

COMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th February 2016 - Approved

Present

Elena Softley– Chairman
 Simon Oliver
 Rachel Whitehead
 Anne-Marie Ferrett
 Alan Revell
 Cllr Bishop
 Julia Sharpe - Clerk

Members of the Public – None

No.	Item	Minutes	Action
173/15	Apologies	Michael Green – Vice Chairman	
174/15	Questions from the Public	<p>Dogs in Chatterpie Lane – Letter sent to owner following complaint about aggressive dogs.</p> <p>Chatterpie Lane ditch – Letter to be sent to landowner asking them to clear it out.</p> <p>Lane to Lower Westfield Farm – Letter to be sent to Thames water asking them to take more care of the verges when driving down to the sewerage plant.</p> <p>Parking outside school – parent asked for the grass verge to be replaced with a path - it was agreed that parents dropping children at the school should park elsewhere when the verge is wet underfoot.</p> <p>Parking at Combe Gate – ongoing issues with access to East End for emergency vehicles – letter to Blenheim and PSCO.</p> <p>Parking outside Green Close – inconsiderate vehicles parking blocking the end of the footpath, obstructing vision and jutting onto the carriageway – it was agreed that the Clerk would investigate the possibility of installing posts and write to local residents and that the Chairman would discuss the matter with the residents of Green Close.</p>	<p>JS</p> <p>JS</p> <p>JS</p> <p>JS ES</p>
175/15	Register of Interests	None	
176/15	Minutes of the last meetings	Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 13 th January were read and signed as correct.	
177/15	Clerks report and progress on actions	<p>Repair required to the dog waste bin in Chatterpie Lane – Alan Revell offered to repair.</p> <p>Missing Marker Stone plaque, Horns Lane – Bill Oddy offered to replace it.</p> <p>Oxfordshire together – Stonesfield and Hanborough will deal with issues as they arise.</p> <p>Parish Council web-site – This has now been updated to reflect the requirements of the Transparency Act .Councillors asked for suggestions at next meeting</p> <p>AED electricity – due to installation of the meter the account is currently in credit with the Reading Room. It was agreed to remain in credit and not request a refund at this time.</p> <p>s137 monies – OALC notified the PC that in certain circumstances this money can be used to subsidise commercial bus routes.</p> <p>Dog Poster and letter – New poster design agreed together with a letter to be sent to owners of dogs who don't pick up</p>	<p>AR</p> <p>ALL</p>

		<p>after their dogs have fouled.</p> <p>Projector for planning applications – money available from WODC to purchase a projector. Alan Revell offered to research a suitable model.</p> <p>Combe Feast Arrangements – letters sent to the PCC and Mr Hebborn confirming that the feast this year will be from Sunday 14th – Tuesday 16th August.</p>	AR
178/15	Report from County Councillor	<p>In the County Councillor's absence, below is an abridged version of his February report:</p> <p>Budget - The cabinet proposed a balanced budget for council to debate on 16th February which included savings of £69 million. There was insufficient time for a full consultation on identifying the new savings of £17.4 million so reserves have been used and savings brought forward to enable a budget that could be set. There are still £11.2 million of savings that need to be identified over the Medium Term Financial Plan; this work will start once the budget is set. These additional savings are on top of the £204 million of savings the council has made since 2010 with another £88 million that had been planned by 2018. The total savings by the County Council will be £361 million from 2010 to 2020.</p> <p>Children's Centres - The council has already taken the decision to reduce funding by £6 million with a proposal to reduce funding by a further £2 million in the budget. The proposal is then to use the remaining budget of £8 million to create a new 0 – 19 year old service based around hubs that will then have outreach to ensure that we are able to provide our statutory service to the vulnerable children in Oxfordshire. Within the budget there is a proposal to provide an additional £2 million to provide more social workers to work with the vulnerable children.</p> <p>Temporary new home for Oxford Central Library - a new smaller temporary library will open Castle Quarter at the end of March for 18 months until the new Westgate Oxford opens in October 2017.</p> <p>Rise of apprentices boosts thriving Oxfordshire economy The number of apprenticeship starts for 16-24 year-olds fell across the South East by 2.5 per cent in 2014/15 compared with the previous academic year; however, Oxfordshire's figure rose by 2.4 per cent, as employers took on 2,510 new starters.</p>	
179/15	Report from District Councillor	<p>Cllr Bishop reported on the following:</p> <p>A very large number of people had attended the planning meeting to discuss the revised application for 169 dwellings on land between Long Hanborough and Freeland and in excess of 350 letters of objection had been received. The application was unanimously refused.</p> <p>241 residents responded to the 2016/2017 Budget Consultation and full details of the outcome can be found on the WODC web-site.</p> <p>West Oxfordshire is the second most rural district in SE England with 57% of the population living in rural areas. The District has an increasing aging population which will affect demand for suitable housing, home adaptations and all other service provision.</p>	
180/15	Planning Applications	<p>Applications –</p> <p>16/00219/FUL - 18 Stonesfield Road – erection of side and rear extensions to create self-contained living accommodation for relatives together with a utility/cloak room and additional</p>	

