

**Minutes of Comberton Annual Parish Meeting
on Wednesday 26 May 2010 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.**

Present: 27 parishioners including Parish Council members, speakers and members of the public, 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 29 April 2009

The minutes were approved by the meeting and signed by the Chairman as a true record. ^(Prop MW, 2nd AH)

2. Matters arising from the minutes

Nothing that will not be discussed later this evening.

3. Report of the Parish Council for the year 2000-2010 from Chris Westgarth, Chairman.

The report is appended in full to these minutes.¹

4. Report from Gail Stoehr, Responsible Financial Officer, on the Parish Council's finances including the presentation of audited accounts from year ending 2009.

The RFO explained that the detail of the Parish Council's accounts are in the annual report and went on to present the audited accounts and explain the process for annual audit and outlined the electors rights of inspection.²

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

Cllr Harangozo reported on;

- Affordable housing
- District Council elections
- Kerbside recycling
- His role and responsibilities
- The end of the major infrastructure investment, and posed the question 'how do capital projects get funded in the future?'

The Chair varied the order of business until Cllr Whelan arrives.

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 including:

7a Meridian School³

Glynis Virgo reported on;

- Habitats garden
- Buildings and facilities
- Interaction with others i.e. including those from other countries
- Warm invite to the school fete

7b Comberton Village College⁴

Stephen Munday's report included;

- 50th Anniversary
- Building Work
- Consultation launched on secondary school provision at Cambourne and the Comberton Educational Trusts view
- The emerging education policy landscape

- 7c Comberton Scouts
 Brian Worrall reported on;
- Organisation and membership
 - Activities and visits
 - Fundraising activities
 - Expenditure
 - He expressed his thanks to the Parish Council for its financial support
- 7d Comberton Village Institute (trustees appointed by the Parish Council)³
 Malcolm Wright paid tribute to Brian and Margaret Cook who had both died during the year for their hard work and efforts over the years. They will be missed by the village. He reported on ;
- Activities of the Trustees
 - Improvements to the hall in the last year and planned future improvements
 - Use of the village hall including events run by the Trustees
 - Reports from users on the facilities
 - Financial matters
 - Commercial centre and the old village hall
 - Thanks were expressed to the Parish Council for its loan and donation towards the air conditioning
- 7e St Marys Church
 Don Fisher thanked the Parish Council for its donation towards maintenance of the churchyard and also to the volunteers. He reported on the general expenditure and presented the churchyard accounts.
- 7f Herringland Charity (trustees appointed by the Parish Council)⁵
 Dr Hosking reported on the work of the charity.
- 7g Mobile Warden Scheme
 Janet McCabe's reported that the scheme had sadly folded and referred to the Chairman's report for further details.
- 8. Reports from other village groups and organisations on their activities**
- 8a Report from the Woodland Trust. Representatives from the Trust reported on the management and on the site between Barton and Bourn.
- 8b Comberton Contact⁴
 Mrs Anne Horler's report included;
- The introduction of a colour cover
 - CBS award to CVC
 - Financial contributions to village groups and projects
 - Thanks to named individuals and volunteers
 - The contact magazine website
- 8c South St Allotments
 Jane Winney reported on the change of ownership but continuation of provision, and confirmed that the allotments were fully let.
- 8d Royal British Legion
 Ed Dickinson reported on the funds raised at the last appeal and the amalgamation with neighbouring villages to form the Comberton and District British Legion.
- 9. To consider resolutions of which advance notice has been given.**
 None.

10. Any other Parish Matters

10.1 Dr Malcolm Wright complained that the raised beds along West Street were not being maintained to the standard he had hoped for when he had campaigned for them many years ago and suggested additional spending by the Parish Council.

10.2 Presentation on street lighting and its impact on the environment. *How do you feel about streetlighting? Should it be turned off? Should the number of lights be increased or reduced?*

Cllr Haranzogo talked about funding and the restriction of carbon emissions, with the suggestion of an automatic control system. The cost would be in the region of £300,000, but if introduced by the County Council (CCC) it would allow the Parish Council to decide the timing of street lights.

An open discussion followed which included;

- The concept of security actual or perceived
- Light pollution
- The possible need for police patrols and ensuring vehicles were not parked on pavements to save accidents
- Eversden has no streetlighting, has a comparison been made with Eversden re crime?
- Operation if each column has a sensor – self defeating. Suggestion – motion sensor.
- Moral obligation to cut waste nationally
- Implemental of any project unknown at the moment
- the number of lights, particularly at junctions
- sensor operations and potential problems with bulbs warming up
- suggestion that every 2nd or 3rd light could be turned out
- Light pollution from the floodlights at Comberton Village College. They sometimes appear to be on when the pitch is not in use. It has been noted on occasion that they are on after 10.30pm to midnight
- A street light in Barrow Way has been out for 2 months – there are problems with the current system.
- Why are motorways so well lit when cars have headlights?
- a proposal by CCC that the timing of streetlights on A roads is to be trimmed by 40% and B roads by 60%.

The meeting agreed that the Parish Council should write to the Village College regarding floodlighting.

Cllr Harangozo summarised the consensus of the meeting to explore options of whether a particular street could trial a switch off.

The question is included in the Parish Plan questionnaire. The meeting suggested detailed costings in monetary terms and also in carbon terms. It was agreed that Cllr Harangozo would discuss further with CCC the options.

6. Report by Cllr Mrs F Whelan on County Council Matters

Cllr Whelan's report was taken in her absence and included;

- Guided Bus
- Gritting
- Comberton Village College
- Affordable Housing
- Potholes
- Day care provision
- Buses
- CCC budget

11. Closure of meeting

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.03pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) _____ (date)

¹ Chairman's report

² Audit report

³ Meridian School

⁴ Comberton Village College

⁵ The Herringland Charity

³ Comberton Village Institute

⁴ Comberton Contact

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