

**Minutes of Comberton Annual Parish Meeting
on Wednesday 26 April 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.**

Present: 15 parishioners

In attendance: Bridget Smith and Mrs Gail Stoehr (Clerk).

Cllr Hywel Griffiths presided.

The written reports from the meeting are appended in full to the master minutes and are available from the Clerk on request.

Apologies for absence were received.

1. Approval & signing of the minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting on 27 April 2016

The minutes were approved by the meeting and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

2. Matters arising from the minutes

None.

3. Report of the Parish Council for the year from Cllr Hywel Griffiths, Chairman

Cllr Hywel Griffiths reported as appended in full to these minutes.

4. Report from Gail Stoehr, Responsible Financial Officer, on the Parish Council's finances including the presentation of audited accounts

Gail Stoehr, Responsible Financial Officer, presented the Audited Accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2016. She invited inspection of the accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2017, and explained the audit procedure.

5. Report by District Cllr T Scott on District Council Matters

District Cllr Tim Scott reported that the S106 funding for Bennell Farm was being sorted out. He discussed the 5 year housing deficit resulting in speculative applications and land banking in the district; the Local Development Plan hope it will be sorted out by next year, bin collection changes; new CEO at SCDC Beverley Agas; devolution and voting for a new mayor and implications for Cambridgeshire; City Deal and prospect of Park and Ride on the side of Madingley Hill which would be three times the size of the existing site, Local Liaison Forum lobbying for it not to be on the green belt, and also the City Deal's proposals for a bus route.

6. Report by County Cllr S Frost on County Council Matters

No report was received from the County Councillor.

7. Report on the work and activities of groups and organisations including those who have either received a grant from the Parish Council or which have Parish Council appointees on their charity or organisation including:

7.1 Herringland Charity (trustees appointed by the Parish Council)

No written report was received.

7.2 Comberton Village Institute (trustees appointed by the Parish Council)

Penny Cook reported on the anniversary, bookings demand, installation of Wi-Fi, trustee sponsored events; healthy financier. Village Hall is a credit to the volunteers. Her report is appended in full to these minutes.

7.3 Comberton Playground Project (trustee appointed by the Parish Council)

The report on the Comberton Playground Project Benefits is appended in full to these minutes.

7.4 St Mary's Church (Grant)

Chris Westgarth verbally reported as Church Warden that £750 towards maintenance of churchyard and permissive paths had been received. Clerk outlined the Parish Council's regret that it cannot fund in future due to legislation.

7.5 Hearing Help

Thanks had been received from Hearing Help who had received a donation of £50 from the Council.

7.6 Comberton Football Club

Claire Quilter, Secretary to Comberton Crusaders had sent the Club's apologies that it was unable to send a representative to the meeting however she had reported that the Crusaders was very pleased with the pitches on the extension.

8. **Reports from other village groups and organisations on their activities**

Rev. Keith Tarring, Minister of the Baptist Church reported on the following events over the last 12 months; Community Youth Club is financially supported by the Parish Council; The first session if attended will apply for a number of grants to enable the purchase of equipments, activities for children and young people and activities for older members of the community; The Baptist Church is looking to extend their buildings, and he invited residents to look at the plans. The Pudding in the Park event is to be held on 11th June. His report is appended to these minutes.

Meridan School report by Carole Etchie (Headteacher) was read by the Clerk in her absence and is appended in full to these minutes.

Chairman read a report on the bus service from Heather Sanderson in her absence, outlining problems with current service, suggesting improvements to current service and a trial service. The Parish Meeting supported her views which have been sent to Heidi Allen in response to the Contact article sending views and other comments from meeting. Evening service stops at 7.30pm and three services per day. Would be better as they do in Oxford and this would allow people to use for work and go to Church on a Sunday, there is currently an appalling service on a Sunday and non on Bank Holidays.

Improved service would be better than spending money on the City Deal. Bus is needed for Children to go to School in Cambridge. Not value for money as it is late and poor service.

Dr Anna Barford proposed 20mph background and work done on the consultation and CCC. Chair responded that all with The Working Group Lynn T.

9. **Questions on any of the above reports**

Questions on legislation – S8 Parish Council prohibited from giving money to Churches Clerk explained background and took questions.

The Meeting asked if the Parish Council could fund the permissive path and explained value of churchyard to the Village.

10. **To consider resolutions of which advance notice has been given**

None.

11. **Any other Parish Matters**

Resident referred to Cllr Scott's report in Contact about any accidents, she expressed concerns at parking on West Street/ Barton Road as dangerous especially by Barrows Way. Tim Scott reported that a car had crashed into the Village sign lately. Poor or no visibility but does slow traffic. Potholes can be reported on CCC faults website

Mike Tebbit who farms in Comberton and Toft explained problems bringing agricultural machines through the Village which will be exacerbated when Bennell Farm does go ahead;

Robert Cook expressed concerns at parking by Village Hall by a plumbing contractor parking on pavement which he considered to be dangerous.

Cllr Chris Westgarth reported on a new website to report parking issues; Robert Cook encouraged the Parish Council to put an article in Contact. This Cllr Westgarth agreed to do.

12. Presentation Bridget Smith, Community Development and fundraising consultant – How to build greenest community building in the country- in a little village with not very much money

Bridget Smith gave presentation on the Gamlingay Eco Building and its background, finding benefits and invited residents to visit. There was an opportunity for questions and answers.

John Craig presentation on behalf of Friends of St Mary's. Bedford Gallery Choir coming to re-enact on 13th May 2017 at 7,30pm, tickets are £8. Inaugural 'Meeting of Friends' are holding a 'Wine and Cheese' evening in June. Invited residents to get involved and join the trustees. The latest copy of Newsletter was handed out.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.36 pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) _____ (date)