

COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Wednesday 12 June 2013 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Members present:	Dr J McCabe (Chairman)	Mr S Moffat ^(SM)
Councillors:	Mr B Pemberton ^(BP)	Mr A Hollick ^(AH)
	Mr R Elleray ^(RE)	Mr T Scott ^(TS)
	Mr P Crossley ^(PC)	Mr N Taylor ^(NT)

In attendance: 2 residents, County Cllr S Frost, and Mrs G Stoehr (Clerk)

Cllr McCabe was elected to chair the meeting in the absence of Cllrs Bacon and Griffiths. ^(Prop AH, 2nd SM)

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Bacon (unwell), Cllr Preston (out of parish), Cllr Westgarth, Cllr Griffiths (out of parish), and District Cllr S Harangozo.

1.1 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda

Cllr Pemberton declared an interest in Item 4.5 as his wife was a trustee of the Village Hall, and in Item 4.1 as his wife works at Comberton Village College.

Cllr Elleray declared an interest in Item 4.5 as a trustee of the Village Hall.

Cllr Hollick declared an interest in Item 4.5 as the Parish Council's trustee of the Village Hall.

1.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)

None.

1.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

None.

Comments & observations from members of the public and County and District Councillor reports

A resident expressed concerns about proposals on the agenda by Comberton Village College for greater engagement with the village, and stated that the Parish Council should not become involved due to the problems experienced by residents of Kentings and West Street. Complaints were received of Sixth formers wandering around in the streets throughout the day, smoking, causing parking issues and problems with their congregating at the bus stop and littering both at the bus stop and also in the ditch between the college entrance and Kentings. The resident expressed the view that the Village College should concentrate on addressing these problems before considering any other matters.

A resident spoke on the agenda item regarding another resident's request to remove the street light and outlined problems years ago with its position and that he thought it should remain in situ.

Cllr Frost reported had spoken to a resident who had experienced rudeness from students, and he had been shown the ditch..

Another resident expressed concerns at mopeds from the College travelling through the village and the noise they caused.

County Cllr Frost's report covered:

- The minority administration cabinet at the County Council, which will change to a committee structure.
- The County Council is pushing for action on the A14. The new section may be a toll section.

- Northstowe - planning permission has been granted for Phase 1 (1500 homes)
- It was noted that if major trunk roads were not improved it would result in pressure on local villages.

District Cllr Harangozo's report was taken as read in his absence.

Cllr Hollick left the meeting at 7.55 pm.

2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 8 May 2013

The minutes of the last meeting on 8 May were unanimously approved ^(Prop RE, 2nd BP, carried with 2 abstentions) and signed by the Chairman, after an amendment to Item 1.3.4 to delete "Preston and Crossley" and to add "Bacon" to the membership of the Transport Working Group; and an amendment to Item 1.3.2 to replace "Winney" with "Hughes".

Cllr Hollick returned at 7.58 pm.

3. To consider resolutions, if any, from the Annual Parish Meeting

At the request of the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) a Police report will be an agenda item in future meetings..

The APM's concern about the District Councillor's attendance at South Cambridgeshire District Council's meetings and lack of visibility at Comberton, was deferred until the next meeting to allow the Chairman to report on her talk with the District Cllr. The Clerk's verbal report on procedure and attendance at the District Council was noted.

4. 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 matters arising, was noted.

4.1 (Open) Engagement with Comberton Village College

As the representative from the School was not present, it was agreed ^(Prop SM, 2nd BP) to take up the residents' concerns with Mr Sycamore, and for CVC to get the students to tidy up the ditch and other areas and to bring their behaviour under control.

4.2 (1.3.3) Tree Group – appointment of Convenor

Mr R Cook was appointed ^(Prop SM, 2nd AH) Convenor for the Tree Group if he would be willing to accept the position.

4.3 (1.3.4) Transport Working Group – appointment of Convenor

Cllr Pemberton was appointed ^(Prop SM, 2nd AH) Convenor for the Transport Working Group.

4.4 (1.3.6) Affordable Housing Group – appointment of Convenor

Cllr Moffat was appointed ^(Prop JM, 2nd AH) as Convenor for the Affordable Housing Group.

4.5 (1.4.6) Village Hall representatives – consideration of appointment requirements and appointment if required

Cllr Hollick was appointed ^(Prop PC, 2nd SM) as the Parish Council's representative on the Village Hall. Cllr Elleray, having declared an interest, sat back and did not take part.

4.6 (1.6) Flooding Working Group proposal for the maintenance of the ditch by Thornbury

It was noted that a stretch of the ditch, from 25 yards from the entrance to Thornbury to the wooden footbridge, was full of debris. The Flooding Working Group is to speak to officers at Cambridgeshire County Council and the Environment Agency and bring a recommendation to the next meeting.

4.7 (4.1) To consider tree survey quotations

A complaint had been made that the tree in Bakers Close had not been removed. It was agreed ^(Prop PC, 2nd BP) to accept the quotation for £945 from Eastern Tree Surgery to carry out the tree survey.

Cllr Crossley left the meeting briefly at 8.47 pm and returned at 8.49 pm.

Hedge/tree clippings had been seen. Cllr Crossley is to inspect in the autumn.

It was noted that the contractor had said they had not removed branches in the Spinney.

