

COMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 14th December - Approved

Present

Elena Softley – Chairman
 Simon Oliver
 Rachel Whitehead
 Alan Revell
 Deborah Phillips
 Cllr Bishop
 Julia Sharpe - Clerk

Members of the Public – Nil

No.	Item	Minutes	Action																		
132/16	Apologies	Michael Green																			
133/16	Questions from the Public	Request to repaint the white lines on the bend in Horns Lane – Clerk to check policy with OCC.	JS																		
134/16	Register of Interests	None																			
135/16	Minutes of the last meetings	Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 9 th November were read and signed as correct.																			
136/16	Clerks report and progress on actions	<p>Highways obstruction – Oak House, The Green – letter advising removal of obstruction sent by OCC.</p> <p>Stonesfield Straight/Akeman Street Junction Give Way sign -repaired</p> <p>Beware Deer signs – erected</p> <p>Flooding Chatterpie Lane – Wayne Baker (OCC – Drainage Engineer) has agreed to re-clean the soak away before the end of the financial year and if problem then still continues will deal with it accordingly. All reports of flooding in this area to be submitted to the Clerk.</p> <p>New posts outside Green Close – Simon Oliver to check and liaise with Paul Merry as appropriate.</p>	SO																		
137/16	Report from County Councillor	Not present - December report circulated, no matters arising. Report available on www.ianhudspeth.com/id11.html																			
138/16	Report from District Councillor	<p>Cllr Bishop reported that WODC has been experiencing difficulties with defending planning appeals due the lack of a Local Plan and urged the Council to make representation by letter to the Local Plan consultation. With regard to superfast broadband he said that there had been an acceptance that the 100% target would not be possible but that a new target of up to 99.5% had been set.</p> <p>The Chairman highlighted concern regarding damage to the broadband box outside the Reading Room and the lack of response from BT to mend it. Cllr Bishop suggested contacting Cllr Dingwall at WODC – Clerk to do this.</p>	JS																		
139/16	Planning Applications	<p>Applications – None</p> <p>Decisions – None</p>																			
140/16	To Approve Payments and Note Sums Received	<p>Payments</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">J. Sharpe – Wages</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: right;">£196</td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>(October – Standing Order)</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>VH&RG – (sinking fund)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£700</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>PCC –</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£300</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>(Churchyard maintenance)</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>WODC –</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£320.33</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£53.39</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: right;">VAT</p>	J. Sharpe – Wages	£196		(October – Standing Order)			VH&RG – (sinking fund)	£700		PCC –	£300		(Churchyard maintenance)			WODC –	£320.33	£53.39	
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		(Grass cutting August & September) P. Merry £200 (New posts and November post maintenance) Received – Nil	
141/16	Play Park Update	Anne-Marie Ferrett reported that the missing lock on the gate remains outstanding – Simon Oliver to purchase lock.	SO
142/16	Speeding Action	Deferred to January meeting. Chairman to circulate information received from James Wright (WODC) Clerk to check that PCSO is able to attend the January meeting.	ES JS
143/16	Annual review of Clerk's salary	Following discussion it was agreed to increase the Clerk's salary in line with the National Association Of Councils guidelines – January agenda item.	JS
144/16	2017/18 Precept	The budget was discussed and in light of a possible increase in the Clerk's wages, play park inspections and other areas that might require additional local funding Elena Softley proposed increasing the contingencies element of the budget from £1,000 to £1,375. Simon Oliver seconded the proposal, all were in agreement and a Resolution was passed. The 2017/18 precept was discussed. The budget figure of £13,251 less the Parish Grant of £247 set the precept at £13,004, making the Parish precept for a Band D property £39.92 – an increase of 1.95%. Simon Oliver proposed accepting the precept figures, Rachel Whitehead seconded the proposal. All were in favour and a Resolution was passed. Clerk to submit figures to WODC for approval.	JS
145/16	Response to WODC Local Plan Consultation	Following discussion it was agreed that the Chairman, Rachel Whitehead and Deborah Phillips would meet to draft the Council's response and circulate to all members prior to submitting on the 23 rd December.	ES/RW /DP
146/16	Annual review of internal procedures	Following earlier circulation of The Emergency Plan, list of Fixed Assets, Financial Regulations, Freedom of Information policy, Risk Assessment, Disciplinary and Grievance arrangements, Standing Orders and Digital and Social Media Policy the Chairman proposed that all documents/policies be accepted for 2017. Rachel Whitehead seconded the proposal, all were in agreement and a Resolution was passed. It was agreed to ask in the Courier for volunteers and details of additional potentially vulnerable people.	JS
147/16	Reader for Carol Service Lesson	Deborah Phillips volunteered to read on behalf of the Parish Council	DP
148/16	Volunteer Link-Up Donation	Rachel Whitehead proposed that a donation in line with last year's donations should be made, Simon Oliver seconded the proposal. All were in agreement and a Resolution was passed. Clerk to raise cheque for January meeting.	JS
149/16	Urgent Correspondence	Sue Ryder – Donation Request - Declined Keep Britain Tidy – spring 2017 campaign – January Agenda Invitation to exhibition on 16 th December- Declined	JS
150/16	Any other business	Concern about the condition of the Pound gate was raised – January Agenda.	JS
151/16	Next Meeting	The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 11 th January at 7.30 in the Reading Room, Combe	

