

# Combe Hay Parish Council

BATHAVON WEST WARD, BATH & NORTH-EAST SOMERSET

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 11 February 2016 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, D. Samson, J. Young

**In attendance:** Ward Councillor D. Veale, R. Campbell (Clerk), one member of the public

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman welcomed everyone present. He said that he and Margaret Duppa Miller had attended the B & NES Chairman's Community Awards 2015/16.

He was delighted to announce that the Lifetime Achievement Award had been renamed the Peter Duppa Miller Lifetime Achievement Award. A short film commemorating Peter's life and involvement with B & NES had been shown.

16.01 **Apologies** All Councillors were present

#### 16.02 **Declarations**

Cllr Austwick declared a pecuniary interest in relation to planning item 16.05 (i) 1 Croft Cottages, as owner.

#### 16.03 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 10 December were agreed to be a true record. They were signed by the Chairman

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

#### 16.05 **Planning**

(i) Applications Councillors considered the following applications:

**16/00141/TCA** 2 Manor Farm Cottages Anchor Lane Combe Hay BA2 7EH  
Proposal: (T1) 1 x Walnut - fell; (T2) 1 x Pine - fell.

Councillors agreed with a comment from the floor that the Scots Pine was a fine tree.

**Recommendation: support** for the felling of the Walnut. The Scots Pine should be saved, by means of a TPO if necessary. **A**

**16/00344** Smithy House, Flowers Hill, Combe Hay

Proposal: erection of new house at garden of Smithy House.

**Recommendation: support.**

Comment: the bulk of the garage seems disproportionate to that of the house. **A**

**16/00404** 1 Croft Cottages, The Lower Lane, Combe Hay

Proposal: Erection of two storey rear extension following demolition of existing

single storey rear extensions and outbuilding.

Cllr Austwick answered factual questions before leaving the room.

Councillors considered that the proposal improved the appearance of the cottage; parking was also improved. The increase in volume was acceptable. **Recommendation: support.**

**A**

Cllr Austwick rejoined the meeting.

(ii) Decisions and updates The following decisions by B & NES were noted:

**15.05479.TCA** Land West Of Old School House Anchor Lane Combe Hay Bath  
Proposal: 1x Beech (Fagus Silvatica) – fell. **No objection**

**15.05277.TCA** Manor House Farm Backy Hill Proposal: 1x Young Horn Beam - crown reduction to a final height of 24 feet and a width of 18 feet. **No objection**

The owner of 2 Manor Cottages had written seeking the Parish Council's support for proposed changes to parking arrangements at the property. It was agreed that the council could not comment in the absence of a planning application.

#### 16.06 **Roads and transport**

(i) Swan Lane Cllr Veale had met Linda Le Ray, who had again written seeking a 20mph speed limit in Swan Lane. He said that the rat running as in Swan Lane was a common village problem. The current B & NES administration did not believe in 20mph limits and some were being removed. There was no current funding for signs for Swan Lane, though the request that had been made by Mrs Le Ray would stay on the list.

The Chairman said that vehicles turning right into Swan Lane from the A367 had caused accidents.

(ii) Highways updates Flower's Hill: The Chairman reported on a site meeting with Stefan Chivers of B & NES Highway, Cllr Veale and Mr John Holdaway, who had originally raised the subject of access problems at the top of the lane. Mr Chivers had said that no money was available for yellow lines or signage. He had suggested the parish Council put 'don't park' signs either side of the field gate and a 'not suitable for heavy vehicles' one on a wall at the top of Flower's Hill. Councillors discussed the possible deterrent effect of traffic cones, which would be needed if the building work at Smithy House and/or 1 Croft Cottages was given permission.

B & NES to be asked about no parking signs, for which the Parish Council is likely to have to pay.

**A**

Spring at Anchor Lane: the surface water was somewhat reduced at the original site, but water was gushing from the bottom of the wall of Rectory Lodge.

**A**

B & NES to be advised and asked to deal with the matter.

B & NES also to be asked if they would extend gritting to Rectory Lodge.

**A**

#### 16.07 **Waste and Recycling**

The Chairman had picked litter to fill a bag when out walking on the Fosse Way. Other councillors had also litter picked.

