

# Combe Hay Parish Council

BATHAVON WEST WARD, BATH & NORTH-EAST SOMERSET

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held at 7.00 pm on Thursday 3 August 2016 in Combe Hay Parish Church

Present: Councillors M. Austwick (Chairman), J. Long, P. Mills, S. Saker, D. Samson

In attendance: R. Campbell (Clerk)

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** No member of the public attended.

16.68 **Apologies** Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs A. Harrison and J. Young.

16.69 **Interests** There were no declarations of interests or dispensation requests.

16.70 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 7 June 2016 were agreed to be a true record and were signed by the Chair

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 3 May 2016 were received and noted.

16.71 **Clerk's report** A report on actions outstanding from previous meetings was distributed to members.

16.72 **Planning**

(a) Applications None

(b) Planning and enforcement decisions and updates None

Information to be sought on the reason for topsoil removal work at Ridings' land.

(c) Placemaking Plan It was agreed that Cllr Long would read material on proposed amendments to the Core Strategy contained in the Placemaking Plan, to see if the council wished to comment to the Public Examination Inspector. At first sight changes affecting Combe Hay, if any, appeared minor.

(d) Trees Councillors noted B & NES Tree Officer Jane Brewis's comment in relation to a Scots Pine, that being in the Conservation Area affords similar protection to a Tree Protection Order and so the two are not needed together.

16.73 **Roads, transport and rights of way**

(a) Old Bath Road

It was agreed to write in the first instance to the landowner asking that vegetation overgrowth on the path (actually a Class 5 road) from the Wheatsheaf towards St Gregory's School be cut back.

Highways Inspector Nick Sperring had advised that shavings from road resurfacing would be deposited in a low-lying areas of the same track to combat water pooling.

(b) Traffic signs in Swan Lane Councillors considered a request from stables owner Lynda Le Ray for 'Horses' signs on Dunkerton Lane. The council regretted that it felt unable to pay for signs, but would support an application to B & NES if Mrs Le

Ray was prepared to fund them.

(c) Highways updates

Surface water at Anchor Lane: Councillors noted that the French drain proposed for Anchor Lane had not been included in the B & NES programme for 2016-17. B & NES would the following week instead replace the closed pipe they had previously put under Anchor Lane with a porous one, set in a bed of gravel, so that water in excess of the pipe's capacity will soak away, rather than backing up and then running across the road surface.

16.74 **Defibrillator**

(a) **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Samson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Austwick, three for, two against) to transfer £250 from reserves to new budget line 'Defibrillator', to provide the Parish Council funding contribution to the defibrillator (ref. minute 16.64b)

(b) Update Sue Bowen, B & NES, had advised she was awaiting adoption of the kiosk by the Community Heartbeat Trust and the removal of equipment by BT, before fast-tracking installation of the defibrillator. The Clerk to check when training will be available.

16.75 **Cemetery**

Wall repair

**RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Samson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Long, unanimous) to ask Philip Harrison to rebuild the remaining unsafe section of cemetery wall (14 feet approximately) at a cost not to exceed £2,764, in accordance with his previously accepted quotation.

16.76 **Environment and Amenity**

(a) Councillors noted work in woodland to the W and E of Old Combe Hay Lane, S. of the Park & Ride. The Clerk had visited the site with owner Charles Hignett, who was felling three dangerous trees and proposed to fence the first few hundred yards from the road.

It was agreed to try and facilitate a meeting with B & NES and Mr Hignett to discuss how to bikers, vandalism and littering could be combatted.

(b) Trees

An order had been placed with A. Lewis Tree Services to fell and remove the dead cherry at Stony Lane as soon as possible at a cost of £75. M Lewis had advised that the best time to dead-wood The Avenue trees is November. His and a comparative quotation to be discussed at the October meeting.

(c) Litter Party

Councillors thanked Maggie Stroud and all those who had recently collected nine full sacks of rubbish from Combe Hay Lane. It was planned to go again in October and just before Christmas. More volunteers next time would be appreciated.

Cllr Saker had checked the village centre and found no litter, providing support for the decision not to install a litter bin

16.77 **Website**

The Clerk reported that it was hoped to have the website up and running by late August. He will attend a training course in Stroud in August or September.

16.78 **Finance**

(a) The Month 4 financial statement was noted

(b) **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Mills, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Samson) to adopt minor amendments to Financial Regulations per NALC/SLCC Model Regulations March 2016.

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

100780	June 2016 payroll + increase backdated to 1/4/16	377.98
100779	July 2016 payroll	372.00
100782	August 2016 payroll (dated 21/8)	372.20

(d) a quotation for wire-brushing the whole length of The Avenue railings, priming and top-coating in Hammerite to be obtained.

(e) It was agreed to consider a five-year village maintenance plan at the next meeting.

16.79

### **Correspondence and Reports**

(a) The following correspondence, received since the Parish Council meeting of 7 July 2016, was noted.

- Barclays Bank – advice of reduction in limit of Financial Services Compensation Scheme to £75K (from £85K)
- Consultation on abolition of the Public works Loan Board
- Avon & Somerset Police – Newsletter Summer 2016
- Police and Crime Commissioner – Priorities Consultation 2016 (Clerk to respond)
- Cam Valley Wildlife Group Newsletter Summer 2016
- AON – note of changes to Insurance Act
- Grants and funding bulletin July
- B & NES Chairman’s Community Awards

(b) Miscellaneous reports and information:

- The Clerk reported on the 26 July meeting of the Environs of Bath Sub-committee. The next meeting to be asked if it will request B & NES to provide parishes with details of agricultural planning applications.
- The third filing cabinet in the Church will be used by the PCC
- Mike Edge had offered to provide bird boxes to people on the E. side of the village. Cllr Saker will speak to him about this.
- In reply to a question from Cllr Samson, it was reported that the Burial Book has still not been found

### 16.80 **Meetings and events**

(a) Forthcoming meetings and events were noted, including the following which the clerk would attend:

- 20/9: Environs of Bath Sub-committee
- 8/10: 10:30 – 12:00, MSN Town Hall, ALCA AGM

(b) The next meeting of the Parish Council was agreed as Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm in Combe Hay Church. Note that this is a change of date from the one previously announced.

The Chairman thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 8.55pm.