

COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Wednesday 10 June 2015 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Members present:	Miss A Bacon (Chairman) ^(AB)	Mr T Scott ^(TS)
Councillors:	Mr A Hollick ^(AH)	Mr N Taylor ^(NT)
	Dr J McCabe ^(JM)	Miss C Westgarth ^(CW)
	Mr S Moffat ^(SM)	

In attendance: 1 member of the public, Rob Hopwood (Bidwells) and Mrs Gail Stoehr (Clerk).

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

1.1 To receive written apologies for absence and reasons

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Higman (out of parish), Griffiths (out of parish), and Preston (out of parish). Apologies for late arrival were received in advance from Cllr Moffat.

RESOLVED to write to County Cllr Frost to express the Council's disappointment that he had not attended the Parish Council's meetings since January.

1.2 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda and details of any dispensations held

Cllrs Scott and Taylor declared an interest in Item 6.6 as adjacent landowners. It was noted that their absence from the discussion would make the Council inquorate and unable to transact its business under Item 6.6 if Cllr Moffat did not arrive by then.

1.3 To receive written requests for dispensations for interests and to grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate (if any)

None.

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

Mr Rob Hopwood spoke to his client's proposed planning application for start up commercial units in Barton Road. Outline details of which had already been provided and circulated. This would be a barn style development. Mr Hopwood was asked about the availability of artist and craft units and whether notice to quit had been given to existing occupants. One tenant was applying for a unit. 40 car parking spaces would be provided including disabled spaces and cycle parking. The floor area of 12000 square feet would meet SCDC's criteria.

2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 13 May 2015

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting on 13 May be approved and signed by the Chairman, after an amendment under Item 9, to delete the Finance and Budget Working Group and show Cllr Hollick as Convenor of the Focus Group. ^(Prop AB, 2nd AH)

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.

Cllr Scott as District Councillor was asked to thank Heidi Duffett for replacing the bin in West Street although it was noted that the old bin was still in place and the new bin did not appear to have been fixed correctly.

Cllr Moffat arrived at 8.12 pm during this item.

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 that this be checked against the invoices and statements before the cheques are signed at the end of the meeting.

RESOLVED ^(Prop AB, 2nd AH) that the payments as listed in the financial report should be paid, and signed by the Chairman, plus Xylem (Table Tennis Tables) £698.99, CGM (grass cutting) £566.50, SCDC (uncontested election, Direct Debit) £195.00, LGS Services (Admin support) £1536.79, Kompan (play equipment) £15797.73.

UK Amenity (Rec Extension spraying)	£240.00
Alarm Maintenance (Alarm service)	£117.60
CGM (Grass cutting)	£627.81
Southern Monitoring (Redcare)	£378.00
CCC (Street lighting)	£243.08
Beacon Water (Legionella testing)	£741.60
Greenham (bucket)	£21.05
ESPO (tables)	£216.48
Salaries	£583.74

RESOLVED that and that the payment of £1416.00 to Harry Stebbing Workshop be approved but not released until the sign had been received. Cllrs Taylor and Scott are to contact Harry Stebbing Workshop and take delivery and re-erect the sign

RESOLVED as CGM had not cut the verges in Swaynes Lane, Barton Road or South Street to request an immediate cut. Cllr Hollick is to meet with CGM to discuss problems with their servicing of the contract.

RESOLVED to note that the Clerk had used her delegated powers for bollards from Cambridge Outdoor Living at a cost of £120.

On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to take Item 6.6 at this point.

6.6 Bidwells – proposed development at Home Farm, Barton Road, of a small commercial development of start-up offices offering flexibility to upsize

Cllrs Scott and Taylor, having previously declared an interest, left the meeting.

In principle the Parish Council was supportive but had some concerns. Its preference would be for start-up studios for people wanting craft units. Concerns were expressed at the potential eviction of the two existing tenants if they have nowhere to go. Single storey buildings would be preferred. Local knowledge indicated a potential problem with floods which would need to be addressed. However the Parish Council would wish to see more detailed plans before reaching a decision.

