Combe Hay Parish Council

BATHAVON WEST WARD, BATH & NORTH-EAST SOMERSET

**Minutes of the Parish Council (CHPC) meeting held at 19:00**

**on Wednesday 21 November 2018 in Combe Hay Parish Church**

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

**In attendance**: Bathavon South Ward Councillor N. Butters (for Public Participation), R. Campbell (Clerk), S. Hill and J. Chapman from TrueSpeed, four members of the public

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

* TrueSpeed Growth Manager Samantha Hill and Senior Network Officer Joel Chapman gave an update on the rollout of FTTP broadband to Combe Hay. TrueSpeed had rerouted to avoid private land, coming from Tunley, and, unless prevented by B&NES from carrying out work at the side of the A367 during Bath’s Christmas Market, still aim to have Combe Hay connected by Christmas.
* They were closely questioned by the small number of parishioners who were initially told they would have free connection like the rest of the village but had been advised subsequently that the location of their properties precludes this.
* Samantha Hill apologized for the situation, which she was determined would never happen again. Their investors would not sanction the cost of these connections, which would require the erection of 20 poles, as part of the Combe Hay build.   
  The plan was to change the route to South Stoke and connect the five properties first as part of the South Stoke build. It was anticipated that the necessary uptake in South Stoke to reach the funding threshold would be reached in January or February 2019. Alternatively, a contribution of £12-15K would be needed to include the properties in the Combe Hay build
* The following points were made by the affected parishioners: legal advice had confirmed that technically a contract with TrueSpeed exists; it might be possible to lend TrueSpeed the £12-15K until the South Stoke funding is made available; a wait of a few months could be lived with if it meant free connection
* Bathavon South Ward Cllr Butters, who lives in South Stoke, said he would encourage take-up in that parish. He made his apologies and left the meeting for the Cam Valley Forum.

18.082 **Apologies**

Apologies were RECEIVED and ACCEPTED from Cllrs J. Long, just returned from holiday, and A. Harrison, working. Ward Cllr D. Veale sent his apologies: he was attending the Cam Valley Forum.

18.083 **Interests**

There were no declarations of interests.

18.084 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on 19 September were AGREED to be a true record. They were signed by the Chairman.

18.085 **Broadband**

There were no actions on the council from the TrueSpeed update.

18.086 **Clerk’s report** Actions from previous meetings are NOTED under the relevant minute. In addition:

* B&NES believe ownership of the defibrillator kiosk was transferred to CHPC. They are checking
* Defibrillator pads and reserve pads have been replaced at no cost to CHPC. The pads will expire on 28.2.2021

18.087 **Planning**

(a) The following applications were CONSIDERED:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 18/04708/TCA  Manor House Farm, Backy Hil, Combe Hay BA2 7EG | T1 -T11 Group of 11 lime trees, deadwood, crownlift to 5 metres over road and crown thin crowns by 15% | Cllrs Harrison & Saker had visited. The trees were dense and encroached on the adjacent property. **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Saker, 2nd Cllr Young, unanimous) to **support**. |
| 18/04862/TCA  Stradling Hse, Backy Hill, Combe Hay BA2 7EG | 3x Red Western Cedar – remove | **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Saker, 2nd Cllr Boyce, unanimous) to **support**. |

(b) The following decision by B&NES was NOTED:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 8/01068/FUL  Parcel 6600. Fosseway, Englishcombe, Bath | Re-profiling land for the purposes of agricultural improvement | **Refuse**  (CHPC oppose) |

Standing Orders were suspended.

Mr A. Jefferies advised that he was planning a replacement hay and straw storage barn in similar style to the existing one but 20% larger. Construction of the Spa area at Week Farm was on hold. He would attend to trees/hedge beyond Week Farm (ref minute 18.74).

Standing orders were reinstated.

(c) Enforcement

* 18/00390/NONCOM Cromwell Farm – under investigation by B&NES
* 18/00398/UNDEV Woodland Farm Vineyard – under investigation by B&NES
* B&NES anticipate a new application for a garage at Smithy House, which they hope will address CHPC’s complaint about the height of the wall. AGREED to ask B&NES to deal with the wall separately.

(d) It was AGREED to respond to B&NES’s current Local Plan Consultation. The Chairman will prepare a draft.

18.088 **Cemetery**

The Cemetery Working Group reported that Cllr Harrison will kindly righten a leaning headstone and pack soil into a cavity under a grave.

It made the following four recommendations, which were all AGREED:

* kerb sets continue to be allowed
* a set of cemetery management rules be produced
* Mr Philip Harrison be asked to examine and quote for repair of a further section of wall
* three more ashes plots in the present series be allowed

The Clerk reported one new ashes memorial, with income to CHPC of £90.

The Rural Network to be consulted to see if any cemetery grants were available which might assist wall repair.

18.089 **Communication**

(a) Parish Council email addresses for Councillors and Clerk (good practice under GDPR): the Clerk will investigate and report.

(b) Website The content proposed by Cllrs Austwick and Boyce was AGREED. They will compile and pass it to the Clerk to upload

18.090 **Finance**

(a) Budget parameters for 2019-20 were considered. A draft budget to be circulated before the January parish council meeting, when the budget will be agreed.

(b) The Month 7 financial statement was approved

(c) RESOLVED to pay the following (proposed Cllr Austwick, 2nd Cllr Mills, unanimous)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 100865 R. Campbell -refund ICO data protection fee | 40.00 |
| 100866 Cam Valley Wildlife Trust – subscription 2018/19 | 5.00 |
| 100868 Staff salaries – October & November |  |

18.091 **Information**

(a) Highways and rights of way – no report

(b) Environment andmaintenance

* Progress had been slow. A few sections of The Avenue railings had been wire-brushed and undercoated. Mr A. Hunter wills topcoat these shortly, then resume in the spring
* Cllr Saker reported that Mr A Lewis would shortly deadwood The Avenue trees. He had made an application to B&NES for the major work agreed to an ash tree, which he aimed to do in January.

(c) Correspondence received was noted. No actions were identified

(d) Miscellaneous reports - none

18.092 **Meetings** The next meeting of CHPC was confirmed as

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 16 January 2019 19:00 | Parish Council Meeting | Combe Hay Church |

The Chairman thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 21:08.