

# Combe Hay Parish Council

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BATHAVON WEST WARD, BATH & NORTH-EAST SOMERSET

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting  
held at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 5 October 2016 in Combe Hay Parish Church**

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

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

**PUBLIC  
PARTICI  
PATION**

- Margaret Barnes did not think that The Avenue railings should be there and did not see the point of the beech trees.  
The state of the hedges in Dunkerton Lane was disgraceful

16.81 **Apologies** Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr D. Samson

16.82 **Interests** There were no declarations of interests.

16.83 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 3 August 2016 were agreed to be a true record. They were signed by the Chairman.

16.84 **Clerk's report** A report on actions from previous meetings was distributed.

16.85 **Planning**

(a) No applications to consider.

Since publication of the agenda, the following had been received:

16/04677/FUL Uphill The Lower Lane Combe Hay BA2 7EG.

Underground storage/garage area under the front raised lawn. Installation of sewage treatment plant.

16/04894/TCA The Dormy House, Anchor Lane, Combe Hay BA2 7EG.

1x Golden Leylandii - remove. 1x Cherry – remove.

Cllr Long would review the applications. If necessary an extra planning meeting would be called.

(b) No decisions.

The Clerk had circulated a summary of all planning applications for the parish received in 2016, including those for agricultural barns, on which the council is not asked to comment.

Sulis Down development: It was noted that The Hignett Family Trust and Bloor Homes will undertake further public consultation during the Autumn, preparatory to submitting a detailed planning application for the western part of Sulis Down by the end of the year.

Cllr Long will contact South Stoke Parish and report to the 8 December meeting.

(c) An update on the West of England Joint Spatial Plan and Joint Transport Study was noted.

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

(a) Old Bath Road Trevor Osborne has asked his tenant, Frank Shellard, to cut back

the overhanging vegetation. It was agreed to send a letter to Mr Shellard, with a copy to Mr Osborne, asking that the work be carried out promptly.

(b) Highways updates Cllr Austwick reported that the new work done at Anchor Lane was proving effective in stopping water running across the surface of the road.

Seven phone calls in 12 days had been made to B & NES to have a fly-tipped mattress removed.

**16.87 Defibrillator**

(a) The defibrillator had been installed in the phone box at Anchor Lane but was not yet operational.

- A request to be made for volunteers to join council members in carrying out weekly inspections of the defibrillator, once it was operational

(b) The Clerk to suggest training dates to Community Heartbeat Trust.

**16.88 Cemetery**

(a) Philip Harrison hoped to start on the next section of wall repair later that week.

(b) Margaret Barnes kindly provided information on the location of the Burial Register.

(c) The Clerk will suggest dates for a meeting at the Cemetery to verify the locations of reserved grave plots.

**16.89 Environment and Amenity**

(a) The dead cherry at the top of Stony Lane had been felled and removed.

(b) It had not yet been possible to set up a meeting with B & NES and the owner of woodland to the W and E of Old Combe Hay Lane . It was agreed to ask additionally for a camera to be sited there.

(c) A quotation of £550 to dead-wood The Avenue trees had previously been received from A. Lewis (to include felling and removal of dead cherry). A quotation from S. Watson of Wildwood had now been received in the sum of £675. It was noted that Mr Watson's quotation allowed for climbing each tree individually, not using a cherry-picker. It was agreed the Clerk should ascertain if the two quotations used the same method.

**RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Long, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Saker, unanimous) to accept the quotation from A. Lewis if comparable to that from Wildwood.

(d) A quotation of £3K to prepare and paint the entire length of The Avenue railings had been received and was considered very high. The Clerk will seek two further quotations.

**16.90 Website**

The Clerk apologized for slow progress in this matter. Material was now with the developer and completion was expected in October.

**16.91 Finance and audit**

(a) The RFO presented a month 6 financial statement.

(b) The external auditor's report for 2015/16 had been received. Two minor matters not affecting the auditor's unqualified opinion were noted.

The Conclusion of Audit notice had been posted.

(c) It was agreed to support NALC's proposal to oppose the expansion of council tax referendum requirements to parish councils. ALCA to be so advised.

(d) Upkeep of parish assets The Clerk will circulate a current list of Parish Council assets for review by members, so that a discussion on funding a five-year maintenance programme can take place at the December meeting before the budget is agreed.

(e) **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Austwick, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Mills, unanimous) to pay the following:

100784	September 2016 payroll	372.00
100785	HMRC – Quarter 2	3.40
100786	R.Campbell – first half office allowance and office supplies	159.48
	Grant Thornton – fee for external audit 2015-16, inc. VAT	120.00

#### 16.92 Correspondence and Reports

(a) Correspondence received since the Parish Council meeting of 3 August 2016 was noted. No actions were identified.

(b) Miscellaneous reports and information.

- Andy Ridings to be notified of motocross bikes on his land
- The Clerk reported on the September meeting of the Environs of Bath Sub-committee

#### 16.93 Meetings and events

(a) Forthcoming meetings were noted as follows:

8 October: ALCA AGM

22 November: Environs of Bath Sub-committee

The Clerk hoped to attend both meetings.

(b) The date of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as Thursday 8 December 2016 at 7.00pm in Combe Hay Church.

The Chairman thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 8.47pm.