

**COLTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY 9th JANUARY 2020,
COLTON VILLAGE HALL AT 7:30 PM**

Short presentation from Rugeley 'Power for All' group representatives.

Kate and Bill (a Colton resident) from the group explained that it was formed about a year ago, by some of those attending consultation meetings on plans for the Rugeley Power Station site. The aim is to help regenerate Rugeley and the surrounding areas including Colton, Brereton, Ravenhill, Armitage etc. They want to find out what people want to see happening in the area, how it should develop and have been involving Rugeley Youth Council, talking to local councils and talking to ENGIE (the owners of the Power Station site) and their architects JTP. They have Facebook and Twitter sites and a generic email address. The group is trying to focus public opinion and coordinate a response to give strength to arguments e.g. on the need for another secondary school and GP surgery. They have held 2 community meetings so far, attended by around 50 people, and have a further meeting on 27th January. They answered various questions from councillors and parishioners present, about their input to the LDC planning process for the power station site, how far they have considered LDC's Local Plan, what leisure facilities ENGIE are interested in providing, potential funding opportunities etc. (See also page 18 of January parish magazine for further information).

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

Parishioner: Asked about comments in recent PC minutes about reducing length of minutes published in parish magazine and whether this meant that only a selection of information might be included.

Councillors explained that the intention was still to include everything of importance but for the minutes to be less verbose and thereby prevent use of excessive space in the parish magazine.

(No member of public may address meeting hereafter).

BUSINESS AGENDA

1. To note attendance and receive apologies for absence

In attendance: Vice Chairman Sarah Plater (acting as Chairman), Cllrs Matt Crompton, Steve Jenkinson and Noel Talbot and Clerk Alison James.

District Councillor Shirley Barnett attended for the 'Power for All' presentation then gave apologies for remainder of meeting due to ill health.

Apologies received from Chairman Emma Godwin (in advance due to work commitment) and County Councillor Martyn Tittley.

2. To receive declarations of interest

Matt Crompton – item 5 a) i)

3. To approve minutes of main PC meeting and Budget discussion meeting held on 4th December 2019

Both sets of minutes were approved and signed.

4. Chairman's Announcements - None

5. Payments

a) To note the following payment, added and approved at previous meeting:

i)	1781	M Crompton – Reimbursement for wood slats & other materials for Martlin Lane bench repair, including VAT	£199.03
b)	To approve the following payments:		
i)	1782	Colton Village Hall – Room hire, December (12.00) and January (12.00)	£24.00
ii)	1783	TGM – Removal of basal growth on Pedley’s Croft trees along Bellamour Way, incl. VAT	£51.00
iii)	1784	Petty cash	£50.00
iv)	1785	Alison James – Clerk’s salary, January (233.38); Home working expenses, 3 weeks, 7 Dec – 10 Jan excl. 2 holiday weeks (12.00); Mileage, Oct-Dec (44.10)	£289.48
v)	1786	Ian Hall – Tree work following inspection	£850.00

(Total new payments above, to approve this month = £1,264.48 plus £199.03 additional to December agenda total)

All payments above were approved.

6. HS2

To consider any further developments and agree any action required:

- a) Response to petition and issues raised with Sarah Mallen – No response had been received from Sarah Mallen to the email sent in late November, although Liz Davis had sent a response about notifying us when contractors appointed.
- b) Agreement with HS2 for survey access at Stockwell Heath – Progress on obtaining money due from HS2 – Simon Ashfield at Hinson Parry had made contact with new HS2 access manager, who was looking into issue. Simon suggested Clerk also raise issue with HS2 engagement manager Liz Davis and response to that was awaited.
- c) Any other HS2 matters including damage to ditches in Moor Lane; engagement on Common Design Elements – Clerk had passed on photos from Emma Godwin to Liz Davis, who had said Balfour Beatty believed they had rectified any damage at the time and would themselves provide photos.

7. Police matters

To note any matters arising and agree any action required, including response to enquiries about What3words system – Local PCSO Rhys Rockley said he and colleagues were not aware of system. However, Fire & Rescue Service had left message saying they do use and Clerk would contact for further information.

8. Planning Matters

- a) To note the following applications and make observations to the Planning Authority:
 - i) 18/01303/FULM (Full application (Major)) – Land North of Bellamour Lane, Colton – Proposed gas fired electricity generating facility (generating up to 49.99MW of electricity) including formation of new access road and associated structures/facilities and 18/01423/FULM (Full application (Major)) – Land North of Bellamour Lane, Colton – Formation of new access road to serve proposed gas fired electricity generating facility (generating up to 49.99MW of electricity)
 - To receive updates on any further developments and agree any action required – No further information, other than that the application is not to be determined at LDC’s January Planning Committee.

