

COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL
Wednesday 14 June 2006 in the Old Village Hall at 7.30pm

Members present:	Dr C Chambers	Dr J McCabe
Councillors:	Mr D Charge	Mrs D Morison
	Mr D Coulson	Dr H Roscoe
	Mr D Ellis	Mr R Rowlands
	Mr A Hollick	Mrs A Webb
	Mrs S Hyde	Miss C Westgarth (Chairman)

In attendance: Mrs G Stoehr (Clerk), Cllr S Harangozo (District Cllr), and 4 members of the public.

Comments and observations:

Mr and Mrs J Caine raised their concerns at the Council's decision to cut down four trees in the Valley. This was detailed further in their letter dated 24 May 2006. It was felt that there was a failure to consult residents and the wrong decision had been taken. It was recollected that the trees were originally planted by Bill Watts to provide an avenue. This will be an item for the next agenda when the Tree Group have looked into a suitable replacement species i.e. 'short root'.

Mr Banyard complained about the state of the village pump, notice board site. This will be attended to.

Concerns regarding increased traffic along Long Road, damage to the road and mud on the road from the 'Birse Site' for the A428 to Girton Interchange were noted.

1. To approve apologies for absence and declarations of interest

None at this time.

2. To approve the minutes of the meeting on 10 May (including confidential minutes) & the extra-ordinary meeting on 31 May

On a proposition by Mrs Morison, seconded by Dr McCabe the minutes of the meeting were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman after the following amendments:

- Item 1.3.3 Tree Group – Mrs Hyde's name should be added.
- Item 1.3.6 Transport Working Group - S Harangozo's name should be added.
- Item 1.7 Add the wording 'it was agreed to find out if there was a financial benefit to the Council for attaining Quality Council Status'.

On a proposition by Dr Chambers, seconded by Dr McCabe the confidential minutes of the meeting on 10 May 2006 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman after the deletion of backdated to April 2006 from both bullet points.

On a proposition by Dr Roscoe, seconded by Mr Ellis the extra-ordinary minutes of the meeting on 31 May 2006 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising or carried forward from the meeting including

3.1 (4.1) Land purchase – update

It was noted that this was completed on Friday 2 June 2006.

3.2 (4.2) Clerk's new contract

It was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting to allow the Clerk time to re-draft the contract.

3.3 Footway lights review

The report from Mr Ellis¹ was noted. The matter is now closed.

3.4 (8.2) New Village Hall Meeting room etc

The dimensions provided by the Steering Group of 15' x 12' were noted. The meeting was briefly adjourned to allow members time to view the room.

The meeting was re-opened and it was agreed that Dr Roscoe would make a sketch of the room which will be considered further at the next meeting. Mr Ellis and Mr Hollick were asked to obtain a formal request detailing exactly what the Trustees require the Parish Council to consider. It was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting to allow time for the above information to be received.

4. County Councillor and District Councillor reports

Disappointment was expressed that Cllr Baldwin did not regularly attend meetings. Cllr Harangozo's report was taken as read.

5. Parish Plan5.1 Youth Work report – Bob Candlin

It was agreed to carry this item forward to the July meeting as no report has been received due to the Mr Candlin having been ill. The other trigger points are to remain unchanged.

6. Finance6.1 To receive the financial report and to approve the payment of bills²

The financial report was received and considered and checked by a member against the invoices and statements. On a proposition by Mr D Ellis, seconded by Mr D Coulson it was agreed that the payments as listed in the financial report as amended (LGS Services & LG Stoehr) should be paid.