Cllr Scott and Taylor rejoined the meeting.

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

5.1 Planning Committee report – to note the minutes of Committee meetings

Noted.

5.2 Transport Working Group

The group had not met.

5.2.1 Proposal that the Parish Council arrange for three 2-cable traffic monitoring devices at a cost of £15 for each permit

RESOLVED to approve the proposal. ^(Prop CW, 2nd AH)

5.2.2 Proposal that the Parish Council agrees to £1250 as its share of costs with Toft Parish Council on speed limit reduction on the B1040 between Comberton and Toft

RESOLVED to agree in principle to share costs to the sum of £1250 as the Parish Council's share, subject to the agreement of Toft Parish Council, contributing the same amount, a satisfactory outcome to a consultation with residents to be conducted by the TWG, and to Bennell Court's attendance at the next meeting. (Prop CW, 2nd AB, carried with 6 in favour and 1 against)

5.3 Recreation Working Group

The Recreation Group had met on Monday 8 June.

The condition of the recreation ground extension was considered. Where flooding had taken place earlier in the year the soil was not consolidated and the grass needed to be cut tighter.

RESOLVED to ask Speedcut to meet Cllr Scott on site to discuss and resolve problems with the drains running diagonally across the pitches.

RESOLVED to note that the Football Club had settled the outstanding debt and that Cllr Westgarth is to contact the Football Club to thank them.

RESOLVED to thank Mike Booker and Keith Tarring, the organisers of Pudding in the Park for arranging the event.

RESOLVED given health and safety implications that a branch of the oak tree by the Tennis Club is to be removed by Peter Oakes urgently.

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

6.1 Comberton Bowls Club – request for disabled car access to the Bowls Club

Cllr Westgarth declared an interest as Chair of the Governors of Meridian School.

RESOLVED to refuse the Bowls Club's request on health and safety grounds given that the recreation ground is used by small children and to suggest that the Bowls Club have a wheelchair available for use by disabled visitors.

RESOLVED to purchase and fix a metal tamper proof sign on the removable section of the recreation ground car park fencing saying emergency access only.

6.2 Comberton Bowls Club – request support for toilets asbestos problems

RESOLVED to support the Community Chest application.

RESOLVED not to make a grant from the Parish Council as it already supports the Club financially, in that the Club does not pay rent and the Parish Council pays their rates.

6.3 Resident – offer of bench at Barrons Way

RESOLVED to note that a previous offer of a bench in the same location had been withdrawn as the resident had moved.

RESOLVED to accept the offer. However, as the Parish Council does not own any land in the vicinity, the bench would have to be sited on the highway verge in West Street at the junction with Barons Way. The sleeper type of bench costs approximately £70 plus installation. The Parish Council will allow a plaque and take on the maintenance of the bench.

6.4 Resident – offer of memorial bench

RESOLVED to accept the kind offer and that this should be a sleeper type bench to be located on the old recreation ground near the tennis courts. The Parish Council will allow a plaque.

As the sleeper benches have to be purchased in threes a proposal to site a bench on the Jubilee Green will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

6.5 Cricket Club – maintenance of the patio area at the front of the pavilion

RESOLVED that the patio required no further maintenance at the present time. (Prop CW, 2nd AB)

6.6 Bidwells – proposed development at Home Farm, Barton Road, of a small commercial development of start-up offices offering flexibility to upsize

Taken earlier.

7. **Closure of meeting**

The Youth Bus is not attending this week.

RESOLVED to invite the Planning Portfolio Holder to the next meeting when the proposed Bennell Court development will be discussed.

A resident had complained about youngsters being disrespectful to the Memorial. The Vice-Chairman had spoken to the children.

Fly tipping in South Street and on private land in Branch Road had been removed.

It was reported that Comberton Playground Project had received more money than it needed. New bins had been requested.

Holes in the road in Swaynes Lane had been filled.

There was no further business and the meeting was declared closed at 9.35 pm.

SignedChairmandate

APPROVED