

COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Wednesday 14 March 2012 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Members present:	Miss A Bacon ^(AWB) (Chairman)	Mr S Moffat ^(SM)
Councillors:	Mr A Bateman ^(AB)	Mrs M Richards ^(MR)
	Mr P Crossley ^(PC)	Mr T Scott ^(TS)
	Mr H Griffiths ^(HG)	Dame V Sutherland ^(VS)
	Mr A Hollick ^(AH)	Miss C Westgarth ^(CW)
	Dr J McCabe ^(JM)	

In attendance: 4 members of the public, Cllr S Harangozo (District Councillor), Mr Keith Miles (Planning Policy Manager, SCDC) and Mrs G Stoehr (Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies were received from Cllrs Preston and Pemberton, and County Cllr Fiona Whelan.

Comments & observations from members of the public

A resident reported that the yellow lines outside the Village College would come into force on 26 March.

Cllr Harangozo reported in Cllr Whelan's absence on her previously circulated written report, regarding the withdrawal of the bus services subsidy and the impact on the west of Comberton.

Cllr Harangozo spoke to his previously circulated written report about;

- Northstowe
- That SCDC was unable to give grants towards the bus service and asked that this was an agenda item at the next meeting so that options could be explored.

Keith Miles, Policy Planning Manger for SCDC, spoke about the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) its background, purpose, the recent the call for sites and the Issues and Options consultation to follow in the summer. The background to the new plan was outlined. A consultation will take place in July – September 2012. A workshop will be held at SCDC on 29 March.

He asked if the Parish Council supported the late inclusion into the Call for Sites for a development comprising of a car park for the village college, a full size football pitch, changing facilities and affordable housing all to be funded by 'some private housing', detailed as 50 - 70 houses in total. It was asked how much of a say Comberton Parish Council would have on the matter, since Comberton would undoubtedly be most affected. Mr Miles replied that the decision would be taken by the whole District Council of 57 members and SCDC would listen carefully to the Parish Council. Evidence-based arguments for or against any development were required. The current strategy was to develop around and in large centres rather than in villages. Mr Miles was thanked for attending.

2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 8 February 2012 and the confidential minutes of 8 February 2012

The minutes of the previous meeting on 8 February were unanimously approved ^(Prop AB, 2nd JM) as a true record and signed by the Chairman. The confidential minutes of 8 February were approved as a true record ^(Prop AB, 2nd JM) and signed by the chairman.

3. Matters arising or carried forward from the meeting or a previous meeting for discussion or decision and to note the Clerk's report

The Clerk's report, which included background to items on the agenda and items for information only, was noted.

- 3.1 (6.6) Keith Miles, SCDC – to consider if the Parish Council supports the late inclusion of Bennells Farm into the SHLAA
The Parish Council agreed^(Prop SM, 2nd CW, carried with 1 against) that it did not support the application, as it had missed the deadline, and nothing had changed since the Council had previously examined it in detail.
- 3.2 (4.2) Fields in Trust QEII Challenge and Deed of Dedication for Watts Wood
Legal advice from NALC was considered. It was agreed^(Prop JM, 2nd AB, carried with 2 abstentions) not to proceed with the Deed of Dedication.
- 3.3 (5.2) Safer Routes to School Path - to consider the recommendation from the RWG
It was unanimously agreed^(Prop HG, 2nd MR) to defer a decision until it was known where all the play equipment would be sited and to request that the overhanging brambles be cut back.
- 3.4 (6.7) Parish Plan action plan – proposal that the Action Plan is adopted
Cllr Sutherland reported that she had not been able to attend the working group meeting. The Parish Plan Action Plan was unanimously^(Prop JM, 2nd CW) adopted. The summary booklet had been printed and all members undertook to help deliver it.
- 3.5 (4.3) Recreation Ground new gate and sign quotations and
5.2.5 To consider if a chicane should be installed on the safer routes to school path and to consider any quotes received
The quotations were noted. It was agreed^(Prop HG, 2nd JM, carried with 1 abstention) to defer the decisions on these items for the time being.
- 3.6 Community Hubs meeting
Cllr Griffiths will attend as the Chairman is unable.
- 3.7 Comberton Library
The letter from Christine May, Head of Library Services, was noted.
- 4. Finance, procedure & risk assessment**
- 4.1 To receive the financial report and to approve the payment of bills
The financial report was received and considered. This was checked by a member against the invoices and statements before the cheques were signed at the end of the meeting. It was agreed^(Prop AWB, 2nd CW) that the payments as listed in the financial report should be paid, plus SCDC (Rates) £297.00, P Oakes (tree works) £480.00, £420.00 and £216.00, CGM (hedge work) £114.00 and £141.47, and Mr Sewell (cross roads flower beds) £40.00, Dents (keys) £75.30 and E.On (electricity) £164.14
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|------------------------------------|----------|
| Greenham (Cleaning materials) | £42.38 |
| Nutcombe (Plumbing) | £54.00 |
| CGM (Skate park repair) | £69.30 |
| RPM (Bench repair) | £177.60 |
| RPM (Bin repair) | £78.00 |
| R Cook (Training reimbursement) | £65.00 |
| CGM (Weeding) | £64.80 |
| LGS Services (Admin support) | £1572.55 |
| CGM (Rabbit holes) | £96.00 |
| S & J Cleaning (Pavilion cleaning) | £42.00 |
| LG Stoehr (Salary) | £237.64 |
| CGM (Moss treatment) | £232.80 |
| C Stewart (Salary) | £54.68 |
| Zurich (Village Hall insurance) | £839.04 |
| CPRE (Affiliation fee) | £29.00 |

It was agreed ^(Prop AWB, 2nd HG) to ask the contractor to return to rectify the work done on The Causeway which had only been part completed.

