

COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Wednesday 11 April 2012 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Members present:	Miss A Bacon ^(AWB) (Chairman)	Mr B Pemberton ^(BP)
Councillors:	Mr P Crossley ^(PC)	Mrs J Preston ^(JP)
	Mr H Griffiths ^(HG)	Mrs M Richards ^(MR)
	Mr A Hollick ^(AH)	Mr T Scott ^(TS)
	Mr S Moffat ^(SM)	Dame V Sutherland ^(VS)

In attendance: 3 members of the public, Cllr F Whelan (County Councillor), and Mrs G Stoehr (Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies were received from Cllrs Westgarth and McCabe (out of parish), Cllr Bateman (work commitment) and District Cllr S Harangozo.

Cllr Griffiths declared a personal interest in Item 6.1.2 as he attends the Church.

Cllr Pemberton declared a personal interest in Item 6.1.1 as a Cub Scout leader and a committee member.

Cllr Bacon declared a personal interest in Item 4.1, donation from the Twinning Association, as a signatory and committee member.

Comments & observations from members of the public

A resident enquired whether the Council would respond to the recent critical articles in Contact by giving its point of view.

Cllr Whelan reported on CCC members' allowances, drought, Madingley Rise Minor Highways Improvements, and buses.

2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 14 March 2012

The minutes of the previous meeting on 14 March were unanimously approved ^(Prop MR, 2nd AWB, carried with 2 abstentions), as a true record and signed by the Chairman, after the following minor amendments: under item 3.3, line 2, delete 'the' before 'brambles'; under item 3.6, to read 'Cllr' not 'Cllrs'; under item 5.2.1, line 3, delete 'was'; and under item 5.2.2, delete 'of' in the heading.

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 (Comments and observations) Cllr Harangozo – bus service funding

Cllr Harangozo's report was considered and discussed. The Parish Council required further information before giving further consideration to this matter at a future meeting.

3.2 Comberton Playground Project (CPP)

The Clerk's advice to the Parish Council, as detailed in her report, was noted. Cllr Moffat reported that the charity had already commenced fundraising and had a bank account. He declared a personal interest as a member of the CPP. He also reported it was a requirement of the charity registration that the wording stated Comberton and the surrounding areas.

3.2.1 (5.2.3) Constitution and charity set up and to consider feedback from NALC

NALC's advice was noted. Further clarification had been requested by the Clerk and a response was awaited.

3.2.3 (5.2.4) To consider how much money should be earmarked for adult play equipment
It was agreed that of the current £4656.30 earmarked funds held all should be allocated for the provision of play equipment for children.

3.2.2 (5.2.4) To consider if the Parish Council provides seed funding to the Charity and if so how much

It was agreed that that the Parish Council would not pay over the money to the charity but that the CPP could refer to the Council's earmarked fund for play equipment in any applications for grant funding for children's play equipment. The money would only be spent in Comberton but it was noted that this might benefit other children from the surrounding area who might use the equipment.

3.3 Village Hall Trust – appointment of Trustee and to consider correspondence received
It was unanimously agreed ^(Prop SM, 2nd MR) that the Parish Council supported the appointment of a Parish Council member as a Trustee of the Charity. As the Parish Council had always appointed up to two trustees to share and support the Village Hall's work the Parish Council would endeavour to nominate a second trustee. Cllrs Pemberton (whose wife is a trustee) and Hollick (the Parish Council's existing trustee) both declared a personal interest in this matter. It was agreed to circulate the Trust Deed and the ACRE model. Carried forward.

4. Finance, procedure & risk assessment

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

The year end finance report showing receipts was received and the Direct Debit to BT was considered, as was the financial report for April. 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 HG) that the payments as listed in the financial report should be paid, plus CAPALC (Training) £350.00.

CGM (Cambridge) (Bowls club hedge)	£54.41
CGM (Cambridge) (Land extn east hedge)	£151.20
S & J Cleaning (Pavilion clean)	£42.00
Came & Company (Subsidence insurance)	£35.24
LGS Services (Admin support)	£1589.89
LGS Services (Admin support)	£560.00
Hart Glass (Pavilion glass)	£67.00
Open Spaces Society (Affiliation fee)	£40.00

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

5.1 Planning Committee

Nothing to report.

