RESOLVED that the Chairman be thanked for his comprehensive report.

463.11 PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2010

Copies of the audited Annual Return and External Auditor's Certificate and Opinion for the year ended 31 March 2010 had been circulated and a Receipts and Payments summary of the Accounts at 31 March 2011 was available for information.

RESOLVED that the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2010 be received and noted.

464.11 GRANT AID TO ORGANISATIONS

The Chairman awarded grants to the following organisations:

Age Concern Wimborne	£250
Colehill District Guides	£250
Colehill Memorial Hall Management Committee	£6000
Dialaride	£350
Colehill and Wimborne Youth and Community Centre	£5500

The Chairman thanked the organisations for attending the meeting and requested that the grants to the organisations that had been unable to send representatives (ED Citizens Advice Bureaux, Life Education Wessex and Sting in the Tale) be posted to them.

465.11 QUESTION FROM MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC

Mr Gooch advised Members of his concerns regarding the Council's BMX and mountain bike trail at Coombes Wood. He asked about the Council's arrangements for segregating participants from other users of the woods and whether a risk assessment had been completed.

The Chairman and Clerk explained the procedures that were in place, including weekly inspections by Members and an annual inspection by RoSPA and an arboriculturalist. Signs had been installed alerting other users to the trail and advice had been sought from the emergency services, they had requested and logged the grid reference of the trail. All users of the wood were covered under the Council's public liability insurance.

The Council and the Safer Neighbourhood Support Team were in contact with some of the BMX and mountain bike riders and would request that the recently dug pits be backfilled.

There being no other questions the Chairman closed the meeting at 19.40 hrs.

CHAIRMAN