

**Minutes of Comberton Annual Parish Meeting
on Tuesday 16 May 2006 at 8pm in the Village Hall.**

Present: 16 parishioners including Parish Council members and Mrs LG 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 25 April 2005.

The minutes were approved by the meeting and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

2. Matters arising from the minutes

Nothing that will not be discussed later this evening.

3. Report of the Parish Council for the year 2005-2006 from Chris Westgarth, Chairman.

This was presented by Miss Westgarth, the Parish Council Chairman¹ and is appended in full to these minutes.

4. Report from Gail Stoehr, Responsible Financial Officer, on the Parish Council's finances including the presentation of audited accounts from year ending 2005.

The RFO presented the audited financial statement of the Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2005^{2 3}

5. Report by Cllr S. Harangozo on District Council Matters⁴

Cllr S Harangozo's report is appended in full to these minutes.

The following question was raised:

Q – Can anything be done about an empty house which is becoming more derelict as time goes by?

A – Cllr S Harangozo offered to look into the matter.

6. Report by Cllr D Baldwin on County Council Matters⁵

Cllr D Baldwin's report was circulated in his absence.

The following questions/concerns were raised:

- Fox Way – the telegraph pole is obstructing visibility.
- The meeting is not happy with the 'Comberton Village College Traffic Calming Scheme' and Barton Road works.

These will be pursued by the Parish Council on the meeting's behalf.

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.

7.1 Herringland Charity (trustees appointed by the Parish Council)⁶
Appended in full to these minutes.

7.2 Old School House (grant)⁷
The report by Clare Craig is appended in full to these minutes.

7.3 Comberton Village Help Scheme (grant)⁸
Dr McCabe's report was noted in her absence.

7.4 St Mary's Church (grant)⁹
Clare Craig gave a report on behalf of Don Fisher, St Mary's Church which is appended in full to these minutes.

7.5 Comberton Scouts (grant)¹⁰

John Gresham reported that the grant provided by the Parish Council went towards the completion of the Scout Hut a water boiler and plumbing.

7.6 Comberton & District Ex-Servicemen's Club (grant)¹¹

The report by Jim Addy is appended in full to these minutes.

The order of business was varied slightly to take item 7.7 at the end of this section.

7.8 CCC Library Services (grant)¹²

The report is appended in full to these minutes.

7.9 Connection Bus (grant)¹³

Alan Webb's report is appended in full to these minutes. It was noted that there has been 78 visits and 90 membership forms.

7.7 Comberton Village Institute (grant and trustees appointed by the Parish Council)¹⁴

Brian Cook reported on behalf of the Village Institute. Thanks were expressed to the Parish Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) for their help and support. So far £13k has been raised by the village donation appeal/fundraising events and £15k in grants. It was noted that due to building inflation, costs and improvements there will be a planned overspend. Concerns have been expressed about the potential noise pollution. The Institute will be addressing this but additional costs are anticipated. It was highlighted that the new building will be built much better than the existing 2 halls and will not increase pollution.

7.10 Questions on any of the above reports

7.10.1 Q – what are the parish initiatives for path improvements?

A – The proposals were explained and it was noted that they will continue discussing the issue over the forthcoming year. Permissive v definitive paths were explained.

7.10.2 Q – Kentings/West Street – at present there is no hard standing is there any plans to install any?

A – Cambridge County Council (CCC) has agreed to do the hard standing. It was agreed that the Parish Council will chase this matter up with them.

7.10.3 Q – Walking - Branch Road/Green End Path to Hardwick. Concern was expressed about cycling on the footpath/PROW.

A – The issues will be raised with John Cooper at Countryside Services.

7.10.4 Q – Old School House – why can it not be used as a private residence if it can not be commercially let?

A – It is not feasible due to its layout and lack of facilities. Also it is a matter for Ely Diocesan office.

8. **To consider resolutions of which advance notice has been given.**

None.

9. **Any other Parish Matters**

The following questions/concerns were raised:

Q – Concern that only 5 members of the Parish Council are present.

A – Explanation of the APM versus the normal Parish Council meeting was noted. Parishioners are encouraged to help develop the agenda to make this their meeting and relevant to current village issues.

Q – As a member of the Cricket Club expressed concern at the location of the Safer Routes for School path with relation to the cricket outfield and square.

A – Ongoing dialogue is taking place with CCC at the moment. A recent meeting with CCC, Tim Saunders Cricket Club and the Parish Council took place.

Q – What is happening with the corner shop which is still in a disgraceful state?

A – Mr Patel of Harrow now owns it. He has had one meeting with the Parish Council Planning Committee. Nothing formal has been seen. When further information is received a public meeting will be called.

Q – Recall that the new Montessori Nursery School at Foxes Bridge Farm offered help towards traffic calming Barton Road.

A – The Planning Committee in discussion with CCC but nothing else has been heard.

Q – Any village organisation should be invited to be present at the meeting and use it as a platform to raise their profile.

A – The meeting is in agreement.

10. **Closure of meeting**

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) _____ (date)

¹ Parish Council report

² Financial report

³ Audited accounts from year ending 2005

⁴ Report by Councillor S Harangozo on District Council matters

⁵ Report by Councillor D Baldwin on County Council matters

⁶ Herringland Charity report

⁷ Old School House report

⁸ Comberton Village Help Scheme

⁹ St Mary's Church report

¹⁰ Comberton Scouts report

¹¹ Comberton & District Ex-Servicemen's Club report

¹² CCC Library Services

¹³ Connections Bus report

¹⁴ Comberton Village Institute report