5.2 Recreation Ground Working Group

The RWG's written report was considered.

5.2.1 Proposal that the recreation ground extension grass is cut

The quotation from CGM to cut the rest of the land extension, in the sum of £75.00, was accepted. ^(Prop HG, 2nd PC)

5.2.2 Bowls Club request that the Parish Council maintains the hedge – to consider the RWG recommendation

It was noted that the Parish Council was responsible for the hedge between the Bowls Club and Tennis Courts. It was agreed ^(Prop HG, 2nd TS) that the Bowls Club could cut the rest of the hedging around the Club at their own cost.

5.2.3 Grant application for the Rec extension

Progress to date was outlined. It was agreed that the RWG:

- i) Meet the football clubs and Cambridgeshire FA to agree the pitch layout
- ii) Obtain quotes to carry out the proposed work on the Recreation Ground extension and extension and refurbishment of the pavilion.
- iii) Submit applications for grant funding.

It was also agreed that the Clerk should identify an architect to draw up plans for the refurbishment and extension and obtain quotes and tenders as appropriate and support the RWG with submitting any grant applications. A quotation is to be sought from Agrostis for assistance with the land extension project. An item has been placed in Contact by the RWG and responses are awaited.

5.2.4 Tennis Courts

It was agreed that the tennis courts should be swept and pressure washed, the nets checked and the glass cleared. The Clerk is to put the work in hand.

5.3 SCDC Planning Workshop

Cllr Moffat spoke to his written report on the meeting attended by himself and Cllr Scott. It was agreed to clarify with Cllr Harangozo his comment that "Inevitably, however, significant amounts of any new housing would have to be located outside existing village frameworks and this was widely supported by my fellow councillors." In response to an enquiry as to whether Cllr Harangozo supported development outside the existing village frameworks and outside the village envelope in Comberton, the Council replied that it would consult with residents about the SHLAA and expects that Cllr Harangozo will represent the village and the Parish Council stance established via the village consultation process.

5.4 Proposal that the Parish Council responds to recent Contact articles about the recreation ground

Cllr Moffat's proposal was considered. It was unanimously agreed ^(Prop AWB, 2nd SM) to write to Messrs Topham and Banks to ask if they had any objections to the trees planted on the land extension. It was also agreed that, provided the Agrostis revised pitch layout was approved at the proposed meeting between the RWG, the football clubs and Cambridgeshire FA, it should be published in Comberton Contact to inform the community what was proposed and to encourage community involvement.

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

6.1 To consider any requests for S137 donations received

6.1.1 Comberton 1st Scouts request that the Parish Council pays for half the cost of the fireworks (approximately £800)

The Clerk's advice on S137 was noted. Cllr Pemberton declared a personal interest as a Scout Leader and he reported that there was very little surplus from fees so fundraising was required. The request from the Scouts was considered and in accordance with its powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, it was agreed that the Council donate £600 to the Scouts, which in the opinion of the Council is in the interests of the area and its inhabitants, and that it be left to the Scouts to decide which fundraising events they undertook. ^(Prop PC, 2nd SM, carried with 1 abstention)

6.1.2 St Mary's Church request for £750

The request from the Church was considered and in accordance with its powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, it was unanimously agreed that the Council donate £750 to the Church, which in the opinion of the Council is in the interests of the area and its inhabitants. ^(Prop AWB, 2nd VS)

6.1.3 Cambridgeshire Libraries request for support for the annual reading challenge

The request from Cambridgeshire Libraries was considered and in accordance with its powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, it was unanimously

agreed that the Council donate £40 to the annual reading challenge, which in the opinion of the Council is in the interests of the area and its inhabitants. ^(Prop AWB, 2nd HG)

6.1.4 Jubilee Picnic at Burghley House

Noted. Members are to send nominations to the Clerk.

6.1.5 Herringland Charity offer of bench – This will be an agenda item at the next meeting.

7. Closure of meeting

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.36 pm.

SignedChairmandate

APPROVED