

At the Council Meeting of **COLEHILL PARISH COUNCIL** held at COLEHILL VILLAGE HALL on **16th April 2024**, at **7.15pm**.

PRESENT

Cllr Nigel Bridle, Chair

Cllr Leslie Gibson, Vice-Chair

Cllrs Clare Davison, Ann Edwards, Michael Gibbs, Mark Keniston, KD Johnson, Ken Murgatroyd, Andy Todd and Emma Urquhart

APOLOGIES

No apologies

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs Z Caddy – Clerk.

312.24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

313.24 CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair said it was an honour to serve as Chair since his election date.

314.24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public in attendance.

315.24 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12th March were submitted.

RESOLVED that the Minutes be approved and signed.

316.24 MATTERS ARISING ON THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

317.24 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (a) HIGHWAYS PLANS & THE ENVIRONMENT –26th March
The report of the Meeting was submitted.

RESOLVED that the report be approved and adopted.

318.24 INTERNAL AUDITOR

It was RESOLVED to re-appoint Jane Stacey as the Council's internal auditor for the ensuing year.

319.24 GOVERNANCE DOCUMENTS

Members reviewed the following documents:

1. JPAG – Practitioner Guide March 2024
2. Risk Register
3. Effectiveness of Internal Audit
4. Grant Aid documentation

RESOLVED that:

(a) the documents listed above be approved

320.24 ANNUAL MEETING AND OTHER MEETING DATES

It was RESOLVED to make the following changes to the calendar of meetings due to venue availability:

Annual Council meeting will be on Wednesday 15th May rather than on Tuesday 14th as previously agreed. 16th July full Council will now be 9th July and 17th December will now be 10th December.

321.24 GRANT AID

It was RESOLVED to give the following grants - Colehill Library £13,334,64 (annual running costs with a 10% increase on the previous few years plus funding for the noticeboard project). Power for this Grant falls under The Local Government Act 1972 s137 – ‘power to incur expenditure for certain purposes not otherwise authorised’.

Colehill Girl Guides - £168.00. Power for this Grant falls under The Local Government Act 1972 s137 – ‘power to incur expenditure for certain purposes not otherwise authorised’.

322.24 EXTERNAL AUDITOR

It was CONFIRMED that no members of the Council have a conflict of interest with the external auditor BDO LLP

323.24 LICENCE APPLICATION

It was RESOLVED not to make any submission in connection the licence application for Sounds Beautiful Ltd 4 day festival at Gaunts House.

324.24 KYRCHIL CORNER ACCESS LICENCE LAND

It was RESOLVED to make a request to the Countryside team to repair the timber railings. It was further RESOLVED that having reviewed the current state of the track to fund £100 towards the remedial works. If this is not acceptable the issue will be discussed again at the May Annual meeting.

325.24 DELEGATED DECISIONS

The delegated decisions (Provide refreshments for two community engagement events – total cost £48.38 + VAT and the Chair to make a discretionary £100 donation from the Chair’s fund to the charity Downright Perfect for their kind loan of soft play equipment at the recent Easter event held at the Colehill & Wimborne Youth & Community Centre) were NOTED and AGREED.

326.24 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS

It was NOTED that two Code of Conduct Complaints have been officially lodged to the Monitoring Officer at Dorset Council on 6th March. Members involved were invited to disclose details if they wished.

Cllr Gibson said a code of conduct complaint had been raised on him by another of our members without any explanation or attempt to discuss first.

The wording made no sense as it said, five times, that it related to a Council Committee meeting and complained among other things that correct Council processes hadn't been followed and the Council had not been put first in the decision making. However the date quoted related to a Reef Board meeting where Council processes are not followed, and by charity law, decisions must be made solely in the best interests of the charity not the Council. Cllr Gibson said he'd explained recent events at the Reef to the Monitoring Officer, and received confirmation that no investigation would be carried out. They also said the complaint had been withdrawn. The member raising the complaint has not yet offered any apology.

Cllr Todd said the other complaint was a 'self-referral' to ask the Monitoring Officer to exercise due process in connection with his own conduct. The complaint was also then withdrawn.

**327.24 COLEHILL & WIMBORNE YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE
ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT**

It was RESOLVED that following last year's agreement by the Council to supply staffing to help with the running of the Colehill & Wimborne Youth & Community Centre (The Reef) to agree the task list making clear what service/support the Council is supplying. This list is to ensure the expectations on staff are clear and detailed as well as acting as a guide to potential new trustees to help them understand what will be expected of them should they wish to form part of the team (trustees and staff working together) to run the centre. This is annexed at Appendix 1 to these Minutes in the Minute Book. It was also RESOLVED that following the Annual Meeting the Assistant Clerk will designate 25% (5 hrs a week) on Council work – this will be one working day each week which could change according to the needs of the Reef and the Council as well as the Council as employer being mindful of possible flexibility for the staff member.

328.24 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED that the accounts listed in Appendix 2 to these Minutes in the Minute Book be passed for payment and cheques drawn accordingly.

329.24 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND MATTERS FOR FORTHCOMING AGENDA

The Council phone being internet based
Exercise equipment as a new large project
The map board being altered following boundary changes.
New Merrifield – HPE.
Raising the Council profile – FGP

The Meeting ended at 8:48 pm.

CHAIR