

COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL
The minutes of the Parish Council held on
Wednesday 9 December 2009 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

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| Members present: | Dr C Chambers | Mr R Rowlands |
| Councillors: | Dr J McCabe | Mrs D Morison |
| | Mr J Cornell | Mr T Serby |
| | Mr E Halford | Mr J Walsh |
| | Mr A Hollick | Miss C Westgarth (Chairman) |
| | Mrs S Hyde | |

In attendance: 4 members of the public and Mrs G Stoehr (Clerk)

Comments & observations from members of the public

A complaint was made that utilities trenches in Swaynes Lane had shrunk and there was a pothole in Bush Close. These will be reported to the CCC Highway Supervisor.

Mud and leaves on the road from the Butcher's to the Crossroads are hazardous. This will be reported to SCDC.

Minutes since July were missing from the website. The population is shown incorrectly on the Home Page.

An enquiry was made whether the Parish Council's response on CVC had been submitted and as to its content. Mr Halford responded.

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies were received from Mr Moffat, Miss Bacon (late), County Cllr Whelan and District Councillor Harangozo.

Mr Rowlands arrived.

2. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 11 November 2009

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman ^(Prop EH, 2nd DM).

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

3.1 Recreation ground – letters to the Clubs are still to be written.

4. County Councillor and District Councillor reports and questions

Cllr Harangozo's report was considered in his absence. The report covered:

- Dog bins in Harbour Avenue – it was noted that the Parish Council had already discussed this at its last meeting when the Cllr was present and that SCDC were responsible for the provision and siting of bins. Alternative sites for new bins was discussed and it was agreed that this should be an agenda item for the next meeting.
- Access ramp to the bridge at the recreation ground – to be discussed under item 5.2

The District Councillor is to be asked to report on SCDC matters.

5. Finance and procedure

5.1 To receive the financial report and to approve the payment of bills

Mr Cornell left the meeting during this item.

The financial report¹ was received and considered and checked by a member against the invoices and statements before the cheques were signed. It was agreed ^(CW,CC) that the payments as listed in the financial report should be paid, plus LGS Services £868.13 and Christmas Direct Ltd (Christmas lights) £244.96

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| SCDC (rates) | £135.00 |
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| Royal Mail Group Ltd (PO Box) | £125.70 |
| LG Stoehr (Salary) | £164.84 |
| A Marsh (Cleaning) | £120.00 |

Credits received since the previous meeting were noted including a cheque from the Comberton Help Scheme £1010.50

5.2 Assets Review

Dr McCabe reported on the recent assets review. The report² covered:

- Review of the layout of the car park and the potential cost implications.
- It was agreed to ask Isaiah 58 to carry out the plastic caps collection and clean algae off the safety surfacing of play equipment.
- Bowling green – the Bowls Club is to be asked to remove the barbed wire.
- Winding handles on the tennis court nets are missing. The cost of replacements is to be obtained.
- Concrete block on the grass to west of recreation ground entrance – Dr Chambers to remove if it is not required.
- Ash seedlings in Harbour Avenue and Hillfield – the Tree Group are aware and considering removal.
- Small works are to be put in hand with the Handyman or other approved contractors as appropriate.
- The cost of two bridges for the recreation ground and the car park is to be considered by the budget working group and a recommendation brought to the next meeting.

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

6.1 Planning Committee including SCDC LDF Public Participation & Statement of Community Involvement & Supplementary Planning Documents³

Mr Halford reported that the Planning Committee had reviewed the LDF community involvement consultation document. The detail of which forms part of the Planning Committee minutes.

SCDC proposed that street advertising be restricted to 7 days – the Parish Council responded that it should be 21 days.

Option to notify neighbours or advertising – it was agreed that both should take place. It was felt that the notification proposals excluded rather than included the public and the policy should ensure residents are informed of developments.

The Affordable Housing policy related to the Parish rather than the village and there were border discrepancies. There were no objections to the Design Statement.

The Parish Council had no objections to the Comberton Village College sixth form but to the lack of infrastructure. Refusal was recommended on the grounds detailed in the Planning Committee's approved minutes of 2 December. When the meeting with Stephen Munday took place, these issues and problems were known and Mr Munday had confirmed they would be dealt with. Disappointment was expressed that no account had been taken of the infrastructure concerns raised by the Parish Council and identified at the Police Neighbourhood meeting.

6.2 SCDC Chairman's Delegation & exception site policies

Mr Halford reported that a rare victory had been achieved, in that, if the Parish Council disagreed with the Planning Officer, the application will automatically go to the Committee. Mr Halford was thanked for his efforts and the success achieved.

6.3 Affordable Housing Working Group

Dr McCabe expanded on her report on the site visit to land off The Valley⁴. It was agreed ^(Prop JM, 2nd SH) to invite Mr Harney to attend the January Parish Council meeting

and speak at the beginning. Dr McCabe will invite Mr Harney. A letter received from DMH Stallard LLP's letter outlining Mr Arnold's intentions for the site and the tenure, shared equity for the proposed dwellings. The Valley residents are to be informed of the meeting by a leaflet drop to the houses at the top of The Valley, and by word of mouth. Mrs Hyde kindly offered to hand deliver the leaflets.

6.4 Transport Working Group
Nothing to report.

6.5 Tree Group
Mrs Hyde's resignation due to family commitments was noted and Mr Cornell was co-opted to the Working Group ^(Prop CW, 2nd CC). The Chairman asked members to reply or acknowledge all emails from the Tree Warden. A review of Tree Preservation Orders was underway and a couple of questions are to be included in the Parish Plan questionnaire.

6.6 Parish Plan Working Group
Suggested updates to the old questionnaire⁵ had been collated and this is to be amended and circulated to members and also Andrew Flintham with a view to approve the final content at the next meeting.

6.7 Recreation Ground Working Group
Dr Halford reported that the responses from the questionnaire will be invaluable to the Working Group and aid their discussions with the Clubs as will the responses from the Clubs when they have received their letters agreed at the last meeting. Background information on the options for the recreation ground management was requested from a member.

6.8 Village Hall Representatives
Mrs Hyde reported that the trustees were working through the extra workload following the death of the Chairman, Brian Cook.

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

7.1 Andrew Lansley MP – youth provision⁶
In response to his letter Mr Lansley is to be informed of the Connections Youth Bus and also the difficulties the Parish Council has had in securing youth leaders. He is to be asked if he can assist with the latter.

7.2 SCDC request for feedback on S106 advice note and website pages⁷
Members are to review the document and inform Mr Halford in time for the meeting he is attending on 10 December.

8. Closure of meeting

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Signed Chairmandate

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 reports that the Council considered and do not form part of the minutes.

¹ Financial report

² Assets review

³ Planning Committee report including SCDC LDF Public Participation & Statement of Community Involvement & Supplementary Planning Documents

⁴ Affordable Housing report

⁵ Draft parish plan questionnaire updates draft 1

⁶ Andrew Lansley MP – youth provision

⁷ SCDC request for feedback on S106 advice note and website pages