SCDC	Rates	£111.00
ROSPA	Safety inspection	£109.28
Powergen	Electricity bill	£48.69
LGS Services	Electronic returns	£52.88
MD Landscapes	Grass cutting	£828.38
Greenham	Cleaning supplies	£18.41
Peter Oakes	Tree removal	£446.50
Greenham	Cleaning supplies	£30.96
LGS Services	Admin support	£1021.78
LG Stoehr	Salary	£136.76
Mills and Reeve	Land transfer	£60000.00
Land Vendors legal fees	Land transfer	£10392.88
Mills and Reeve	Legal fees (land transfer)	£3082.51
Mills and Reeve	Legal fees (Watts Wood)	£482.92
Money Matters	Internal audit	£42.10
Greenham	Cleaning supplies	£35.38

The following were noted:

- Credits:

SCDC (Precept)	£28000.00
Inland Revenue (PAYE)	£250.00
CCC (P3 grant)	£200.00
CCC (verges grant)	£1137.92
SCDC (recycling credits)	£471.61

- The £200 P3 Grant does not clear the debtor from the previous year of £452 nor the work anticipated this financial year.
- Further to the last meeting Connections Bus seek a donation for 5 sessions at usual rate = £375
- Recycling credits had been received from SCDC despite being told that there would be no more.
- National Savings (Bank Charges land purchase funds) = £142.40

6.2 Internal audit report

Dr Chambers reported on his meeting with the Internal Auditor. The following points had been raised with him:

- S137 payments are not being minuted. It was noted that they had been noted in the full minutes for April 2005 when approved but not in May when paid.
- The level of reserves.

6.3 Conflicts of Interests

The e-mail dated 21 May 2006 from Dr C Chambers³ was considered. The issues relating/around predetermining applications, code of conduct and bureaucracy was noted. There was a consensus that there is a need to understand legislation fully before signing up to anything.

Dr C Chambers left at this point of the meeting.

6.4 To consider the letter from Sue Reynolds re. Interactive sign and costs

The letter from Sue Reynolds dated 8 May 2006⁴ and the report from the 'Transport Working Group'⁵ were noted. It was agreed to ask Cllr D Baldwin to invite Sue Reynolds her boss and Mr D Lines to all attend the September meeting to discuss the matter further. It was agreed that the meeting should start at 7.00 pm. An invitation is to be extended to Mr Lansley and his support sought.

7. To receive reports and consider recommendations contained in the reports

7.1 Planning

The planning report was taken as read and it was agreed that the following letters should be sent:

- Letter to John Koch regarding the appeal.
- Letter to the Enforcement Officer regarding the roof tiles on the double garage at 22 Barton Road and the digital aerial at 107 Barton Road.
- Advertising signs for; Kebab Van, Antiques Shop and 3 Horseshoes. It was agreed to write to all of the above highlighting the policy and the need to apply to place advertising signs up.
- Saunders Nursery, 133 Green End – It was queried what is happening with regards to the certificate of law.

7.2 Village Hall representative and Steering Group representatives

Nothing further to report.

7.3 Village Design Statement – update

The draft Village Design Statement was circulated for consideration.

7.4 Other

None.

8. To consider matters arising out of correspondence/communications received including

8.1 Standards Committee Parish Council members – to vote

In response to the letter dated 5 June 2006 from SCDC Standards Committee⁶ requesting the Parish Council to vote for a representative from the five nominations

received on a proposition by Mr Coulson, seconded by Mr Hollick it was agreed to vote for Mr Nigel Pearson of Caxton. The vote was recorded as 8 in favour with 2 abstentions.

8.2 Football Club – Security of Tenure

The e-mail dated 28 May 2006 from Andy Marsh ⁷ was noted and considered. It was noted that there was no security of tenure and highlighted that the proposed Recreation Trust should help address this.

8.3 Comberton Leisure – swimming pool – apologies from Dan Birch

The e-mail dated 5 June 2006 from Dan Birch ⁸ was noted.

9. Closure of meeting

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

SignedChairmandate

¹ Mr D Ellis – Footway lighting report

² Financial Report

³ E-mail dated 21/5/06 from Dr C Chambers re: conflict of interest

⁴ Letter from Sue Reynolds re: Interactive sign and costs

⁵ Report from the ‘Transport Working Group

⁶ Letter dated 5/6/06 from SCDC re: Standards Committee Parish Council members – to vote

⁷ E-mail dated 28/5/06 from Andy Marsh re: Football Club, Security of Tenure

⁸ E-mail dated 5/6/06 from Dan Birch re: Comberton Leisure swimming pool