

Combe Hay Parish Council

BATHAVON WEST WARD, BATH & NORTH-EAST SOMERSET

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 8 October 2015 in Combe Hay Parish Church

Actions – marked **A** at right – are on the Clerk and on any Councillor whose initials also appear

Present: Councillors J. Long (Chairman), M. Austwick, C. Harrison, P. Mills, S. Saker, J. Young

In attendance: B & NES Councillor D. Veale, R. Campbell (Clerk)

Public Participation

The Chairman welcomed all Councillors. No member of the public was present.

15.31 **Apologies** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr D. Samson, who was abroad

15.32 **Declarations** There were none

15.33 **Minutes** The minutes of the meeting of 13 August were agreed to be a true record. They were signed by the Chairman

15.34 **Clerk's report** All items are covered elsewhere in the agenda.

15.35 Planning

(a) Applications None

(b) Planning decisions

B & NES had advised the following:

15/014467/FUL & 001468/LBA Fortnight Farm, Wycotte Hill, Combe Hay
Proposal: Internal and external alterations to facilitate erection of extension to existing coach house and creation of new link to orangery. Installation of lantern over current kitchen to replace existing. New French doors and erection of curved staircase tower. Decision: **Permit** (FUL) **Consent** (LBA)

15/02933/FUL Anchor Farm, Anchor Lane, Combe Hay.
Proposal: Erection of single storey side and front extensions following demolition of existing utility and WC. Decision: **Permit**

15/03530/TCA Westhill House, The Lower Lane, Combe Hay, Bath BA2 7EG
Proposal: T1 Lawson Cypress - Reduce height by 12 feet, remove 3 stems and overhang over neighbouring property. Decision: **No objection**

The Planning Inspectorate had advised the following:

Appeal APP/F0114/D/15/3129576 relating to **15/00420/FUL** Uphill, Combe Hay, Bath BA2 7EG

Proposal: single storey extension to the rear of the property.
Appeal **allowed**, planning permission granted.

15.36 Roads and transport

Traffic problems through Combe Hay. It was agreed that problems had worsened recently and that there was no easy solution to them

Proposed highways stopping up order at Combe Hay Lane. Councillors felt that the land by the entrance to Week Farm was a valuable passing place, especially for lorries. Any fencing-off would have to be set well back. Cllr Harrison could see no benefit to the village in the proposed order. The matter had been discussed briefly earlier in the year, but no decision had been made. It was agreed to tell B& NES that Combe Hay Parish Council did NOT agree to the proposed stopping-up order.

Parking Resident John Holdaway had raised the linked matters of parking along Anchor Lane in the vicinity of the junction with Flower's Hill and access to The Lower Lane down Flower's Hill.

Councillors were sympathetic but did not want double yellow lines or a proliferation of signs

Ward Cllr Veale's offer to facilitate a site meeting with Stefan Chivers of B & NES Highways was accepted with thanks. The Clerk to forward details to Cllr Veale and invite Mr Holdaway to the meeting. Cllr Mills said that Stony Lane should be rolled into the discussion. **A**

A367 Odd Down bus lane

Resident Trevor Osborne had brought to the Council's attention the campaign by Peasedown St John Councillor Karen Walker for alterations to the A367 bus lane near the Odd Down Park and Ride and an additional entrance to the Radstock end of the Park and Ride.

It was agreed to write to Cllr Cllr Walker supporting both proposals, with a copy of B & NES Highways.

(ii) Surface water at Anchor Lane Highways' installation of a new pipe and gully had reduced the water flow only somewhat. Bristol Water had taken a sample for analysis to see if it was a tap water leakage. If the problem was sent back to B & NES, a drainage project was unlikely to be completed before winter.

Cllr Veale suggested the problem could be examined under the B & NES flood strategy. He will arrange for a copy to be sent to the Council.

15.37 Rights of Way Nothing to report

15.38 Cemetery The Clerk regretted that he had not yet made contact with Philip Harrison about wall repair, but would do so. **A**

15.39 Environment, waste and cleansing

(i) Grass cutting B & NES had advised that the 2015 contract was for seven cuts at £120 each, total £840 plus VAT. Written confirmation was being sought. **A**

(ii) Fly-tipping Tipping at the top corner of Combe Hay Lane had been reported to B & NES and quickly cleared by them.

