

COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Wednesday 12 February 2014 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Members present:	Miss A Bacon (Chairman)	Mr S Moffat ^(SM)
Councillors:	Mr P Crossley ^(PC)	Mr B Pemberton ^(BP)
	Mr R Elleray ^(RE)	Mrs J Preston ^(JP)
	Mr H Griffiths ^(HG)	Mr N Taylor ^(NT)
	Mr A Hollick ^(AH)	Miss C Westgarth ^(CW)
	Dr J McCabe ^(JM)	Mr T Scott ^(TS)

In attendance: 4 members of the public and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

None.

1.1 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda

Cllrs Moffat, Bacon and Hollick declared an interest in Item 3.5 as residents of Swaynes Lane.

1.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)

None.

1.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

None.

Comments & observations from members of the public and County and District Councillor reports

A resident asked the Parish Council to bring its influence to bear on Anglian Water and the Environment Agency regarding the flooding problems in Swaynes Lane. Pumping operation was now continuous with tankers going up and down the road all night, causing a disturbance to residents, potholes in the road surface, and damaging the verge. Raw sewage was flowing into gardens and ditches.

A resident of Barton Road commented that after installation of the new pump, matters should be monitored and problems should be anticipated when levels rose. Concerns were expressed that with further development the problems would be exacerbated.

Cllr Pemberton arrived at 7.37 pm.

The Chairman reported that Anglian Water had been invited to tonight's meeting but had not been able to attend. They were continuing to investigate including conducting a CCTV survey of the network in Comberton, and would discuss matters further when the results were known. The Environment Agency had already taken samples to check for contamination. The Chairman will speak to Anglian Water and offer dates for a meeting. A map of damaged verges is to be marked up and Anglian Water is to be reminded to repair them. Cllr Taylor undertook to report the potholes to Highways. The Parish Council felt there was little more it could do at this stage. Two residents left the meeting.

Cllr Scott reported in his capacity as District Councillor on issues raised with him, including:

- The sewage problem, acknowledged by Anglian Water and now regarded by them as high priority.
- A suggestion that Swaynes Lane be made one-way from the pub to the Bush Close junction due to the narrowness of the road. Cllr Scott sought the Council's views. A paper will be circulated to the Transport Working Group to bring a recommendation to a future meeting.
- The deteriorating condition of Church Lane.

- The safety of pedestrians on the B1046.
- A housing association home for sale in St Thomas's Close. Housing associations occasionally sold properties to fund future developments.
- SCDC's meeting regarding the Local Plan, which was likely to go ahead, including the 90 houses at Bennell Farm with car parking and pitches as originally proposed. It was observed that the Parish Council needed to monitor any development brief from SCDC to developers and to ensure that the framework of the village and group village status remained unchanged. It was understood that Anglian Water would consider any detrimental effect on existing customers at the planning application consultation stage. The Parish Council considered it essential that the problems with sewage and surface water getting into the system were rectified before any houses were built. Cllr Moffat left the meeting briefly during this item at 8.06 pm and returned a few minutes later.

2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 8 January 2014 including the confidential employment minute, and the extra-ordinary meetings on 22 January and 3 February 2014

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting on 8 January be approved ^(Prop AB, 2nd RE, carried with 1 abstention) and signed by the Chairman, after the amendment of the word "care" to "car" under Cllr Frost's report.

RESOLVED unanimously that the minutes of the extra-ordinary meeting on 22 January be approved and signed by the Chairman, after the deletion of the word "briefly" under Item 2.1. ^(Prop HG, 2nd AH)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the extra-ordinary meeting on 3 February be approved and signed by the Chairman. ^(Prop HG, 2nd AH, carried with 2 abstentions)

3. Matters arising or carried forward from the meeting or a previous meeting for discussion or decision and to note the Clerk's report

The Clerk's report, which included background to items on the agenda and matters arising, was noted.

3.1 (6.1) Football Club complaint regarding charges for re-arranged fixtures and request that the statement is changed including report on meeting with the Football Club
RESOLVED to receive the report on the meeting with the Football Club.

3.1.1 Proposal that the Council accepts the payment proposals made by the Football Club
RESOLVED to accept the Club's offer of payment of £691.38 immediately and three monthly payments of £100 by the end of March 2014, sooner if money became available, in return for the Council writing off the balance of £246.54 due on the invoice dated 15 July 2013. ^(Prop HG, 2nd AG, carried with 1 abstention) It is to be checked whether the initial payment had been received.

3.1.2 Proposal that the Council considers the request of the Football Club to send email notice of cancellations direct to the cleaners
RESOLVED that the Club may notify LGS Services or the cleaners direct of any cancellations, to avoid cleaning charges being incurred unnecessarily. ^(Prop HG, 2nd AG, carried with 1 abstention)

3.1.3 Proposal that Council considers the request of the Football Club that Cleaning is carried out on a day other than Monday
RESOLVED that the cleaning could be carried out on a day other than Monday, to allow some extra time for them to be notified of any fixture changes. ^(Prop HG, 2nd AG, carried with 1 abstention)

RESOLVED to review the policy when the development of the Recreation Ground and the extension of the Pavilion were completed.

3.2 (5.3) Transport Working Group (TWG) proposed cycle path update

Nothing further had been heard from CCC. District Cllr Burkitt had chased this.