- b) To note date of Monday 13th January for determination by LDC Planning Committee of the following application: 19/00753/OUTMEI – Outline planning application for various demolition works, up to 2,300 new dwellings, new primary school, new road junction for access etc. at Rugeley Power Station site
- c) To report on decisions of the Planning Authority – None received direct from LDC but Sarah Plater reported that demolition of wall at 3 Williscroft Place had been refused, with application at Hurst Wood Farm still outstanding.
- d) To consider any other planning matters and agree any action required:
 - i) Reinstatement of section of brick wall by Greyhound pub/Cedar Cottage – Planning Officer Vanessa Morgan had replied that as wall was about 1m high, planning permission would not be required for its removal so it is unlikely that LDC will take action for its reinstatement.

9. Highways & Footpaths

- a) To report on progress of pending issues and agree any action required:
 - i) State of roads and pavements around parish – including footpath alongside Colton Rd; further flooding on the river bridge and by the Yorkshireman; damaged pavements by Blue Wall and near Dun Cow Sarah Plater had checked progress on all reported issues and most remain outstanding, many for a long time. 3 written complaints received so far about state of Colton Rd footpath. Others had only complained verbally. PC agreed to try compiling a petition to collect signatures (Sarah Plater to draft for councillors' comments).
 - ii) Various reported footpath obstructions and damaged stiles/gates – No update.
 - iii) Any update on Footpath 28 at top of High St – None.
 - iv) Flooding at Park Lane – Clerk to check with Emma Godwin if still issue.
- b) To consider any issues arising since last meeting and agree any action required:
 - i) Further emails from parishioners about state of footpath alongside Colton Rd and suggestion of cycle path – see item 9 a) i) above
 - ii) Gulley emptying – Email to Highways proposed by Chairman in her email of 13/12; Possible combined initiative with other local parish councils – Hollow Lane flood has been cleared twice. 2 of 3 other PCs approached are to consider at their January meeting so responses awaited.

10. To report on progress with possible Post Office service in village

It was thought that PO representative had visited Bellamour Room to assess suitability. Clerk to seek update from John Macmillan.

11. Correspondence

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

- a) Parishioner – Email of 25/11 about damage to Produce Guild tree on Village Hall field (Email and subsequent correspondence circulated to cllrs) – To note action and monitoring of tree.
- b) Power for All, Rugeley – Information received about this group, submitted for parish magazine and presentation to be delivered at start of PC meeting.
- c) Parish magazine editors – Proposed revised layouts and contact details for regular PC entry (Email, circulated to cllrs) – PC approved new layout, with Clerk to provide updated contact details to editor

- d) LDC – Consultation on Local Plan 2018-2040 Review, with closing date of 24th January (Email, circulated to cllrs and in parish magazine)
- e) LDC – Preparing LDC Strategic Plan for 2020-2024, including focus groups on 9th January (Email)
- f) LDC – Consultation on Lichfield city centre master plan, including drop-in events on 17th and 18th January at Lichfield Library (Email)
- g) Power for People – Request for support for Local Electricity Bill to establish Right to Local Supply (Email, circulated to cllrs)
- h) SPCA – Weekly bulletins (Emails, circulated to cllrs) – Recent article about secure storage offered by SCC via records office. Clerk to consider viability for any PC documents and check with Emma Godwin about location of deeds and other papers relating to PC land.
- i) Rural Services Network – Various bulletins (Emails)

12. Committees

To receive any update from Burial Ground Committee – Noel Talbot had recently noticed mole hills in the Open Burial Ground. Clerk to check with BGC about instructing local contractor to get rid of moles.

13. Finance and audit

- a) Budget for 2020/21 – To approve budget and precept request to Lichfield District Council – PC confirmed approval of budget spreadsheet and precept request, which resulted in 14% (£6.09) reduction in PC's component of Band D council tax. Clerk to obtain Emma Godwin's signature and submit to LDC before deadline of 24th January.
- b) To agree timing of donation for VE Day Commemorative Hanging Basket competition – Previously agreed donation of £200 to be made straight away (Clerk to prepare additional cheque no. 1787).
- c) To review the PC's financial regulations – Councillors to review current and NALC template regulations and confirm if any additional items from latter (highlighted in yellow) should be incorporated, for approval next meeting.
- d) To receive progress report from Clerk on update of signatories on bank mandate – Clerk now has i.d. documents from 2 councillors and will contact NatWest again for advice.
- e) To receive report from Clerk on payment arrangement for Heathway grazing licence – Clerk had, on request, provided payment schedule to licensee.

14. Parish Council matters

- a) Tree inspection – To receive progress report from Clerk on follow-up work – Work completed and payment approved at item 5 b) v).
- b) VHMC -To receive report from PC representative–Unable to attend last meeting.
- c) SLCC branch meeting in December – To receive any points of note from Clerk – Useful information received about website accessibility and forthcoming training. Clerk to consider use of cloud storage.
- d) Training – To consider any items, including possible feedback from Code of Conduct session on 7th January (if Clerk attends) – Clerk attended and to circulate presentation slides now received.
- e) To note date of next meeting – Wednesday 5th February at 7.30pm

Close of meeting: 8.40pm