

COLWICH PARISH ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF THE COLWICH PARISH ASSEMBLY, CALLED UNDER THE PART III OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, HELD ON THURSDAY 23RD MAY 2024 AT ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH, MAIN ROAD, LITTLE HAYWOOD COMMENCING AT 6:30PM.

PRESENT: Cllr Plant (2024-25 Chairman Colwich Parish Council) and Revd Mr Michael Lennon FSLCC (Chief Officer to Colwich Parish Council).

COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Bloor (2024-25 Vice Chairman Colwich PC); Cllr Colwill; Cllr Dunn; Cllr B Forster; Cllr M Forster; Cllr Hardwick; Cllr Hall; Cllr Hill; Cllr Upton-Loach and Cllr Walters.

PUBLIC: 31 members of the public were present.

William Ives welcomed everyone to St Michael's church and provided brief housekeeping details.

Before the meeting commenced, the Chairman reminded the Assembly of the generous offer from Shirley Navin at last year's Parish Assembly when she asked that the Coronation Bear be donated to the local child born on, or nearest to, the Coronation Day. After liaising with Hazeldene House Surgery, the Chairman was delighted to invite Marnie and her family to receive the bear. Following the presentation, the family left the Assembly.

MINUTES

1. **APOLOGIES** were received from Miss D Ste Croix (Head Teacher, Colwich primary school); Mr Johnson (Chairman, Allotments Association); Mr Bull (Chairman, Colwich Parish in Bloom) and Ms N Jarrett (Head Teacher, Anson primary school).
2. **MINUTES OF THE COLWICH PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD ON 31ST MAY 2023.**

RESOLVED to agreed and sign the minutes as a true and accurate record.

PROPOSED Cllr Plant

SECONDED Cllr Bloor.

3. **MATTERS ARISING FORM THE MINUTES.**

See presentation above.

4. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.**

The Chairman launched the COLWICH PARISH COUNCIL'S ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24 and invited attendees to take a copy. The Chairman gave a brief background to the establishment of parish councils, including details of the inaugural meeting of Colwich Parish Council on 3rd January 1895, and the main Acts of Parliament which govern Councils including the Local Government Act 1894, Local Government Act 1972 and the Localism Act 2011.

The Chairman detailed the process the Parish Council undertakes each year in arriving at its Budget and how this informs the precept charge followed by an update of the work of the Council and its Committees.

The Chairman concluded by launching the 2024/25 Photograph of the Year competition.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.

Question raised included:

Q1. Is the footpath between Hazeldene House and the Memorial Hall still going ahead?

A1. Yes. Awaiting confirmation that the land has been registered so we may proceed.

Q2. Can you explain the £421,000 Leisure Income?

A2. This is section 106 monies to complete the various projects at the JPF and the Garden of Remembrance off Coley Lane. The Council has applied to the Borough Council for the funds and the projects will not proceed until the funds are confirmed.

Q3. Is the pedestrian safety scheme on Mill Lane still going ahead?

A3. Yes. The County Council are still negotiating with the landowners either side of Mill Lane near the railway bridge and with Network Rail.

Q4. Will there be any new burial grounds in the parish.

A4. Council investigated this some years ago and the costs were very high together with a lack of suitable land in the area due to the need for a minimum of 6-foot clearance from the bottom of a grave to a water course.

Q5. Will there be gates on the Memorial Hall to Hazeldene House footpath.

A5. Yes. The Council envisages that the site should be more secure than it is at present.

Q6. Will the Remembrance Garden accept ashes.

A6. Ashes may be scattered but the Council is not, at present, looking to inter ashes as this is covered by different, more stringent, legislation.

Q7. Have we asked Land Registry to expedite the registration of the land for the footpath?

A7. Thanked the speaker for their suggestion and the Council we will be speaking to its Solicitor.

Q8. What is the latest on the Convent Wall.

A8. The Council has approached the Borough Council for an update (subsequently posted onto Facebook on 4th June 2024).

6. PRESENTATIONS

AEDDonate, Stone gave a presentation on Defibrillators including where they are located in the parish and how to use one. They offered to provide a full training session in the parish.

Hayley Mival, National Trust Shugborough gave an update on the estate together with details of the new entrance, car park and visitor centre.

7. THE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR 2023/24.

The Chairman announced that the winner has, over a number of years, worked with the Memorial Hall, the Sports & Social Club and numerous community groups across the parish. The Chairman was delighted to announce that Mr Alan Doehren was the winner of the Citizen of the Year 2023/24.

8. The Assembly **CLOSED** at 8:13pm.

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