

**COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on**  
**Wednesday 11 January 2017 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm**

Members present:	Mr H Griffiths (Chairman) <sup>(HG)</sup>	Mr T Scott <sup>(TS)</sup>
Councillors:	Ms J Feldman <sup>(JF)</sup>	Ms L Tatnell <sup>(LT)</sup>
	Mr A Hollick <sup>(AH)</sup>	Mr M Tebbit <sup>(MT)</sup>
	Dr J McCabe <sup>(JM)</sup>	Ms C Urquhart <sup>(CU)</sup>
	Mrs J Preston <sup>(JP)</sup>	Miss C Westgarth <sup>(CW)</sup>

In attendance: 3 members of the public including 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 Taylor (out of parish) and Moffat (illness).

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

Cllr Griffiths declared an interest in item 4.5 as a resident and Council Tax payer.

Cllr Westgarth declared an interest in item 4.5 as a resident and Council Tax payer and also the existence of her dispensation.

Cllr Scott declared an interest in any item concerning Bennell Farm as District Councillor.

Cllr Taylor declared an interest in any item concerning Bennell Farm as adjacent landowner.

The Clerk advised on the Code of Conduct and NALC advice on members' interests regarding setting the precept.

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

RESOLVED, as the Parish Council would otherwise be inquorate for item 4.5, to grant a dispensation for this meeting only to all members who do not currently hold a dispensation for this meeting, to enable them to speak and vote on item 4.5.

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

Cllr Scott, as District Councillor, had no matters to report.

**2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 14 December 2016**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 14 December be approved and signed by the Chairman. <sup>(Prop CU, 2nd AH, carried with 1 abstention)</sup>

**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 (3.2) Assets Review – to consider writing off assets in the recreation ground garage**

RESOLVED to investigate disposal of the mowers for a consideration. <sup>(Prop AH, 2nd CU, unanimous)</sup> An article is to be placed in Contact.

**3.2 (3.5) Rats at the pond – to consider quotations if received**

RESOLVED to defer this matter to the next meeting.

**3.3 (6.1) Resident – recreation ground gate opening and closing arrangements – to consider a recommendation from the RWG**

RESOLVED to defer this item to the next meeting.

3.4 (6.2) Rocking horse bearings – to consider quotations if received

RESOLVED to defer this item to the next meeting pending receipt of a second quotation.

3.5 (6.3) SCDC Bennell Farm S106 potential community provision – to consider a response from David Thompson of SCDC

Cllr Tebbit having declared an interest earlier left the meeting.

RESOLVED to receive the Chairman report on a meeting with the Chairman of Toft Parish Council and note that Toft Parish Council was supportive of Comberton Parish Council having the funds to upgrade the Comberton pavilion and sports pitches, but wished to hold back some funds until the housing was built when it would then ask the new residents how they would like the money spent.

RESOLVED to write to David Thompson seeking a joint meeting with Toft Parish Council, Comberton Parish Council, Comberton Village College and David Thompson, to discuss the matter further, to be held on a Wednesday, and that Cllrs Griffiths and Westgarth should attend.

**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 <sup>(Prop CW, 2nd CU, unanimous)</sup> that the payments as listed in the financial report should be paid, plus Foxcotte Fencing (playground repairs) £354.32, Cam Valley Forum (subscription renewal) £10.00, Connections Bus (Youth bus) £3535.00 and Nick Taylor (expenses) £10.80 and Information Commissioner (Data protection renewal) £35.00.

Guilden Morden Parish Council (training)	£25.00
Greenham (Pavilion cleaning supplies)	£51.93
Salary	£294.31
LGS Services (admin support)	£1984.75
Cambridgeshire Countryside Watch (Affiliation fee)	£40.00

4.2 Clerk's report on any use of delegated powers

RESOLVED to note the Clerk's use of her delegated powers to enter into a two year contract with BT for the emergency line at a substantial saving to the Council:

4.3 To review the budget FY2017

RESOLVED–

- Quotations are to be obtained, including from SCDC, for a tree survey,.
- To earmark any under-spend at the FY end for the following budgets; Trees; TWG
- Provision for representation or technical reports is to be funded by earmarking any under-spend in contingency plus £2000 in FY2018.
- To accept the quotation for a three year admin support contract with LGS Services.

4.4 To consider and approve the budget for FY2018

RESOLVED <sup>(Prop CU, 2nd AH, unanimous)</sup>–

- In addition to the draft budget prepared by the clerk to include –
  - £5200 for Trees
  - Another £100 for village events making £200 in total

- £2000 for the Causeway. Cllr Griffiths is to meet Mr and Mrs Dickinson to discuss their written offer of assistance with work on the Causeway.
- £1000 for S137 donations. NALC's advice that parish councils have no power to fund churches was noted (S8 LGA 1894).
- The S106 funds are to be spent on POS and recreation before the precept budget of £5000 is used.
- £2861 for TWG schemes
- £3000 contingency

RESOLVED that the budget be approved. (Prop CW, 2nd CU, unanimous)

4.5 To set and demand the precept for FY2018

RESOLVED to set and demand a precept of £59,400 for FY2018, being the amount required by the Parish Council to balance its budget. (Prop CW, 2nd JP, unanimous)

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

None received.

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

6.1 Bourn Parish Council – invitation to join the Coalition of Parish Councils

RESOLVED that Cllr Griffiths be appointed to speak to Bev Edwards of Barton Parish Council regarding their experience with the coalition of parish councils. Deferred to the next meeting.

6.2 CCC Consultation on a draft corporate energy strategy for Cambridgeshire County Council

Noted.

6.3 Heidi Allen MP – request for feedback on public transport issues

RESOLVED to respond making the following points:

- There are no buses between 7.40 am and 9.10 am and no buses after 7.10 pm to Cambridge. The last bus out of Cambridge is at 7.00 pm.
- The cost of the service at £4.10 is expensive.
- Buses into Cambridge are often late, and drivers say that a bus has broken down. Real-time information showed a bus as 53 minutes late.
- At one stage it was suggested that passengers bought a ticket online at a discount rather than paying on the bus, to speed up the service but this has now been withdrawn.
- There is no incentive to use the bus.

7. **Closure of meeting**

There was no further business and the meeting was declared closed at 9.31 pm.

Signed .....Chairman .....date