

Minutes of Coldridge Parish Council Meeting 7.15 on Monday 21st October 2019 in the Village Hall

Present: Councillors Andrew Green, Marion Born, Chris Burrows, Jim Sampson, John Daw, Jeff Burrows

Apologies, John Smith

Clerk Keyth Richardson

	item	
2019/20-67	Recording of meetings	The meeting was not being recorded
2019/20-68	Apologies	John Smith
2019/20-69	Declaration of interest	None reported
2019/20-70	Offer of land to purchase for amenity use.	<p>Following on from a site meeting on 12th August between Di Wastenage, [owner of Coldridge Barton] Graham Nott [farm manager] Andrew Green, Chris Burrows, and Keyth Richardson an email had been received from Di Wastenage offering to sell some land for £25,000 an acre.</p> <p>There would be no vehicular access and there would be caveats regarding no future building options.</p> <p>The council estimated that the cost of the land purchase would be in the region of £14,000 to £16,000 with legal costs of £4,000 fencing costs of £2,000, drainage costs of £2000. This would give a total outlay of £22,000 to £24,000.</p> <p>The Clerk informed the meeting that currently the Council had approximately £6,745 it could put towards the purchase and was authorised to borrow £5000. This authority expires in December 2019.</p> <p>The parish council would still need to apply for planning permission for change of use and bear any costs associated with this.</p> <p>Following this expenditure there would be the need to equip the playground and green gym. Whilst some funding may be available, including section 106 money, it would still require some financial input from the Parish Council, as well as ongoing maintenance costs to be met.</p> <p>There was a discussion over the viability of purchasing a smaller piece of land adjoining just the churchyard, but this was not felt to be viable or sensible from either the landowners or Parish Council viewpoint. There was concern expressed that if the Parish Council did not buy this land it might put at risk the continuing use of the field for Coldridge Fete and Vintage Rally, but overall this was not seen to be likely.</p>

		A very full and lengthy discussion took place covering all these aspects and at the end the Parish Council were unanimous that it would not be wise to proceed with this purchase. It would be committing a significant part of the Parish Council's income for the next few years for the benefit of a small percentage of the population.
2019/20-71		The clerk was asked to write to Di Wastnage explaining why the council were unable to proceed with the purchase.

The meeting closed at 20:15

Signed: