Combe Hay Parish Council

BATHAVON WEST WARD, BATH & NORTH-EAST SOMERSET

**Minutes of the Parish Council (CHPC) meeting held at 7:00pm**

**on Wednesday September 18, 2019 in Combe Hay Church**

**Present:** Councillors J. Long (Vice-chairman; meeting Chairman), S. Bellars, M. Boyce,   
C. Harrison (to minute 19.059), S. Saker, J. Young

**In attendance**: R. Campbell (Clerk)

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No member of the public was present.

19.055 **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr M. Austwick, on holiday.

Ward Cllr M. McCabe sent his apologies.

19.056 **Interests**

There were no declarations of interests.

19.057 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 17 August 2019 were AGREED to be a true record. They were signed by the meeting Chairman.

19.058 **Clerk’s report**   
 A written report had been circulated. Actions are noted under the relevant minute.

19.062 **Environment**

This item was taken next.

1. Tree planting for the futureIt was AGREED to set up a working group to

raise awareness and explore how the community could plant more trees, particularly to replace those that would be lost to ash dieback. Another aim would be to encourage the planting of native species hedging, instead of using fences. Cllrs Boyce and Saker agreed to be members. It was noted that in general Combe Hay village was heavily treed.  
**ACTION** A request for parishioners to join the working group to be put on Village News.  
**ACTION** A tree surgeon be asked to do an assessment of ash trees within the village boundary.

(b) Climate Emergency Councillors could see no practical point in declaring a Climate Emergency.

19.059 **Planning**

(a) The following application was CONSIDERED

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 19/02928/FUL  Smithy House, Flower's Hill, Combe Hay, Bath, Bath And North East Somerset, BA2 7EG | Demolition of 2no existing lean-to extensions and erection of 1no single storey and 1no two storey rear and side extensions, conversion of the loft and dormer windows, insertion of window openings and associated works (Resubmission) (New plans/information posted 23.8.19). | **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Long, 2nd Cllr Boyce, unanimous)to **support** the application, on condition that:  1. Inappropriate railings proposed for the lower steps are replaced by a wooden railing. 2. The arboricultural conditions are met and the hedging round the railings is included in them.  3. The position regarding the inadequate number of parking spaces for a 5-bed house is satisfactorily resolved without further degradation of the Conservation Area. |

(b) The following planning decision was noted

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 19/03330/TCA  Rectory Cottage Anchor Lane Combe Hay BA2 7EG | Common ash (T2) fell | No objection  (CHPC support) |

1. Enforcement

**ACTION** B&NES to be asked for further action on an outstanding enforcement matter.

**ACTION** The Clerk to write to B&NES deploring the fact that no progress had been made with the agreed planting scheme at St Gregory’s Sixth Form Centre and requesting action.

1. West of England Joint Spatial Plan The Inspectors’ letter about their examination of

the plan was noted, particularly the requirement to restart the process of selecting Strategic Development Locations.

Cllr Harrison left the meeting.

19.060 **Highways and Transport**

(a) CHP had requested a visit by B&NES to the site of the current discretionary 20 mph limit in Combe Hay village, to assess its suitability for conversion into a statutory limit. The Senior Highways engineer preferred to wait until financial approval for the scheme had been obtained.  
(b) A highways report had been circulated. A number of actions, including filling potholes, had been completed. New items added were: blocked gullies in Browney Lane, blocked run-off above Combe Hay bridge, and degraded road surface between the two bends in Anchor Lane.

19.061 **Council**

(a) Financial Regulations (based on NALC model 2019) had been circulated. Minor amendments were agreed.

**RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Bellars, 2nd Cllr Long, unanimous) to ADOPT the new financial regulations, as amended.

(b) Standing Orders (based on NALC model 2018) had been circulated. Minor amendments were agreed.

**RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Boyce, 2nd Cllr Long, unanimous) to ADOPT the new standing orders, as amended.

(c) General Power of Competence

**RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Long, 2nd Cllr Boyce, unanimous) to ADOPT the General Power of Competence as soon as possible. Once adopted it has to be voted on annually.

**ACTION** The Clerk to complete a CiLCA update module on localism to enable the power to be adopted.

19.063 **VE Day**

It was AGREED to support, with other bodies and volunteers, the organization of celebrations for VE day in May 2020.

19.064 **Audit**Internal Audit Observations in relation to 2018-19, received 4.9.19 and circulated to Members, were NOTED.

19.065 **Finance**

(b) The Month 5 financial statement and bank reconciliation, circulated prior to the meeting, was APPROVED and SIGNED. The bank statement at 30.8.19 was SIGNED

(c) Written proposals for electronic banking were circulated.  
**RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Bellars, 2nd Cllr Young, unanimous) to ADOPT the electronic banking proposals.

(d) **RESOLVED** (PROPOSED Cllr Boyce, 2nd Cllr Saker) to pay the following

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Staff salaries – August and September |  |
| M. Boyce – budgeted grant Combe Hay Living Archive, storage cabinet | 200.00 |
| IAC Audit & Consultancy Ltd – internal audit 2018-19, inc. VAT | 60.00 |

19.066 **Information**

(a) Information

* New residents The welcome pack had been updated
* Rights of way No report
* Cemetery A map of land to be transferred had been received but was unclear. **ACTION** Clarification to be sought.
* A request was made to heat the Church before the next CHPC meeting.

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

(c) Cllr Bellars reported that he was now the parish flood rep. Combe Hay was not a

high flood risk area. He had been asked to report surface water problems.

19.067 **Meetings** The date of next meeting was confirmed as

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Wednesday  20 November, 7:00pm | Parish Council Meeting | Combe Hay Church |

The Chairman thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 9:05pm.