Combe Hay Parish Council

<https://combehaypc.org.uk>

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

 **on Wednesday November 20, 2019 in Combe Hay Church**

**Present:** Councillors M. Austwick (Chairman), M. Boyce, C. Harrison (to minute 19.059),
S. Saker, J. Young

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

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Andrew Jefferies gave details of clearance works in the Week Farm Area

19.068 **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were RECEIVED and ACCEPTED from Cllr S. Bellars (prior engagement), J. Long (holiday). Ward Cllr M. McCabe sent his apologies.

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

19.070 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 18 September 2019 were AGREED to be

a true record. They were SIGNED by the Chairman.

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

19.072 **Planning** (a) The following applications were CONSIDERED

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 19/04555/TCA 18.10.19Combe Hay Manor Backy Hill, Combe Hay BA2 7EG  | T1 - Horse Chestnut – fell; T2 - Lime – fell; T3 - Willow – fell; T4 - Ash – fell**RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Young, 2nd Cllr Harrison, unanimous) to **support** |  |
| 19/04564/FUL18.10.19Cromwell Farm, Combe Hay Lane, Combe Hay BA2 8RF | Erection of a dairy and agricultural storage building (Retrospective)**RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Austwick, 2nd Cllr Saker, 4 in favour, 1 abstention) to **object**. Combe Hay Parish Council objects to the proposal for a permanent dairy when permission 17/06011/FUL for erection of a temporary rural worker’s dwelling, of which the dairy was originally intended to be part, was for three years only. If time-limited permission, linked to that for the temporary dwelling, were to be sought, this objection would fall.The parish council also objects on the grounds that the temporary dwelling is sited higher on the land than the permission allows. If the home is moved, the dairy site should be moved as well. |  |
| 19/03240/FUL24.7.19Cotte Farm Anchor Lane, Combe Hay BA2 7EG | Conversion of barn to ancillary accommodation with associated alterations and terracing the yard.(New drawings: site plan 14.10.19; location plan 8.11.19)**RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Austwick, 2nd Cllr Young, unanimous) to **support**Combe Hay Parish Council supports this revised proposal but is concerned about the parking and access arrangements. It would prefer parking to be specifically allocated in the existing car park. If the planning officer is minded to recommend approval of the parking arrangements, then the parish council would wish visibility to be improved both at the exit from the property and at the junction of Balls Lane (‘the track’) with Anchor Lane. |  |

 (b) The following planning decision was noted

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 19/04217/TCA2 Manor Farm Cottages, Combe Hay BA2 7EH | G1 Conifer Group – Remove Hazel (T1) - Fell Hazel, Ivy, Elder (T2) – Fell | No objection |

(c) Enforcement

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

19.073 **Environment**

 (a) Ash trees in Combe Hay village Cllr Saker and a tree surgeon had toured the village and identified a number of diseased ash trees. ‘Watch and wait’ is the current advice regarding ash die-back, taking out dead wood once the trees come into leaf. Councillors agreed with this policy, which will be applied to the two trees in the cemetery. However, trees on the bank by the Wheatsheaf car park are severely affected and require prompt attention

**ACTION** The owners of the Wheatsheaf to be notified about the diseased ash trees on the car park bank.

(b) Tree working group A number of parishioners have expressed interest in or a willingness to help with tree conservation and other green issues. Cllr Austwick suggested widening the title of the group to cover sustainability in general.

**ACTION** Cllrs Boyce and Saker will come back to the January council meeting with objectives for the group.

(c) Litter pick A note had been circulated via Village News about the recent successful litter pick.

19.074 **Highways and Transport**

Some surface patching had been done and more was promised. A series of blocked gullies at Browney Lane and a blocked run-off above Combe Hay bridge were identified as the two most pressing matters. The Highways Inspector had been chased about these. The road sign at the top of Combe Hay Lane was still on order. All grit bins had been filled. B&NES to be asked about supplying a grit bin in the lower lane car park. If not, the parish council will consider buying one

19.075 **Council**

(a) **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Boyce, 2nd Cllr Austwick)too amend Standing Orders (adopted 18.9.19) by addition of the following clause:

24 Urgent matters
If no meeting of the Council can be scheduled within the timescale required to enable a decision to be made on an urgent matter, including a planning matter where a time extension cannot be obtained from the Principal Authority, the clerk may, in consultation with the chairman or vice-chairman of the Council, determine such a matter. Decisions taken under this Standing Order shall be reported to the next meeting of the council for information and the clerk shall provide enough detail, including reasons for urgency, to enable the council to be satisfied that the delegated power has been used properly.

 Existing clause 24 to become 25 and 25 to become 26

(b) Staffing Committee It was AGREED not to set up a staffing committee

(c) Clerk’s Contract The Chairman and Vice-chairman will undertake the annual review

19.076 **VE Day**

(a)Cllr Austwick reported good support for an evening event planned for Friday 8 May, 2020. He had investigated various potential barns, but none had been suitable. A marquee seemed a likely solution and it might be more sensible to buy rather than hire one. A generous donation of £1,500 towards a marquee had been offered.

 (b) **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Austwick, 2nd Cllr Boyce, unanimous to accept the offer with thanks, contribute up to an additional £1,500 and purchase a marquee. The Chairman will progress the matter and bring to the January meeting.

19.077 **Finance**

(a) **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Austwick, 2nd Cllr Boyce, unanimous) to move to electronic banking

(b) **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Austwick, 2nd Cllr Young, unanimous,) to move the parish council’s accounts to Unity Trust Bank, subject to checking of the proposal by Cllr Bellars

(c) Principles for the 2020/21 budget were considered and suggestions made to enable the clerk to bring a draft to the January 15 meeting, when the budget will be considered.

(d) The Month 7 financial statement was approved and the bank reconciliation as at 30.11.19 signed by the Chairman

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 100886 Information Commissioner – data protection fee renewal (paid) |  40.00 |
| 100887 Staff salaries – October and November |  631.20 |
| 100888 Cam Valley Wildlife Group – membership renewal  |  5.00 |
| 100889 R. Campbell – hard drive storage no 2 |  44.98 |

19.078 **Information & reports**

(a) Information

* Rights of way – nothing to report
* New residents – welcome packs had been distributed to two new residents
* Cemetery – a further plan of the land to be transferred had been received and approved. Searches to be carried out. A waste bin was needed for the cemetery.
* (b) Correspondence A list had been distributed. No actions were identified

 (c) Miscellaneous reports None

19.079 **Meetings** The date of the next meeting was confirmed as

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Wednesday 15 January 2020, 7:00pm | Parish Council Meeting | Combe Hay Church |

The Chairman thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 9:10pm