4.8 (5.1) Pavilion cleaning – to consider future arrangements and any quotes received

One quotation for a weekly clean and a recommendation and quote for a deep clean had been received. It was agreed to advertise in Contact for a cleaner and to seek further quotes in the short term, for contracting on a week by week basis.

It was noted that the grass had only been partially cut, for example in Swaynes Lane, whereas the contract required a neat and tidy appearance. This will be taken up with the contractors.

5. Finance, procedure & risk assessment

5.1 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 PC, 2nd BP) that the payments as listed in the financial report should be paid, plus CGM (grass cutting) £856.25, Southern Monitoring Services £367.20, CCC (street lights) £173.84, and R Sewell (flower beds) £50.00.

Dragon Courts (Tennis Court repair)	£240.00
Beacon (Water Treatment)	£724.80
Peter Oakes (Shrub trim)	£48.00
SLCC (Minute taking book)	£13.45
Peter Oakes (tree works)	£288.00
Ian Hildrew (PAT testing)	£27.00
Primec (Risk assessment)	£114.00
Noel Hart (Bench painting)	£60.00
LGS Services (Admin support)	£1649.58
Salaries	£294.00

Credits, including receipt of the Precept, and reimbursement from other parish councils for shared training, were noted.

5.2 Risk assessment matters

It was noted that the Clerk (in conjunction with the Chairman on occasion) had used her delegated powers between meetings:

- to contract CGM to fill a hole on the recreation ground filled after a dog caught its leg in it.
- to contract Wright Way Cleaning to clean the pavilion for several weeks at £60 per week.
- to purchase mop heads, cleaning fluid, toilet rolls and bin bags for the pavilion from Greenham
- to contract CGM for an additional cut of the recreation ground at approximately £38
- to contract Dents for an emergency call out to fix the garage lock after an attempted break in.

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

6.1 Planning Committee

Taken as read.

6.2 Recreation Ground Working Group (RWG)

6.2.1 Proposal that the grass on the Recreation Ground be cut more frequently during the summer at a cost of £38.43 per cut

It was agreed to undertake three additional cuts and then revisit the matter at the next meeting. ^(Prop PC, 2nd BP)

6.2.2 Proposal that the bench on the Recreation Ground be repaired at approximately £100
Cllr Elleray's kind offer to repair the bench was gratefully accepted. The Parish Council will refund the costs of materials.

6.2.3 To consider the tenders received for the Recreation Ground extension project

6.2.4 Proposal that the Parish Council considers how to progress the Recreation Ground extension works with urgency using its reserves to underwrite the re-application for the Sport England grant

6.2.5 Proposal that the Parish Council consider how any final shortfall in project costs can be funded.

Items 6.2.3 to 6.2.5 were taken together. The project's costs and grant funding was reviewed. A grant of £20,000 had been received from AmeyCespa, and £2500 from SCDC. An application for a grant of £50,000 was being resubmitted to Sport England. Cllrs Crossley and Pemberton reported on a meeting with the Sports Clubs whose representatives are to help prepare information for the resubmission. Support had been received from Meridian School and Comberton Village College.

Consideration was given to the tenders received by Agrostis, along with their recommendation and also the two additional tenders obtained by the Clerk and opened at the meeting. The RWG is to meet with the preferred supplier to see if the project can be brought in closer to the budget.

The Council reviewed its budget for the RWG and project and noted the requirement of third party funding to unlock the AmeyCespa grant.

Cllrs Crossley, Pemberton and Griffiths were thanked for their efforts.

6.3 SCDC Local Development Framework/Our Village Vision (LDF2012WG)

Cllr Elleray reported on his attendance at the LDF Portfolio holders' meeting yesterday. Eight sites are under consideration, one of which is Bennell Farm with 90 homes. Community infrastructure would include a football pitch and changing facilities for Toft, parking for Comberton and shared affordable housing. SCDC had stated that they would allow for parish participation in the development plan. Consultation will take place between July and September, with an exhibition in the Village Hall on 24 July. The Plan will be produced in January 2014 followed by public consultation, and a public enquiry.

The Parish Council suggestion for a boundary change in West Street to accommodate one dwelling had been adopted. If the Bennell Farm development takes place the village framework will also change to include this.

6.4 Proposal that the Council fills the old goal posts hole in the Recreation Ground

It was agreed ^(Prop NT, 2nd BP) to contract CGM to fill the hole with a 3 foot high poston the grounds of health and safety, if this is not required by the Football Club. Cllr Pemberton is to speak to the Clubs and let the Clerk know if the hole serves a specific purpose.

6.5 Proposal that the Council installs a new entry system at the Pavilion

It was agreed that Cllrs Bacon and Pemberton should meet with Briar Security to discuss the specification and obtain a quotation for consideration at the next meeting.

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

7.1 Resident request for the removal of the street light outside 47 West Street

It was noted that there would be a consultation in due course when all the lights would be reviewed.

7.2 Connections Bus – to consider if the Bus should visit during the school summer holidays

Costs were reviewed and it was agreed that the bus should visit as continuity would be good and had led to higher numbers last year.^(Prop SM, 2nd JM) Alternative provision had been considered. As to finding an alternative venue Cllr Crossley reported that Connections had met with Comberton Village College and the provision had not been suitable.

8. Closure of meeting

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 10.05 pm.

SignedChairmandate

DRAFT