

**COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on**  
**Wednesday 9 July 2008 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm**

Members present:	Dr C Chambers	Mr D Charge
Councillors:	Mr E Halford	Mr A Hollick
	Mrs J Horne	Mrs S Hyde
	Dr J McCabe	Mrs D Morison
	Dr H Roscoe	Mr R Rowlands
	Mr J Walsh	Miss C Westgarth

In attendance: Cllr Harangozo (in part), 2 members of the public and Mrs G Stoehr (Clerk).

**Comments & observations from members of the public**

Mr Banyard expressed his concerns regarding:

- Proposals for a 6<sup>th</sup> form college and the lack of consultation with the village.
- The hearing loop provision.

In response it was noted that:

- Hearing Loop
  - The Commission for Equality and Human Rights having heard the actions taken to date to test and modify the hearing loop have stated that Parish Council and the Village Hall have met their obligations.
  - The RNID has suggested trialling a personal digital listener at a cost of approximately £59 plus VAT
- CVC proposals:
  - There has been a CVC consultation advertised in the evening paper – It was highlighted that not all have read the paper.
  - The Parish Council has already written to CVC regarding the poor consultation.

**1. To approve apologies for absence and declarations of interest**

1.0.1 Apologies were received from Dr Rintoul (working) and Cllr Harangozo (late).

1.0.2 Mrs Morison and Dr Charge both declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item: 6.3.1 Northern Affordable Homes as nearby residents.

**2. To approve the minutes of the meeting on 11 June 2008**

On a proposition by Mrs Morrison, seconded by Dr McCabe the minutes of the meeting on 11 June 2008 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**3. Matters arising or carried forward from the meeting or a previous meeting for discussion or decision**

3.0 (3.0) Hearing Loop – It was noted that the RNID has advised that if some people with hearing aids can hear and some cant then the ones that are unable to should check that their hearing aids are working properly with their doctor. It was noted that the Parish Council could trial a personal listener for a 28 day trial and it was agreed to order one from the RNID.

**3.1 (5.2) Recreation Ground/EDF Lease**

As it was considered necessary to exclude the public and press temporarily under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (admission to meetings act 1960) due to the confidential nature of this item. The item was moved to the end of the meeting to avoid inconvenience to the public attending.

3.2 (6.1) R Arnold – CVC Proposed 6th Form

A letter dated 24 June 2008 from Mr R Arnold<sup>1</sup> regarding Comberton Village College proposed 6<sup>th</sup> form was considered. It was agreed to ask Mr Arnold if he is willing to contribute towards the cost of the suggested planning consultant.

An article is to go in the next issue of Contact explaining that the Parish Council has written to CVC but has not received a reply to date.

It was agreed to put a notice on the notice board advertising the 30 July deadline for the consultation and urging residents to respond and also to arrange a leaflet drop to each home highlighting the 30 July deadline. It was agreed to convene a public meeting in the autumn and to invite the Principal of CVC and the Chair of Governors to attend.

3.3 (7.3) Post Office Closures in Cambridgeshire

It was noted that Post Offices in; Grantchester, Arrington and Elsworth are proposed to close. On a proposition it was agreed that the Parish Council is to respond objecting to any Post Offices closing in the County. The vote was recorded as 11 for and 1 abstention.

3.4 (7.2) SCDC - Consent Street Consultation<sup>2</sup>

The SCDC consent street consultation was noted and considered. It highlighted that Harbour Avenue is a suitable location but that Green End is not. It was agreed to reply to SCDC suggesting that licensing should be by street rather than a blanket order.

3.5 Village Hall Notice board

The recent e-mail from B Cook<sup>3</sup> regarding the village hall fence and proposed new notice board was considered. It was agreed to sadolin the fence and Mr Hollick's kind offer to do the work on the Council's behalf was gratefully accepted. It was agreed that the Focus Group should look into the options for a freestanding notice board and report back to a future meeting when a decision would be reached.

4. County Councillor and District Councillor reports & questions

Cllr Harangozo reported that the County Council are repairing the path on the south side of Barton Road.

Cllr Harangozo's e-mail regarding Affordable Housing was noted<sup>4</sup>.

Cllr D Baldwin was not present and no report has been received.