4.2 Thornbury Public Open Space and tree belt maintenance

The specification and quotation was considered for the tree belt maintenance and public open space at Thornbury. CGM's quotation was accepted ^(Prop HG, 2nd AB) and they are to be asked to also trim the public open space to remove brambles twice a year. It was agreed to accept the quotation from CGM.

4.3 Pavilion Insurance Cover

It was agreed ^(Prop AWB, 2nd MR) to arrange subsidence cover and to accept the quotation for £64.63 per annum from Came and Company.

5. **To receive reports and recommendations from committees, working groups and members**

Members were reminded that the Chair and Vice-Chair should be copied in on all working group and committee emails and invited to meetings in their ex-officio capacity.

5.1 Planning Committee

The minutes of the last meeting which had been circulated were taken as read.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would form an opinion ahead of the consultation as to its view on development in the village ^(Prop SM, 2nd AH, carried with 2 against). It was agreed that the Parish Council took the view that in principle it was against development of more than the eight dwellings per site that are currently permitted under the "Group Village" designation. It was agreed to consult with the village.

Cllrs Moffat and Scott will attend the workshop at SCDC on 29 March. An article will be placed in Contact and this will be an agenda item at the Annual Parish Meeting.

5.2 Recreation Ground Working Group

5.2.1 Report on meeting with Mark Liddiard and Jim Hill (Football Association) and subsequent developments

Cllr Griffiths spoke about his previously circulated written report on a meeting with Jim Hill of the Football Association and Mark Liddiard, Regional Development Manager, on 28 February. Dr Lodge of Agrostis' report was regarding drainage and siting of pitches was noted. The Parish Council affirmed that it was seeking advice and seeking to develop the recreation ground extension in a responsible way. While some had expressed unwillingness to take part the Parish Council urged the clubs to reconsider as there is space for pitches and this is a feasible and exciting project. The Football Association would be looking to improve the facilities in a practical way to meet FA standards.

5.2.2 Proposal – That the Parish Council requests the RWG to prepare a project plan to extend and improve the recreation ground pavilion and that the Parish Council appoint of an architect

It was agreed that the RWG should prepare a project plan to extend and improve the recreation ground and pavilion and that the Parish Council would appoint an architect seeking quotations, when required.

Papers received from Mr Ted Halford are to be passed to the Recreation Working Group.

5.2.3 Proposal – That the Parish Council notes and supports the Comberton Playground Project's intention to incorporate as a fundraising charity to raise funds for new equipment on the Recreation Ground

The Parish Council was willing in principle to support the charity on condition that it would be able to appoint one trustee. Cllr Moffat expressed an interest in being the Parish Council's trustee.

NALC had been asked for legal advice on the proposal and this was still awaited.

The Clerk advised caution against giving the charity funds to later be passed back or which could be spent out of parish as stated in the objects of the charity. Cllr Moffat reported that the Charity required £5,000 or it could not register.

5.2.4 To consider if the Parish Council provides seed funding to the Charity as detailed in its draft constitution

The Council is to decide on how much play equipment and how much adult fitness equipment should be installed at the meeting. SCDC is to be asked whether the S106 money was for a particular age group or if it could also be used for adult equipment.

5.3 Parish Paths Partnership (P3) - estimate for wooden housing over proposed water pump

It was unanimously agreed ^(Prop CW, 2nd AH) to accept the estimate from Jason Moore in the sum of £260.00, to be covered from P3 funds.

5.4 Transport Working Group (TWG)

The Transport Working Group's written report was noted. Cllr Moffat reported that the response from the Minor Improvement Scheme panel was awaited. A plan for the bollards had been marked up.

5.5 Tree Group report

Nothing further to report. It was noted that the Jubilee planting had taken place.

5.6 Focus Group proposal – that the Parish Council agree to underwrite any shortfall in funding in the Jubilee Walk costs

The estimated cost of the project is £800-£900.

Cllr Moffat left the meeting at 9.50 pm.

Donations had been received from village groups and organisations amounting to £660 and it was agreed ^(Prop CW, 2nd VS) that the Parish Council would underwrite the shortfall. The Focus Group reported on the Jubilee arrangements which are to be publicised.

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

6.1 SCDC Street Trader Harbour Avenue

It was agreed ^(Prop HG, 2nd AB) to check with SCDC on the Green End trader's licence and confirmed that the trader could continue to trade in the meantime.

6.2 SCDC – Open Spaces Survey

Members are to take a look and forward comments to the Clerk to collate a response.

6.3 Localism and Neighbourhood Planning

Noted.

7. Closure of meeting

Cllr Moffat gave his apologies for absence for the training on 28 March.

Cllr Crossley expressed an interest to join the Recreation Working Group. It was agreed to consider at the next meeting membership of working groups.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.57 pm.

SignedChairmandate