Colne Engaine Parish Council

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MINUTES OF THE ON LINE COLNE ENGAINE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 14TH MAY 2020

IN THE CHAIR: **CLLR T EVERITT**

PRESENT: **CLLRS: L ORROW, I MESSENGER, T JOHNS, N WARWICK,**

CLLR TAYLOR, CLLR BARNARD

CLERK: **T ROOTSEY**

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

All present

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr Everitt declared an interest in item 9 as he lives next door to football ground.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Gordon Townsend who is a resident of the village has made enquiries as to whether a community special constable could be employed to serve both Colne Engaine and Earls Colne. He was told that the scheme was currently on hold due to a shortage of candidates. He was advised that if both Parish Councils would agree in principle to fund a special constable it would be taken to the assistant chief constable to ascertain whether a special case could be made. A “ballpark” figure of £500 par annum for each Council would cover a total of 16 hours work between the two Councils.. Earls Colne were to discuss this at their meeting next week.

4. DISCUSS THE FEASIBILITY OF FUNDING A SPECIAL CONSTABLE FOR THE VILLAGE *DECISION REQUIRED*

Cllr Messenger commented that this matter was discussed some time ago when it was decided that the cost was not justifiable although he felt that it was now more meaningful and useful. There was general agreement that a special constable would be very useful.

RESOLVED: The parish Council would apply for a special constable subject to the cost involved.

PROPOSED: Cllr Everitt SECONDED: Cllr Orrow Unanimous

5. **DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS, IF PRESENT, TO ADDRESS THE MEMBERS** – *FOR INFORMATION*

Cllr Spray reported that the Cabinet planning officers were working hard to keep things turning over. There were 69 applications waiting to come to committee. Approximately 30 applications were coming in each week. On the financial front the Council was going through a lot of money supporting bus travel and residents.
Cllr Courtauld reported that the recycling centres were reopening next week.

6. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD 12TH MARCH 2020.**– *DECISION REQUIRED*

RESOLVED: The minutes are a true record of the meeting

PROPOSED: Cllr Messenger SECONDED: Cllr Johns Unanimous

7. **FINANCIAL MATTERS** – *DECISION REQUIRED.*

a) Financial statements for April 2020.

b) Items per April 2020 payment schedule to be approved and paid on line

c) Approve reconciliations of both bank accounts

d) Budget information as at 30th April 2020 as prepared by Clerk.

e) Review Earmarked Reserves.

RESOLVED: Items a - e were accurate and approved and the payments could be made online.

PROPOSED: Cllr Messenger SECONDED: Cllr Orrow Unanimous

8. **DISCUSS THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE WORK OF THE VILLAGE MAINTENANCE MAN DURING THE LOCKDOWN PERIOD.**-*DECISION REQUIRED.*

RESOLVED: Cllr Warwick is to complete a draft written risk assessment with a view to Mr Raczi returning to work in a safe manner to be considered by Members and when agreed Clerk agreed will discuss and agree with Mr Raczi.

PROPOSED: Cllr Warwick SECONDED: Cllr Taylor Unanimous

9. <u>DISCUSS PROGRESS OF UNSUNG HERO AWARD</u>- *DECISION REQUIRED.*

The nominations were discussed, and it was

RESOLVED: That the award should be given to Nisha and Bharat Patel who run the village shop for their hard work in keeping the shop going with a smile during the covid-19 crisis.

PROPOSED: Cllr Everitt SECONDED: Cllr Barnard Unanimous

10. <u>CONSIDER RESPONSE TO STANSTEAD AIRPORT REQUEST FOR VIEWS ON THEIR FUTURE AIRSPACE PROGRAMME.</u>- *DECISION REQUIRED.*

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council should decline to comment and the leave it to each Councillor to comment as an individual if they wish.

PROPOSED: Cllr Everitt SECONDED: Cllr Warwick Unanimous

11. <u>DISCUSS CURRENT SITUATION WITH THE FOOTBALL CLUB AND THE USE OF BURCHES MEADOW.</u> – *FOR INFORMATION AND DECISION IF REQUIRED*

RESOLVED: Defer this item to the next meeting

PROPOSED: Cllr Everitt SECONDED: Cllr Warwick Unanimous

12. <u>CONSIDER QUOTES FOR PROPOSED SIGNAGE FOR CAR PARK</u>- *DECISION REQUIRED*

The Clerk had not been able to produce a full selection of sample signs before the meeting and therefore the item could not be discussed. He will produce a selection for consideration at a future meeting.

13. <u>CONSIDER REQUESTING LOCAL HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY</u>- *DECISION REQUIRED*

RESOLVED: Agreed subject to the questionnaires being distributed with the Parish Magazine and the cost being in the region of £250.

PROPOSED: Cllr Everitt SECONDED: Cllr Orrow Unanimous

Signed……

14. <u>PERSONNEL MATTERS –</u> *FOR INFORMATION*

VILLAGE MAINTENANCE WORKER: MR C RACZI. Continues to work conscientiously.

CLERK: MR T ROOTSEY continues to undertake his duties satisfactorily.

15. **<u>HIGHWAYS.</u>**

No matters raised

16. **<u>TO RECEIVE CHAIRMAN'S BRIEFING, CLERKS REPORT & COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS.</u>**

Cllr Johns wished to acknowledge all of the leadership and work put in by Spike Townsend in setting up and running the Colne Engaine response centre from the five Bells from 10 until 4 each day. There are currently 80 volunteers. Spike has offered to produce a full written report for the next meeting.

Cllr Barnard has offered the use of his personal version of "Zoom" for this and future online meetings to save the Parish Council cost but expressed concern about what would happen if he was not available for a future meeting. Cllr Johns added that she has a version that we could use in that situation.

17. **<u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u>** 11th June 2020

Cllr Everitt thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 10.00 pm

Minutes pages 1 – 4 approved unanimously a "Zoom" Parish Council Meeting

11th June 2020 item 6