Combe Hay Parish Council

BATHAVON SOUTH WARD, BATH & NORTH-EAST SOMERSET

**Minutes of the Parish Council (CHPC) meeting held at 18:00**

**on Wednesday May 15, 2019 in Combe Hay Church**

**Present:** Councillors M. Austwick (Chairman), S. Bellars (from minute 19.027c), M. Boyce,   
J. Long (Vice-chairman), S. Saker

**In attendance**: Ward Councillors N. Butters (to minute 19.032) and M. McCabe, R. Campbell (Clerk), one member of the public

19.026 **Election of Chairman**

RESOLVED (proposed Cllr Boyce, 2nd Cllr Saker, unanimous) to elect Cllr Austwick as Chairman for the coming year. The were no other nominations. Cllr Austwick signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** None

19.027 **Council**

(a) Members present signed declarations of acceptance of office, which were countersigned by the Clerk, who received members’ registers of interests.

(b) There had been one expression of interest in filling the remaining seat on the council. Simon Bellars introduced himself and confirmed his willingness to serve.

**RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Saker, 2nd Cllr Long, unanimous) to co-opt Mr Bellars.

Cllr Bellars signed the declaration of acceptance of office and was welcomed to the council. He provided his register of interests.

(c) **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Boyce, 2nd Cllr Austwick, unanimous) to elect Cllr Long as Vice-chairman for the coming year. The were no other nominations.

(d) There were no declarations of interest.

(e) It was AGREED that Councillors’ lead areas of responsibility would be as follows:

* Malcolm Austwick *Chairman, planning policy, climate change*
* John Long *Vice-chairman, development control*
* Simon Bellars *Finance, utilities, emergency planning*
* Martin Boyce *Data Protection, communications, Combe Hay Church*
* Crock Harrison *Built and natural environment, cemetery*
* Sue Saker *Waste, cleansing and sustainability*
* Janet Young *Transport and transport infrastructure, cemetery*

(f) It was AGREED that normal meetings of CHPC would be at 7:00pm on the following Wednesdays: July 17; September 18; November 20; January 15, 2020; March 18; May 20 (at 6:00 pm, followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7:45pm).

19.028 **Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs J. Young and C. Harrison, working.

19.029 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 19 March 2019 were agreed to be a true record. They were signed by the Chairman.

19.030 **Clerk’s report**

Actions from previous meetings are noted under the relevant minute.

19.033 **Elections**

*This item was taken next.*

Cllrs Neil Butters and Matt McCabe were congratulated on their election as Ward Councillors for Bathavon South, of which Combe Hay now forms part. Cllr Butters said that in general he would look after the western parishes of the thirteen in their ward, Cllr McCabe the eastern, including Combe Hay. Both wished to receive agendas and would welcome a steer from the PC Chair before a meeting as to where they would best be deployed. Both councillors were involved in the new Sulis Down proposals for a total of 800 houses, which Cllr Butters called monstrous.

19.031 **Planning**

(a) The following application was CONSIDERED

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 19/01775/FUL  Manor Side, Anchor Lane, Combe Hay, BA2 7EG | Replacement of sewage treatment plant and associated patio works. | **RESOLVED to support** (proposed Cllr Boyce, 2nd Cllr Austwick, unanimous). |

(b) The following planning decisions were NOTED

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 19/00962/FUL  Vineyard, Woodland Farm, Old Bath Road, Combe Hay | Erection of a timber clad cabin and decking. | PERMIT  (CHPC support) |
| Appeal PP/F0114/Y/18/3204491 re17/1709/LBA revised  2 Manor Farm Cottages, Anchor Lane, Combe Hay BA2 7EH | Alternations and partial demolition of rear boundary wall to create access | APPLEAL ALLOWED |

(c) Enforcement Cllr McCabe offered his support in getting a resolution to an outstanding case. The Clerk will continue to chase this and another enforcement matter.

(d) Sulis Down There was nothing to report on the permission already granted.

The Hignett Family Trust had made a new submission to the West of England Joint Spatial Plan (JSP), right on the deadline, allowing no response by CHPC, to the effect that B&NES should have considered the South Stoke Plateau as a Strategic Development Site capable of supporting up to 800 dwellings in total. The JSP would be inspected in July. Cllr Austwick, who had spoken to its project director, did not think there was a great deal that CHPC could do at that stage. It was too early to consider spending on a planning consultant, but If the inspector found merit in HFT’s argument, the position would change. South Stoke PC were considering writing to the JSP in support of B&NES’s opposition. Combe Hay should work with South Stoke and the South of Bath Alliance (SOBA).

Cllr Butters left to attend a SOBA meeting.

19.032 **Highways and transport**

(a) Cllr McCabe will support CHPC’s efforts to persuade B&NES of the need for an enforceable 20mph limit through Combe Hay to replace the current advisory one. The Clerk to chase Stefan Chiffers.

(b) The council was content with NALC’s proposed response to the consultation on changes to the vehicle operator licensing system

(c) Cllrs reviewed a letter from Trevor Osborne detailing highway deficiencies on Combe Hay Lane and AGREED a list of actions.

19.034 **Training**   
AGREED Cllr Bellars would attend an ALCA ‘Being a Good Councillor’ training course that week at a cost of £60.

19.035 **Finance**

(a) The Annual Internal Audit Report 2018-19 was RECEIVED. No matters had been raised.

(b) The Annual Governance Statement 2018-19 was APPROVED and signed

(c) The Accounting Statements 2018-19 were APPROVED and signed

(d) The external audit exemption certificate for 2018-19 was APPROVED and signed

(e) The period for exercise of Electors’ Rights will be advertised. It will begin on 10 June  
 (f) Consideration of the national wage award was held over until the next meeting

(g) The Month 1 financial statement was APPROVED

(h) **RESOLVED** to pay the following (proposed Cllr Austwick, 2nd Cllr Bellars, unanimous)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 100883 R. Campbell – refund SLCC subscription | 106.00 |
| 100884 Staff salary – April | 307.65 |
| 100848 R. Campbell – postage and stationery | 78.03 |

19.036 **Information**

(a) There was nothing to report on rights of way or environment and maintenance. The transfer of new cemetery land was now progressing. Most members’ parish council email addresses were now operational.

(b) Correspondence received had been addressed in the agenda

(c) There were no miscellaneous reports

19.048 **Meetings**

As AGREED above, the next meeting of CHPC would be on Wednesday 17 July at 19:00 in Combe Hay Church

The Chairman thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 7:30pm