3.3 Comberton Playground Project update

RESOLVED to note that the order had been placed for Phase 1 of the project. The outcome of the revised application to WREN for a £50,000 grant should be known by 19 March. Phase 2 is to be an agenda item for the next meeting. Cllr Crossley will circulate the equipment list, currently still under discussion, which will form part of the proposal to the March meeting. Various small grant applications are also in progress.

On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to take Item 3.3.2 first.

3.3.2 Proposal that the Council reaffirm its commitment to be the third party funder for the WREN application (using up to £5,500 of unallocated S106 funds) [the reason being that the original funds have gone towards Phase 1]

Reported that there was sufficient money available from recent S106 funds, as yet uncommitted, to cover the £5,500 needed to unlock the WREN grant funding of £50,000. RESOLVED that the Parish Council reaffirm its commitment to be the third party funder for the WREN application using S106 money. (Prop PC, 2nd SM, carried with 2 abstentions)

3.3.1 Consideration of the use of S106 money to meet the shortfall in funding for the first phase of the playground project

Reported that there was available approximately £4250 (index linked) from an S106 agreement signed in 2012 which had not yet been received, to cover the shortfall of £2648. RESOLVED that the Parish Council accept the use of S106 money to meet the shortfall (Prop PC, 2nd BP, carried with 1 abstention)

It was noted that Tim Lodge of Agrostis considered there was no realistic prospect of work on the Recreation Ground extension being completed by 31 March due to the recent bad weather, and he was proposing to make application to Cambridgeshire Community Foundation to seek time flexibility. The Parish Council did not feel that these circumstances should prevent the Playground Project from proceeding.

3.4 Damage to the skate park – recommendation from Cllr Pemberton

Carried forward to the next meeting.

3.5 Sewage and flooding issues in Comberton

Taken earlier.

4. Finance, procedure & risk assessment

4.1 To receive the financial report and to approve the payment of bills

RESOLVED to receive the financial report and check that this be checked against the invoices and statements before the cheques are signed at the end of the meeting.

RESOLVED (Prop AB, 2nd BP) that the payments as listed in the financial report should be paid, plus Electric Matters (Christmas lights repair) £45.00, Wright-Way Cleaning (Pavilion cleaning) £144.00, Dents (Locksmiths) £140.70, Cambridgeshire County Council (Grit bins) £456.00, Cambridge Water Company £279.45; and Foxcotte Fencing £185.40, Frimstone £1224.00, Burdens £126.00 (Rec ground car park).

Salaries	£301.70
R Elleray (Expenses)	£158.21
Eon (Electricity)	£250.27

RESOLVED to seek reimbursement from the resident for the Christmas lights repair.

5. To receive reports and recommendations from committees, working groups and members

5.1 Planning Committee report

Nothing to report.

5.2 Recreation Ground Working Group (RWG)

Nothing further to add.

5.3 Transport Working Group (TWG) proposed cycle path and consideration of insurance requirements

RESOLVED that Cllr Pemberton is to draft an article for Contact regarding the Harbour Avenue/Barton Road junction and 20 mph speed limit.

5.3.1 Proposal for the Parish Council to accept the Real Time Bus Information signs for the eastbound stops at the Duck Pond and opposite Swaynes Lane

RESOLVED that Cllr Pemberton should accept the grant for the eastbound stops at the north side of Barton Road opposite Swaynes Lane, and at the duck pond and seek signage at the North side of Barton Road opposite Swaynes Lane, rather than at Kentings.

5.3.2 That the Parish Council funds bollards alongside the Duck Pond (Green End verge) to stop parking on the verge (CCC to provide materials and Parish Council to fit them)

RESOLVED that two of the Council's posts with red flashing added should be installed on the verge by Cllr Elleray and that a letter be sent to CCC informing them of the action taken. ^(Prop BP, 2nd SM)

5.4 To consider how the Council might address the problem of dog fouling in the village

RESOLVED to note that the path from South Street to Barrons Way was considered to be badly affected by dog fouling and that Cllr Westgarth should prepare an article for Contact reminding residents to dispose of dog mess responsibly.

5.5 LDF Working Group – update on the LDF Local Plan pertaining to Comberton

Cllr Elleray spoke to his report. Objections to the plans had revealed additional sites proposed for development. The plan will be submitted to full Council on 13 March. Concerns were expressed that no transport improvements to the A428 appeared to be proposed in the current spend. It was hoped that funding would be received from the City Deal for southbound access to the M11 at junction 13.

5.6 Byway 7

RESOLVED that Cllr Westgarth should contact Peter Gaskin to accept the offer of planings for Byway 7 The drift.

6. To consider matters arising out of correspondence/communications received

6.1 SCDC Village Services and Facilities update questionnaire

RESOLVED to note that this had already been submitted by the Clerk with assistance from Cllr Elleray.

6.2 Resident complaint about a tree in Milner Road

RESOLVED to note that the arboriculturist's report had not identified any work was required to the tree, and the Parish Council did not consider there was any current need for action and to ask Peter Oakes to monitor the tree regularly. The resident is to be informed.

6.3 Letter from resident regarding caravan in St Thomas Close

The Parish Council had been informed that the caravan did not belong to travellers. RESOLVED to check whether the grass on which the caravan was sited belonged to the Parish Council, and if so, to ask for it to be removed.

7. Closure of meeting

The recent death of Mr Brian Chapman of Highfield Farm was noted. RESOLVED to send a card to his family expressing the Parish Council's condolences.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

SignedChairmandate

APPROVED