

COMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th September 2021 - Approved

Present

- Elena Softley (ES) – Chairman
- Alan Revell (AR) – Vice Chairman
- Michael Green (MG)
- Deborah Phillips (DP)
- Cllr Graham
- Julia Sharpe – Clerk
- Members of the Public – none

128/21 Apologies

Denise Cripps, Cllr Parkinson, Cllr Chapple.

129/21 Questions from the Public

Garden Bonfires – A member of the public raised concerns about the increasing number of garden bonfires. Whilst there is no law against having bonfires, it is an offence for the smoke, or the smell of the smoke, to cause a nuisance. Smoke from garden bonfires in a residential area can seriously affect the residential amenity and enjoyment of other spaces. There is a comprehensive guide to making complaints on the WODC website at <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/environment/noise-pests-pollution-and-air-quality/noise-and-other-nuisances>

Little Lane footpath – Report of a recent fall due to the uneven surface. Details to OCC via Cllr Graham.

RBLI – Tommy Figures – a proposal to install up to 12 tommy figures to commemorate Remembrance Day was discussed. Action – Clerk to respond with concerns.

130/21 Register of Interests

None

131/21 Minutes of the Last Meetings

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 11th August 2021 were read and signed as correct

132/21 Clerks Report and Progress on Actions

Marker Stone – ES and MG to arrange meeting.

Gigaclear Update – No update available.

Combe Feast – It was agreed that although the fair had been small it had been well attended, particularly on the Monday evening. Combe Feast 2022 will be from Sunday 14th – Tuesday 16th August.

Post Office – Afternoon collections – No update.

Lighting at Combe Halt – No update.

Rubbish/Dog Waste bins – WODC will be replacing all current bins with dual use bins. Some bins will be removed completely, some relocated and the emptying of the bin by the Play Park will be funded by the Parish Council as it is on private land.

133/21 Report from County Councillor

Cllr Graham referred to his weekly bulletin and reported that the Reducing Speed campaign was gathering momentum. James Wright is currently working on the plan for Combe, the costs for which will then need to be considered by OCC and Combe PC. AR questioned where Combe is in the priority list and what additional enforcement measures would be implemented. Cllr Graham said that smaller schemes had more possibility of getting completed due to budget restraints and that the Police were responsible for enforcement.

134/21 Report from District Councillor

Cllr Parkinson and Cllr Chapple were unable to attend. No report was received.

135/21 Planning Applications

21/02783/HHD – Chatterpie House – proposed replacement timber entrance gates and new section of timber fence to front boundary – there were no objections, but a comment made that as Combe has no street lighting the external lighting level should be soft in colour, low wattage of 80 watts or lower and Dark Skies lighting approved.

136/21 To Approve Payments and Note Sums Received

Payments	Gross	VAT
VH&RG – car park donation	£4,250	
J. Sharpe – Clerks wages – August (SO)	£230.20	
P. Merry – post maintenance, strimming, ivy removal	£275	
Trevor Stewart – play park repairs	£534	£89
Received –		
Combe Feast Rental	£80	

137/21 Speedwatch Update

	Total	Number of vehicles		Average Speed		Above 30 mph		Highest Speed		Average Hourly	
		Akeman Street	S'field Road	Akeman Street	S'field Road	Akeman Street	S'field Road	Akeman Street	S'field Rd	Akeman Street 5-6pm	S'field Road 8-9am
July	11445	5724	5721	34.0	29.5	69.7%	47.5%	64.7	50.6	627	564
August	12320	5915	6415	33.7	29.6	72.3%	86.5%	68.5	52.6	768	572

138/21 Village Design Statement Update

WODC planners have reviewed and given their approval to the draft of Combe's Village Design Statement. The next steps are to produce a fully illustrated draft document. Residents will then be invited to have their say on the proposed planning guidelines for Combe. There will be more details on this consultation process in the November Courier.

139/21 Village Travel Network Update

DC reported that that the group had produced a map of proposed footpath and cycle routes for consultation and that the next stage is for Sarah Featherstone to consolidate the suggestions onto one map as a 'vision' of everything, although with clearly everything suggested not being achievable. Proposals for Combe to be circulated to councillors. **Action – DC**

140/21 Bonfire and Firework display arrangements

The Bonfire and Firework sub-committee reported that the bonfire celebrations would be on Friday 5th November with the firework display at 6.30pm followed by the lighting of the bonfire at 7pm. Volunteers are urgently needed to set-up before the event, on the day and clear up the day after to enable the safe running of the event. Village organisations to be invited to host refreshment and merchandise stalls.

Action – Clerk – Courier Article

141/21 RoSPA Inspection Actions

The issues highlighted in the report were discussed. The majority of issues are low risk and many have been dealt with. It was agreed to action those outstanding as follows

Actions – JH to cut back overhanging branches by swings. Clerk to contact Witney Welding re repair to slide. Clerk to contact Trevor Stewart re see-saw and zip wire.

142/21 Parish Walk Actions

A schedule of proposed work to the trees on the village greens was presented by the Clerk. It was agreed to request tenders for the works for consideration at the next meeting. MG reported that work is in hand to deal with the wall at Sparrow Hall. All other actions completed

Action – Clerk tenders. MG – Sparrow Hall wall.

143/21 Response to Oxfordshire Plan 2050

DP reported on the CPRE/ONPA webinar that she had attended and offered to draft and circulate a response.

Action – DP

144/21 Response to Oxfordshire Bus Service Survey

AR (village transport representative) to respond to the OCC survey on behalf of the Parish Council.

Action – AR

145/21 Urgent Correspondence

None

146/21 Next Meeting

The next meeting of Combe Parish Council will be on Wednesday 13th October at 7.30pm in the Reading Room, Combe