5. Finance , procedure & risk assessment

5.1 To receive the financial report and to approve the payment of bills<sup>5</sup>

The financial report was received and considered and checked by a member against the invoices and statements before the cheques were signed. On a proposition by Mrs Horne, seconded by Dr McCabe it was agreed that the payments as listed in the financial report should be paid:

SCDC (rates)	£258.00
Buchans (grass cutting)	£112.80
Buchans (grass cutting)	£417.24
LG Stoehr (salary)	£144.69
Ace Fire (fire equipment)	£131.25
Alarm Maintenance (intruder alarm)	£64.63
Alarm Maintenance (fire alarm)	£64.63
Grounds by Rounds (grass cutting)	£598.78
Buchans (grass cutting)	£58.75
LGS Services (admin support)	£693.82
A Marsh (pavilion cleaning)	£120.00
Caxton Consultancy Ltd (internal audit)	£40.00
BT (telephone bill)	£57.00

Scotdales Garden Centre	£67.80
R T Abraham (handyman)	£87.50
R T Abraham (handyman)	£115.50

Noted:

- The garage roof has been damaged by vandals. It was agreed to obtain quotes to get the roof repaired for the next meeting.
- Nettles - The grass nettles by the School are to be reported to CCC.

## **6. To receive reports and members items and consider recommendations contained therein**

### **6.1 Planning Committee**

The planning report<sup>6</sup> was taken as read.

#### **6.1.1 SCDC Cambridgeshire Local Development Supplementary Planning Documents**

It was noted that the planning committee are generally in support of the LDF. It was agreed to support the Committee's recommendation and also that Mr. Charge is to write to SCDC in response also highlighting the Comberton village design statement.

### **6.2 Recreation Ground Working Group**

It was agreed to carry this item forward to the September meeting.

### **6.3 Affordable Housing Working Group**

#### **6.3.1 Email from Northern Affordable Homes**

Mr. Charge and Mrs. Morrison both having declared an interest in this item both left the meeting whilst the matter was discussed.

Consideration was given to Mr Drummond-Hay's email<sup>7</sup> expressing his disappointment at the District Council's rejection of his planning application and seeking clarification on where the Parish Council stand on numbers as he is considering whether to resubmit or to appeal

On a proposition by Dr Roscoe, seconded by Dr Chambers it was agreed to reply reiterating / referring back to the policy on numbers and the Parish Council's concerns at the difficult access. The motion was carried with one vote against. Mr Hollick asked that his opposition against this motion was minuted.

Mr. Charge and Mrs. Morrison both re-joined the meeting.

### **6.4 Appraisal Planning Group report – to note**

The Appraisal Planning Group's<sup>8</sup> report was noted.

### **6.5 Tree Group Report - Willows**

The recent letter from Robert Cook<sup>9</sup> regarding the growth of willows around the pond edge and on the central island was noted and considered. It was agreed to obtain a quote for the removal of the ash and willows by the pond. The Handyman is to be asked to remove a tyre from the pond. It was highlighted that Brian Cine has stated that the new trees in The Valley need staking. Peter Oakes is to be asked to stake the said trees in question.

### **6.6 Notice Board**

It was agreed that the Focus Group look at repositioning the notice board. In the meantime the post is to be repaired.

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

### **7.1 Youth Participation**

It was noted that Susannah Harris SCDC had written asking if the Parish Council would like more information about how they can be supported with youth participation. It was felt that this would be of benefit to all. It was agreed to reply

asking that she send written information in the first instance possibly followed by a meeting in October.

## 7.2 Hillfield Road grass

The email from Mr Mister complaining about the state of the grass in Hillfield Road was considered. It was agreed to monitor the situation and in the meantime encourage the PCSO to come and talk to the residents. It was agreed that the best way of dealing with the situation is through the residents association. The previous article about parking on the grass verges is to be-published again.

Dr Roscoe left the meeting.

## 3.1 (5.2) Recreation Ground/EDF Lease

At approximately 9.30pm on a proposition by the Chairman, carried unopposed the public were temporarily excluded under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (admission to meetings act 1960) due to the confidential nature of this item i.e. the Council considering a proposed lease and correspondence from its solicitor.

The public withdrew from the meeting and the Clerk was invited to remain.

At 9.44pm the Chairman declared the meeting re-opened to the public although it was noted that no members of the public returned.

## 8. Closure of meeting

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

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

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NB:

- Unless indicated otherwise all actions arising from the Council's decisions in these minutes will be carried out by the Clerk as Proper Officer on the Parish Council's behalf as part of her normal duties.
- These documents below are listed as background information to the correspondence and documents that the Council considered and do not form part of the minutes.

<sup>1</sup> Letter dated 24/6/08 from R Arnold re: CVC Proposed 6th Form

<sup>2</sup> SCDC - Consent Street Consultation

<sup>3</sup> E-mail B Cook re: Village Hall fence and notice board

<sup>4</sup> E-mail Cllr Harangozo re: Affordable Housing

<sup>5</sup> Finance Report

<sup>6</sup> Planning Report

<sup>7</sup> E-mail Simon Drummond-Hay re: NAH

<sup>8</sup> Appraisal Planning Group report

<sup>9</sup> Letter from Roger Cook re: growth of willows around pond