

**Minutes of Comberton Annual Parish Meeting
on Tuesday 1 May 2007 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.**

Present: 44 parishioners including Parish Council members and members of the public, authors of reports and Mrs Gail Stoehr (Clerk).

Cllr Miss Chris Westgarth presided. The written reports from the meeting are appended in full to these minutes.

1. Approval & signing of the minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting on 16 May 2006.

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

2. Matters arising from the minutes

Nothing that will not be discussed later this evening.

3. Report of the Parish Council for the year 2006-2007 from Chris Westgarth, Chairman.

The Council's Annual report for 2007¹ was handed out and will be published in Contact². The report is appended in full to these minutes.

It was agreed to vary the order of business, item 7g and 7h were taken next.

7. g Edendale Volunteers (grant)

Edendale Volunteers Francis Carr and three Edendale volunteers gave a report³ and answered questions from the meeting. There will be a concert on 11 May at Comberton Village College – tickets are £5.

7. h Comberton Village College

Diana Cook from CVC reported on student numbers, student and college attainment, special statuses, the work of the adult and community department and funding cuts, and the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme.

The meeting said that the school should be proud of its achievements. The Parish Council would like more interaction with, and input from CVC.

4. Report from Gail Stoehr, Responsible Financial Officer, on the Parish Council's finances including the presentation of audited accounts from year ending 2006.

The RFO presented the audited financial statement of the Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2006⁴⁵

5. Report by Cllr S. Harangozo on District Council Matters

- Cllr S Harangozo reported on his work supporting the village hall grants.
- South Cambridgeshire District Council audit and its plans – his party is in opposition.
- He has noted the views of a public meeting 8yrs ago regarding no large developments.
- Planning policy – Group village, i.e. up to 8 houses built within the village envelope.
- His representation to SCDC objecting to any change to Group Village status.
- Exception housing – emphasised nothing will happen without the support of the Parish Council.
- Traffic measures along Barton Road – he is working with the Parish Council's Transport Working Group to push hard for improvements.

The following questions were raised:

Q – Why were developers allowed to build large houses at the end of The Drift? Why not affordable houses? Only one house is let to local residents.

A – Cllr Harangozo said that would not happen again.

Q – Is there a housing need in the village?

A – Parish Council will have results next week.

6. Report by Cllr D Baldwin on County Council Matters⁶

Cllr D Baldwin's report is summarised and appended to these minutes.

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

7a Herringland Charity (trustees appointed by the Parish Council)⁷

Herringland Charity's invitation to attend had been declined by the Trust's Chairman. It was noted that the Parish Council appoint the trustees the value of the Trust, giving a report to the village. Mrs Dorothy Morison gave a report on the background to the trust and the handing out of herrings in the past as depicted on the village sign.

7b Comberton Village Help Scheme (grant)⁸

Dr Janet McCabe reported. A question was asked about the restrictive legislation implications on the transport scheme.

7c St Mary's Church (grant)⁹

Mr Don Fisher reported.

7. d CREG (grant)¹⁰

Mrs Ingrid Simms reported.

7. e Comberton Village Institute (grant and trustees appointed by the Parish Council)

- Brian Cook reported on the achievement of the new village hall being built, and thanked all those members of the steering committee who contributed.
- Extension of car park grant from SCDC, fencing works and streetlights and air conditioning. It was a village effort.

Next Monday 7 May 2007 will be the official opening of the village hall at 10.30am by Andrew Lansley MP, with refreshments etc. In the evening there will be a village social event. Invitations have been extended to as many as possible, tickets are £7.50. Thanks were expressed to Brian and Margaret Cook for all they have done.

7. f CCC Library Services (grant)

Cambridgeshire County Council Services had sent their apologies for not been present and their thanks for the grant to assist the Summer Reading Challenge. Feedback from the youngsters was very positive.

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

Jenny Bowles, Editor of 'Contract', reported¹¹ that the newsletter was financially secure and able to assist others. She acknowledged the contribution of Josh Craig. The meeting acknowledged the excellent production and the whole team were thanked, including;

- Malcolm Wright – Twinning Association¹².
- David Ellis – Comberton Garden & Allotments Association¹³.
- Jim Addy's report on the Royal British Legion¹⁴ was summarised in his absence. Ed Dickson was welcomed to the meeting.
- David Coulson – Combathon¹⁵.

9. To consider resolutions of which advance notice has been given.

None

10. Any other Parish Matters

The following were discussed:

- Is the website information up to date? A working group is working on the website.
- Will there be an opening of new paths in the village? Chris Westgarth P3 Co-ordinator reported that she is waiting for Cambridge County Council to sign agreements with landowners regarding new and permissive paths.
- Questions were asked about the Parish Plan and it was agreed that report on the Parish Plan will be given to the Annual Parish Meeting next year.
- Community Awards – can the village enter? The Parish Council will consider at the next meeting. M Wright offered to assist with an application.
- Concern at 4x4's using The Drift.
- Concern was expressed at the condition of the shop at the cross roads. It was noted that it is back on the market. A developer has attended a Parish Council meeting to discuss plans.
- Concern was expressed that the hearing loop system was not working. It was noted that the microphone needs to be used.

Throughout the meeting tribute was paid to Mike Winney and the valuable contribution that he had made to the village over the years.

11. Closure of meeting

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) _____ (date)

¹ Chairman's report

² Contact

³ Edendale Volunteer's report

⁴ Audit report

⁵ Financial report

⁶ Report from Cllr Baldwin on County Council Matters

⁷ Herringland Charity report

⁸ Report from Comberton Village Help Scheme

⁹ St Mary's Church report

¹⁰ CREG report

¹¹ Report from Contact

¹² Twinning Association

¹³ Comberton Garden & Allotments Association

¹⁴ Cricket Club report

¹⁵ Combathon report