

# COMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 - approved

## Present

- Elena Softley (ES) – Chairman
- Alan Revell (AR) – Vice Chairman
- Michael Green (MG)
- Deborah Phillips (DP)
- Denise Cripps (DC)
- Cllr Hudspeth
- Cllr Bishop
- Julia Sharpe - Clerk
- Members of the Public – 6

## 01/21 Apologies

John Hunt (JH)

## 02/21 Gigaclear

Dominic Hones, Community Engagement Officer, Gigaclear and 6 Church Walk residents attended the meeting. DH explained that Church Walk had been taken out of the build programme due to technical complexity but a review had been agreed with a new survey scheduled for Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January. Residents confirmed that at least 6 of the properties along Church Walk have expressed a keen interest to connect to the service and questioned the use of existing infrastructure as opposed to underground. Concern about the lack of information and updates was expressed together with adequate repair to verges. The National Voucher Scheme was discussed and DH confirmed that he would investigate that further. The Chairman re-iterated the Parish Council's commitment to finding a workable solution for Church Walk. DH confirmed that the survey would re-investigate all possible options and that he would keep in regular communication with all parties. The Chairman thanked DH and the Church Walk residents for attending.

## 03/21 Questions from the Public

None

## 04/21 Register of Interests

DC – Gamekeepers Cottage, Park Road - Planning Application

## 05/21 Minutes of the last meetings

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December were read and signed as correct

## 06/21 Clerks report and progress on actions

**Swan Hill Hedges** – work completed but two road signs slightly turned – **Action - MG to check.**

**Soldier silhouettes** – awaiting further correspondence from church representative.

**Church Walk posts** – awaiting contact from DPD.

**Parking posts at Combe Gate** – posts erected around grass triangle and on the bend by persons unknown. Reports of a large amount of litter in the area. East End residents have expressed upset about lack of action – **Action - All points to be raised with Blenheim at the February meeting.**

**Telephone box** – concern regarding the number of books accumulating hindering cleaning and use proper use of the telephone and the risk of Covid transmission – **Action - Courier Article asking for books to be removed. AR to make enquiries.**

**Playpark update** – the clerk reported that the brake on the zip wire had been repaired and new Covid signs placed in the area. No issues raised resulting from the weekly inspections.

## 07/21 Report from County Councillor

Cllr Hudspeth reported that the Covid vaccination programme being run by NHS is rolling out successfully in the area. There were no questions arising from the Councillor's January parish report.

## 08/21 Report from District Councillor

Cllr Bishop reported that WODC are dealing with the latest lockdown business grants and that a large proportion of the money will have to come from WODC reserves. A revised affordable housing planning document will shortly be open for a six-week public consultation period. Work on the 2021/22 budget continues. A new vicar for Stonesfield and Combe has been appointed.

## 09/21 Planning Applications

**20/03450/HHD - West End House, West End** – no comments or objections.

**20/03342/HHD - Gamekeepers Cottage, Park Road**, single storey extension to existing outbuilding together with construction of summer house and greenhouse – no objections, comment that a condition be added to restrict the development so as not to be used for commercial purposes or converted into habitable accommodation.

## 10/21 To Approve Payments and Note Sums Received

Payments	Gross	VAT
J. Sharpe – Clerks wages – December (SO)	£224.64	
HMRC - PAYE	£446.40	
WODC Grass Cutting – October	£152.39	£25.40
J. Sharpe - Zoom licence	£14.39	
P. Merry –	£30	
Volunteer Link Up – Donation	£50	
<b>Received – Nil</b>		

## 11/21 To approve accounts and summary payments – third quarter

The third quarter accounts and summary payments were circulated. The Chairman proposed that they be approved, DP seconded the proposal, all were in agreement and a resolution approving the accounts and summary payments passed.

## 12/21 Speedwatch Update

AR proposed the purchase of a laptop to be used for downloading and collating the information from the SIDs. It was agreed to use the current PC laptop initially and to evaluate the amount of work.

**Action – AR and Clerk to download information and look at reports prior to the March meeting.**

## 13/21 Village Design Statement Update

DP reported that the structure of the report had been agreed with WODC and that work is ongoing.

## 14/21 To approve purchase of no cycling signs for Alma Grove footpath

In the absence of JH this item was deferred to February meeting.

## 15/21 To agree representatives for Sustainable Woodstock – Safer Routes

The Chairman and DC offered to represent the Parish Council. Their offer was accepted. It was agreed that in the first instance the two main priorities would be a 20mph speed limit and a safer cycling route from Swan Bridge to Long Hanborough railway station.

The Chairman urged all PCs to study Blenheim's 'Emerging Vision Sketchbook' ahead of the February meeting.

## 16/21 Urgent Correspondence

None

## 17/21 Next Meeting

The next meeting of Combe Parish Council will be on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm in the Reading Room, Combe or a virtual meeting via Zoom