It was agreed to ask B & NES to write to the landowner about fly-tipping on the quarry land nearby. **A**

15.40 **Trees**

(i) Tree thinning at The Avenue Jane Brewer, B & NES Tree Officer, regretted that due to lack of resources and possible conflict of interest she could not give advice

Sam Brown had recommended removal of dead wood, particularly in shaded areas, and possible reduction of tree canopies, but not the removal of any tree. It was agreed not to take any action at present, but to keep the situation under review.

(ii) Dying cherry on the corner of the slip road to the Old Post Office Subject to Jane Brewer's advice, Councillors proposed to cut down the tree on a self-help basis.

(iii) Cemetery ash tree Wildwood's quotation (minute 1520) was compared with a new one from Sam Brown, who thought there was only limited die-back in the tree, though more in surrounding trees.

RESOLVED (proposed Cllr John Long, 2nd Cllr Janet Young, unanimous) to accept Mr Brown's quotation of £200 to remove dead limbs and ivy from the ash. The small overhanging cherry tree by the cemetery gate to be removed at the same time.

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15.41 **Assets**

Lower car park and land at Avenue. Neil Robertson had suggested dealing with the matter by way of a letter of transfer. Cllr Austwick said a figure of £500 had been quoted for the work. It was agreed he would seek a cheaper solicitor. Mr Robertson's costs would have to be met. Once this would be done the PC will sort out licences for the four car parking spaces. Councillors noted Cllr Samson's suggestion that no action on car parking be taken until the transfer was complete was noted.

A

15.42 **Finance**

(i) Financial statement The financial statement to 30 September was approved.

(ii) Banking arrangements The requested account changes had still not been made by Barclays. Cllr Mills suggested changing banks. It was agreed to make one more attempt with Barclays and a new set of forms was signed.

A

(iii) Nationwide account There was a balance of £64 from a long-ago barn dance. Cllr Mills' suggestion that this should be used for the village, perhaps for the Christmas Party, was agreed. The Chairman and Clerk will sign the forms tenable them to operate the account.

A JL

(iv) Payments

RESOLVED (proposed Cllr , 2nd Cllr unanimous) to approve the following payments:

100747	P. Mills, refund cost of projection screen	10.00
100748	R. Campbell, Clerk's salary September	295.51
100749	HMRC	238.60
100750	R. Campbell, Clerk's salary October (postdated)	295.51
100751	Information Commissioner, annual registration	35.00

15.43 Broadband

Cllr Austwick said Priston had acquired sufficient subscribers for TrueSpeed to install its fibre system, with a projected start date of January 2016. Ward Councillor Veale was critical of B & NES's approach to broadband enablement. Cllr Austwick said Claverton had paid BT £40K for its system. He will check out the Church of England's proposals for masts on church towers. It was agreed to monitor Priston's progress.

A MA

15.44 Correspondence and reports

(a) Correspondence The West of England Air Ambulance Charity had enquired about installing a clothing bank in Combe Hay. It was understood Wellow was considering having one and, if so, Combe Hay could use that.

(b) Reports

- Bathavon Forum: Cllrs Long and Mills had attended and found a useful meeting, prepared to listen to local concerns. Cllr Long suggested all councillors should go at some point. The business meeting was followed by a session about the local Clinical commissioning Group.
- Environs of Bath Sub-committee: the Clerk reported on an interesting meeting, with reports from parishes immediately surrounding Bath. South Stoke were very keen for Combe Hay to write to B & NES, opposing any increase in housing numbers beyond the 350 in the Core Strategy.

15.45 Website The Clerk to make a grant application. There are monthly deadlines till the end of the financial year. Councillors did not consider a WordPress site the best option. ALCA to be asked for advice.

A

15.46 Meetings and events

(a) The following event were noted:

Environs of Bath Sub-committee 17 November

Bathavon Forum 19 November

(b) The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 10 December at 7pm in Combe Hay Church and will include budget setting

The Chairman thanked those attending and closed the meeting at 8:55pm