Cllr Saker said a litter bin was wanted in the centre of Combe Hay. It was noted that the Parish Council would have to pay for it. Prices to be available for the next meeting

**A**

It was agreed not to have a village litter day but to continue to ask parishioners to pick up litter when out walking.

16.08 **Rights of Way** There was nothing to report

16.09 **Cemetery**

(i) Wall It was confirmed that Combe Hay Parish Council had authorised Mr Philip Harrison to repair the east wall of the Cemetery to a limit of £2,000 (Minute 8, December 2014). Subject to confirmation by Mr Harrison that his estimates of 17.5.07 and 13.10.09 still stood, it was agreed unanimously that the limit be increased to £3,600 as per budget 2015/16. It was anticipated that at least 20 feet of wall would be repaired/rebuilt. **A**

(ii) Burial charges Having considered the Wellow/Shoscombe Cemetery list of charges (Minute 15.55ii) it was unanimously agreed that the charges at Combe Hay Cemetery from 12 February 2016 be as follows:

Purchase of grave space in perpetuity £100 single, £200 double

Purchase of plot for cremated remains in perpetuity £60

Memorial fee for headstone only £40

Cllr Samson asked if the burial book had been found. The Diocese to be asked.

(iii) Trees Mr Sam Brown is behind because of the wet weather. He will deal with the Cemetery ash before it comes into leaf.

(iv) Non-resident burial of ashes Nothing to report

16.10 **Land at The Avenue and The Lower Lane car park**

(i) It was agreed unanimously to arrange for the conveyance to the Parish Council of the strip of land at The Avenue, Combe Hay, as provided for in the Agreement between Charles Robertson and Combe Hay Parish Council dated 22 November 1971. **A**

The Parish Council is already responsible for the maintenance of this land. Mr Sam Brown to be asked to advise on tree thinning once the trees come into leaf.

(ii) The nature of the 'few issues relating to the car parking area' at The Lower Lane referred to by Mr Neil Robertson's solicitor to be established. **A**

16.11 **Living archive**

Cllr Saker hoped that Councillors had read the village newsletter.

There had been no meeting of the group since the Parish Council had last met. A Heritage Lottery grant application was complicated and would not be made immediately.

The agreed grant of £150 (Minute 15.51) to be held until the group has a bank account.

16.12 **Broadband**

Priston's Truespeed system had not yet come to fruition.

Broadband to be removed as a standing agenda item for the time being.

**16.13 Provision of website**

Councillors had looked at Hinton Charterhouse's website, provided by Parishcouncil.net and considered it had good features, though the £100 annual subscription was high. Cllr Mills thought the simpler the site, the better.

The Clerk to select an additional site for Councillors to look at.

A

It was agreed to delegate the final choice to the Clerk after consultation with Members.

A

**16.14 The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday**

It was agreed that Cllr Long will consult Combe Hay village about a proposed celebration in June. The area was not considered suitable for a beacon.

A JL

**16.15 Finance**

(i) Financial statement The financial position at 31.1.16 was noted

(ii) Insurance The renewal proposal had been received after the agenda had been posted. It was in line with the previous year's and with the budget.

Comparative quotations would be obtained for 2017/8

(iii) Payments

**RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Mills, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Samson, unanimous) to approve the following payments

£.p

Chq 756	B & NES Council, grass cutting 2015	1296.00
757	B & NES Council, cricket ground grass cutting prior year	432.00
758	R. Campbell, Clerk's salary January 2016	295.71
759	R. Campbell, Clerk's salary February (dated 21/2)	295.51
760	AON Insurance	278.97

(iv) Cllr Mills recommended that the internal audit be carried out before the end of the financial year

A

**16.16 Correspondence and reports**

(i) Correspondence Councillors reviewed correspondence received since the last meeting.

It was agreed to write to B & NES in support of bus service 42, from the Odd Down Park & Ride to the RUH, which is under review.

A

(ii) Reports None

**16.17 Meetings and events**

(i) Cllr Long encouraged other councillors to attend the next meeting of the Bathavon Area Forum on 23 February.

(ii) The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 14 April at 7pm in Combe Hay Church.

The Chairman thanked Frank Davis for his comments and closed the meeting at 8:50pm