Combe Hay Parish Council

BATHAVON WEST WARD, BATH & NORTH-EAST SOMERSET

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

**on Wednesday 20 March 2019 in Combe Hay Church**

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

**In attendance**: R. Campbell (Clerk), two members of the public

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

* A local resident said the community should prepare for a fight over the Hignett Family trust’s plans to increase the size of the Sulis Down development and take more land out of the Green Belt. The matter should not be left to B&NES.

She recommended strategies similar to those adopted by the residents of Bathampton when fighting the Park & Ride proposal for Bathampton Meadows, including a Facebook page, leafletting and superimposing houses on a photograph of the land as it now is.

19.013 **Apologies**

Apologies were RECEIVED and ACCEPTED from Cllr J. Long, who was unwell.

19.014 **Interests**

None declared.

19.015 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on 16 January were AGREED to be a true record. They were signed by the Chairman

19.016 **Clerk’s report**

Actions from previous meetings are NOTED under the relevant minute. In addition:

* It had finally been established that Community Heartbeat Trust had taken ownership of the defibrillator kiosk. However, maintenance, which was now needed, was the responsibility of the parish council.
* No progress had been made in painting The Avenue railings.

19.017 **Planning**

(a) The following application was considered:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 19/00962/FUL  12.3.19  Vineyard, Woodland Farm, Old Bath Road, Combe Hay | Erection of a timber clad cabin and decking. | **Recommended** (proposed Cllr Saker, 2nd Cllr Harrision, unanimous) **approval** with the following condition: the building to be used only for the purposes set out in the design and access statement |

(b) The following planning decisions by B&NESW Council were noted:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 19/00322/TCA  Stradling House, Backy Hill, Combe Hay BA2 7EG | 1x Ash - remove | No objection |
| 18/05324/FUL  Smithy House Flower's Hill Combe Hay BA2 7EG | Erection of an oak framed garage with store & associated access. (Resubmission | Refusal |

(c) Enforcement An update from B&NES on an ongoing enquiry was expected shortly.

(d) Sulis Down The Chairman thanked the speaker (see Pubic Participation, above) for her update on what local people were thinking and planning in relation to the Sulis Down proposals.

It was AGREED to set up a Working Group consisting of Cllrs Austwick and Long (subject to his agreement) and the Clerk, to consider the matter from the council’s perspective and to liaise with South Stoke PC, from whom the Chairman anticipated a request for a contribution towards professional advice. Cllr Harrison suggested a simple statement about Sulis Down on Village News.

19.018 **Highways**

(a) The Area Traffic Engineer to be chased for an update on CHPC’s request for a statutory 20 mph limit in Combe Hay. When elected, the new District Councillors to be asked for their support.

(b) ‘Fix my street’ to be advertised on Village News as the channel for highways complaints.

19.019 **Cemetery**

(a) Further wall repair quotations were still being sought.

(b) Cemetery Management Rules were pending.

(c) The declaration necessary to correct the title deficiency holding up registration of the land intended for the cemetery extension has been signed. Registration, however, is likely to take many weeks.

(d) Mr Osborne had agreed to install a tap. B&NES to be asked if they will provide a bin.

(e) It was suggested that information on the number of grass cuts in a year be displayed

19.020 **Communication**

(a) Information on Combe Hay Parish Council email addresses for Councillors was distributed, with the aim of being up and running by Easter.

(b) TrueSpeed had advised that they would be providing a full update to all communities shortly.

(c) Accessibility requirement for the council’s website (by September 2020) were noted.

19.021 **Elections**

Information on the 2 May parish council and unitary authority elections had been distributed. The Clerk will provide completion notes for anyone applying.

19.022 **Risk assessment and asset register**

(a) The Risk Schedule was APPROVED with amendments and signed by the Chairman

(b) The Asset Register was APPROVED without amendment

19.023 **Finance**

(a) The Month 11 financial statement was APPROVED

(b) It was AGREED not to make a grant to Midsomer Norton Dial-a-Ride.

(c) It was AGREED to advise Great Western Air Ambulance to approach the Bath Percent Club to seek a grant

(d) **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Austwick , 2nd Cllr Boyce, unanimous) to pay:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 100877 R. Campbell – refund Id Verde bill grass cutting 2018, inc. VAT | 696.00 |
| 100878 Staff salaries – February & March | 768.50 |
| 100879 HMRC – Quarter 4 | 0.60 |
| 100880 R. Campbell – home as office allowance y/e 31.3.19 | 208.00 |
| 100881 ALCA – annual subscription 2019/20 (cheque dated 1.4.19) | 30.03 |

(e) It was AGREED Cllr Austwick will administer the payroll *pro tem* on Cllr Mills’ retirement.

19.024 **Information**

(a) Rights of way – no update

(b) Environment andmaintenance – no update

(c) Correspondence received – no actions were identified

(d) Miscellaneous reports

* Thanks to be sent to the residents of Week Cottage for arranging a skip from Bath Recycling FOC and filling it with all the fly tipping dumped along Combe Hay Lane
* Combe Hay Living Archive had put on an excellent film of shared conversations of the oldest residents of the community.
* Cllr Mills had attended a Western Power strategy meeting. The strategic emphasis 2023-29 was on changing from being a ‘dumb’ to a smart distribution system. Western Power is still the top performing distributor in country. Mr Mills will continue to attend Western Power meetings (now as a panellist) and will report to the council.

19.025 **Meetings** Meeting dates were confirmed as

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Wednesday 15 May, **6:00pm** | Parish Council Meeting  (Annual meeting: election of Chair) | Combe Hay Church |
| Wednesday 15 May, (7:15pm).  Post meeting note: **now 7:45pm** | Annual Parish Meeting | Combe Hay Church |

The Chairman gave huge thanks to Peter Mills, who was not standing for re-election, for his contribution over the previous 12 years, especially on the financial side and in relation to emergency planning and utilities.

The Chairman thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 21:30.