

**COLTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, WEDNESDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2024
AT 7 PM AT COLTON VILLAGE HALL**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

(Maximum of 20 mins at the beginning of the meeting to hear public questions and comments)

(No member of the public may address the meeting hereafter)

BUSINESS AGENDA

1. To note attendance and receive apologies for absence
2. To receive declarations of interest
3. To approve minutes of meeting held on 2nd October
4. Chairman's Announcements
5. Payments
 - a) To confirm the details of the following payments agreed at the October meeting:
 - i) 2031 St Mary's Church – Contribution to costs of printing Parish Magazine 2024 (1,425.00) and mowing Pedley's Croft 2024 (200.00) £1,625.00
 - ii) 2036 Colton Burial Ground Administrative Committee - Further funding for ongoing maintenance £500.00
 - b) To approve the following payments:
 - i) 2037 TGM – Grass cutting in Sept and early Oct - Village Hall, 2 cuts (191.70), Stockwell Heath, 2 cuts (63.04), Closed BG, 3 cuts (141.84), Heathway footpath, 1 cut (47.28) plus VAT (88.78) £532.64
 - ii) 2038 Alison James – Clerk's salary, November, after National Pay Award (370.96); Back pay for April to October after tax (98.22); Home working expenses, 5 weeks, 5 Oct – 8 Nov (20.00); Reimbursement for bank payment to magazine delivery girl on 28 Oct for November delivery (20.00); Reimbursement for top up of PC mobile on 28 Oct (10.00) £519.18
 - iii) 2039 Lichfield District Council – Annual Village Hall play area inspection (65.00) plus VAT (13.00) £78.00
 - iv) 2040 Colton Village Hall – Reimbursement for annual insurance for play area £149.13
 - v) 2041 Cllr N Parry – Reimbursement for supply of green dog poop bags for dispensers (21.75) plus VAT (4.35) £26.10
 - vi) 2042 Petty cash top up £50.00

(Total of new payments for approval at b) above is £1,355.05).

6. Planning Matters

- a) To note any applications received and make observations to the Planning Authority:
 - i) 24/00515/COUM (Change of use (Major)) – Border Collie Trust GB, Narrow Lane, Colton – Section 73 application to vary condition 9 of permission 23/01096/COUM relating to time restrictions on walking of

dogs – Amended noise assessment received after last agenda issued but discussed at last meeting. LDC deadline has passed; no objections raised

- ii) 24/01075/FUH – 7 Martlin Lane, Colton – Installation of 2 roof lights to rear elevation
- b) To report on any recent decisions of the Planning Authority:
 - i) 23/01249/LBC – Malt House Farm, Bellamour Way, Colton - Listed Building Consent for installation of chimney pots into existing chimneys, removal of 2 roof windows to extension and installation of electric car charging point – Approved
 - ii) 23/00190/COU – 8 Old Wood Farm, Blithbury Road, Colton – Conversion and alteration of agricultural buildings to form 1 dwelling and ancillary annex - Approved

7. Highways, Footpaths and Open Spaces

- a) To report on new issues or progress and agree any action required:
 - i) Flooding and highways maintenance - Drain near bridge on Bellamour Way; Hollow Lane flood and correspondence from parishioner; Poor state of Newlands Lane
 - ii) SCC flood resilience projects
 - iii) Road closures – Any further issues
 - iv) New SCC Environment team – Tasks for their work list including pavement on High St near Littlehay Manor & path alongside B5013 Colton Rd to Rugeley Trent Valley
 - v) Improving the appearance of the parish and any progress with advert for parish handyperson
 - vi) Litter picking
 - vii) Issue of speeding in the village raised by parishioners - Proposed purchase and installation of speed detection device
 - viii) Rights of Way issues on Hollow Lane reported to PC by parishioner

8. To discuss any further arrangements for Remembrance Sunday

9. To discuss any further views on future costs & distribution of parish magazine

10. To discuss plans for Colton Summer Festival on 28 June 2025

11. To discuss ideas to raise profile of PC on social media and with younger generation

Any follow up on draft Engagement Plan circulated by Noel Talbot

12. Correspondence

To note items of correspondence received and agree any actions required:

- a) Connect Fibre – Information about the government’s Project Gigabit initiative, to bring lightning-fast broadband to hard-to-reach communities and contract awarded to Connect Fibre to implement it in NE Staffordshire, with introductory Teams meeting for parish councils on Thursday 10th October and follow up information and potential offer for local organisations or community venues (Emails, circulated to councillors)
- b) SPCA – Information about government consultation on proposal to re-introduce remote meetings for parish councils etc., with closing date of 19 December (Email, circulated to councillors)
- c) SPCA – Online seminar about Parish Council Domains Helper Service and possible help and funding to set up a gov.uk domain, on Tuesday 3rd December, 1pm to 2pm (Email, circulated to cllrs)

- d) Staffs Police – Additional PCSO joining rural policing team – PCSO 06442 Margaret (known as Maggie) Griffiths (Email, circulated to cllrs)
- e) SCC – Initiative on Road Safety for Mature Road Users, offering resource and community talk (Email, circulated to cllrs and subsequently to Friendship Club organiser)
- f) SCC – Opening of new Staffordshire History Centre (email, circulated to cllrs)
- g) SCC – Forthcoming Communities and Culture Roadshows as part of launch of new Communities and Culture Strategy (Email)
- h) SCC – Output from meeting with parish councils to help formulate a Local Transport Plan for Staffordshire (Email, circulated to cllrs)
- i) SCC – Electric Vehicle Charging Survey, to help shape the future of EV infrastructure in the county (Email, circulated to cllrs)
- j) SCC – Part 2 of SCC’s Climate Action Fund is now open for applications until 13 December (Email)
- k) LDC – Slides from presentation on new Local Plan for Lichfield District and minutes from Parish Network meeting held on Wednesday 16th October at Shenstone Library (Email, circulated to cllrs)
- l) LDC – Consultation and drop-in events for Local Plan 2043: Issues and Options (Email, circulated to cllrs)
- m) LDC – Annual Village Hall play area inspection report (Email, also sent to VHMC)
- n) CPRE – Planning training session for parish councils, online on Thursday 23 January, 6-8pm (Email, circulated to cllrs)
- o) SLCC Staffs Branch – Request for interest/support from Citizen’s Advice Bureau for an outreach service (Email, circulated to cllrs)
- p) Police Commissioner - Police and Fire & Rescue Plans consultation 2024 – 2028, inviting residents to share their views (Email, circulated to cllrs)
- q) Art Software Ltd - Launch of new Parish Council accounts software, which is initially free to use and thereafter £9.99 per month (Email)
- r) SPCA – Various correspondence including update on use of gov.uk domains, potential impact of Employment Rights Bill on councils and request to check registration of defibrillators (Emails, mainly circulated to cllrs)

13. Committees

To hear any update from the Burial Ground Committee

14. Finance and audit

- a) To note the Local Government National Pay Award agreed for 2024, to be backdated to 1 April 2024 for Clerk’s pay
- b) To note receipt of precepting information for 2025/26 from LDC with deadline of Wednesday 22nd January 2025 for submitting request
- c) To hear update on banking arrangements

15. Parish Council matters

- a) To hear update on renewal of the grazing licence

16. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 4th December, for Budget Discussion meeting at 6.45pm followed by main meeting at 7.30pm (approximately)