

COMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 12TH February 2020 - approved

Present

- Elena Softley (ES) – Chairman
- Alan Revell (AR) – Vice Chairman
- Michael Green (MG)
- Deborah Phillips (DP)
- Denise Cripps (DC)
- John Hunt (JH)
- Cllr Bishop
- Julia Sharpe - Clerk
- Members of the Public – three

16/20 Apologies

Cllr Hudspeth

17/20 Questions from the Public

A request for the leaves to be cleared from the Little Lane footpath was discussed.

Action: JH/AR

18/20 Register of Interests

None

19/20 Gigaclear

Representatives from Gigaclear presented their plans for the installation of fast fibre broadband in the village. A letter will be sent to all residents with contact details. A meeting to walk the village to agree cabinet locations and a public meeting will be arranged in the near future.

20/20 Report from District Councillor

Cllr Bishop reported that a Climate Change Manager had been appointed, tree planting across the district was being doubled and the Council would not be supporting the Oxford to Cambridge expressway. The 2020/21 budget, yet to be approved, preserves all current services with grants retained. Despite no tenders being received for the installation of electric vehicle charging points the Council is going ahead with the installation of 18 points, 12 in Witney, 2 in Charlbury and 4 in Burford.

21/20 Minutes of the last meetings

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 8th January were read and signed as correct

22/20 Clerks report and progress on actions

- Playpark update – broken bench – Repaired by Geoff Miles
- Lighting at Combe Halt – pending – **ES/JS to follow up**
- Blenheim Road Closures – update from Roy Cox – Closures will still be implemented but better communication with the Marshalls to allow residents access
- Oak tree sapling – letter sent to VH&RG – waiting response
- Great British Clean Up – litter pickers available from Ubico, additional rubbish collection arranged. PC to arrange high viz jackets, gloves and bin bags
- VE celebrations – Friday 8th May – following discussion it was agreed to offer limited support

- Emergency Plan arrangements – Clerk to update Emergency Plan and include telephone tree
- Web-site accessibility Course – the clerk provided feedback from the course and said that further work to check our web-site compliance is required

23/20 Report from County Councillor

Cllr Hudspeth's was unable to attend. His report was discussed and there were no questions. Cllr Hudspeth's report is available on www.ianhudspeth.com

24/20 Planning Applications

20/00120/HHD – Slatter Cottage, 41 Akeman Street – No objections or comments

20/00178/S73 & 19/02078/HHD - Highfield House, Park Road – No objections or comments

Action: Clerk to notify WODC Planning

25/20 To Approve Payments and Note Sums Received

Payments	Gross	VAT
• J. Sharpe – January (SO)	£224.24	
• G. Hill & Sons – Little Green Footpath	£2,344.80	£360.80
• Viking – Printer and cartridge	£175.78	£29.30
• Combe Reading Room – Room Hire	£76.50	
• Community First Oxfordshire – Subscription	£55	
• P. Merry – maintenance works and cleaning	£185	

Received - Nil

26/20 Speedwatch Update

Awaiting outcome of the application for a grant from the County Councillor's Priority Fund.

27/20 Village Design Statement Update

DP reported that the first stage of the analysis has been completed with good quality data obtained. The next stage is to identify the key themes and then liaise with WODC before deciding how to share the information with residents.

28/20 To agree action regarding over-large HGVs delivering to Combe Mill

Having received a complaint from a member of the public the issue of large, continental style lorries using Swan Bridge was discussed. OCC Highways confirm that they have assessed the bridge and that it is able to safely carry normal highway traffic, including continental lorries of up to 44 tonne without causing significant deterioration to the structure. In addition, the visibility issues at the bridge was discussed. JH agreed to contact the owner of the land in question to request that he cut back the shrubs in the field.

Action – Clerk to contact OCC Highways and businesses based at the Saw Mill.

Action – JH/ES to contact landowner

29/20 Report of the meeting with OCC Highways

JH reported that a very useful meeting with Highways had taken place resulting in many potholes being marked up for repair. Other highways issues including the Stonesfield Road/Akeman Street junction, Akeman Street Footpath, Akeman Street drainage, the big dip along Akeman Street through the Firs and resurfacing the lane at the back of Alma Grove were reported and further action will be taken by OCC to investigate these issues.

Action – Clerk to follow up

30/20 Annual Parish Meeting

It was agreed to invite the newly appointed Climate Change Manager from WODC to attend.

Action – Clerk to write to WODC

31/20

Correspondence

Thankyou e-mail from Volunteer Link Up

28/20

Next Meeting

The next meeting of Combe Parish Council will be on Wednesday 11th March