		<p>bedroom for main dwelling – no objections or comments 16/00019/HHD - Edgecombe House, West End – loft conversion including x2 dormer windows and x2 roof light window to the front elevation and x1 dormer and x1 roof light to rear elevation – no objections or comments 15/04540/HHD - Long Ridge, 32 Stonesfield Road – alterations and extensions which include a single storey rear extension, front entrance porch and conversion of integral garage – no objections or comments 16/00070/RES - 70 Akeman Street – construction of two semi-detached houses (appearance, landscape and layout) – objection on the grounds of access and limited parking provision Decisions – Nil</p>	
181/15	To Approve Payments and Note Sums Received	<p>Payments J. Sharpe – Clerks wages - £196 Received – Nil</p>	
182/15	Methodist Chapel/CCH Update	The Chairman reported that the Methodist Chapel had just been put on the market with an asking price of £185,000. Current pledges, including Gift Aid, are approaching the target of £100,000, a company with charitable status has been formed and a bank account set-up. The committee are obtaining quotes for the required maintenance work and are looking into grants – including the WODC Community Facilities Grant. A bid will be made in the near future after which further information will be available.	
183/15	Play Park Update	Anne-Marie Ferrett reported that issues with dogs in the play park, particularly the sand area, continue to be a problem. Following discussion it was agreed that a total ban was not enforceable and that the issue would have to be addressed by a poster and education campaign.	
184/15	To agree replacement of posts in Square Firs	A request to replace wooden posts along the grass verge outside the bungalows in Square Firs was discussed. It was agreed to contact Cottsway to establish land ownership before proceeding further.	JS
185/15	To agree donation to Volunteer Link Up	After discussion Rachel Whitehead proposed making a donation of £30, Simon Oliver seconded the proposal, all were in agreement and a resolution passed.	JS
186/15	To agree arrangements for Clean for the Queen	It was agreed that the clean-up would take place on Saturday 4 th March from 2.30pm – 5pm. Simon Oliver agreed to collect equipment from WODC and arrange a rubbish collection point. Areas to be covered include – litter picking along the 4 roads into the village, old poster and staple removing from the telegraph poles and noticeboards, cleaning of road signs. Alan Revell offered to contact Network Rail regarding the new fence at the Halt.	ALL AR
187/15	To consider Queen's birthday celebrations	The Church is to hold a flower festival and the pub have indicated that they will be holding an event but the details are not know at this time. No other volunteers have come forward. Simon Oliver agreed to discuss the matter with the VH&RG committee. It was agreed to ask again for volunteers and discuss at the next meeting.	SO
188/15	To adopt the Disciplinary and Grievance Policy	The previously circulated policy was discussed. The Chairman proposed that the policy should be accepted and Simon Oliver seconded the proposal. All were in agreement and the policy duly adopted.	
189/15	Urgent	Community First – Neighbourhood Plan Roadshow – Red	

	Correspondence	Bag Age UK – spring partnership meetings – Red Bag Cotswold AONB Sustainable Development Fund – details passed to CCH and VH&RG	
190/15	Next Meeting	The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 9 th March at 7.30 in the Reading Room, Combe	