

COMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th October 2021 - approved

Present

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

147/21 Apologies

None

148/21 George Speake – Geophysical Survey

GS outlined his proposal to conduct a geophysical survey (Magnetometry or Resistivity) on the site of Combe's original church and village in the Evenlode valley, adjacent to Combe Mill in order to clarify the scale and dimensions of what might remain of the original church, cemetery and other village buildings prior to the migration of the village in the mid fourteenth century to its present location.

GS asked that the Parish Council support his proposal and consider making a financial contribution towards the cost of the survey which is estimated to be around £1,500 in total. Blenheim and the PCC have also been approached to contribute.

The Chairman thanked GS for attending the meeting and agreed that the request would be considered at the November meeting of the Parish Council.

149/21 Questions from the Public

Chinese Lanterns - Concern about the letting off of Chinese lanterns was raised. The Parish Council has already adopted the WODC policy banning the release of these lanterns on land owned by the PC. It was agreed to add a reminder in the Courier Article. **Action - Clerk.**

Use of the Little Green - a request from the school to use the Little Green on the evening of the Christmas tree lighting event was agreed. **Action - Clerk.**

150/21 Bonfire Night Update

The Chairman reported that following the extra-ordinary meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 6th October volunteers had come forward to manage the event and undertake the lighting of the fireworks. Taking into consideration all of the health and safety issues the Chairman asked for a vote to determine whether the event should go ahead. The result was unanimous therefore the event will go ahead as planned with additional meetings to be arranged to finalise the arrangements.

151/21 Register of Interests

None

152/21 Minutes of the Last Meeting

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

153/21 Clerks Report and Progress on Actions

Little Lane Footpath - Clerk to report on OCC Fix My Street.

RBLI - Tommy Figures - No further action required.

Marker Stone - Chairman and MG to arrange meeting to agree location.

Gigaclear Update - DC reported that Gigaclear have advised that work in Church Walk will take place in November and that they will clarify which areas will be dug or overhead and they will notify interested parties.

Post Box Afternoon Collections - still awaiting response.

Lighting at Combe Halt - outstanding.

Replacement Bin at The Halt - outstanding.

Playpark - quote for repair to slide from Witney Welding accepted. JH to cut back tree overhanging swings. JH & Clerk to meet re loose see-saw post.

Poppy Wreath - suggestions for who to lay the wreath to Clerk.

154/21 Report from County Councillor

Cllr Graham outlined the OCC Speed Restriction Policy for implementation over the next 3 years. He said that all villages could opt into the 20mph scheme if they wanted to and that those ready to go ahead would get priority. The Chairman said that we have been expecting details of the scheme and costings from James Wright for some time. Cllr Graham said that Combe does fulfil many of the criteria and that he believed that there should be some transitional arrangements for villages with schemes already in process.

Action -Clerk to contact James Wright.

155/21 Report from District Councillor

Cllr Parkinson reported that WODC would not be issuing any new licences for green bins until February 2022. With regard to planning issues, he said that he was not aware of any significant planning applications for Combe, however there are still considerable planning issues in Woodstock but that the Salt Cross development was not imminent.

156/21 To Approve Payments and Note Sums Received and to Note the Conclusion of Audit Report and to Approve the Half Year Financial Reports

Payments	Gross	VAT
WODC – Grass cutting – July & August	£600.12	£100.02
R. Oddy – Fireworks	£1,032.96	£206.59
J. Sharpe – Clerks wages – September (SO)	£230.20	
HMRC – PAYE	£460.41	
Ubico – Dog bin emptying	£100.09	£16.68
J. Sharpe – office supplies and stamps	£18.92	
Moore – External Audit Fees	£40	£40
ICO – Data Protection Renewal	£40	
Royal British Legion – Poppy Wreath	£25	
P. Merry – Post maintenance and replacement	£45	

Received –

WODC ½ year Precept	£6,843
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The conclusion of the audit report was noted.

MG proposed that the half year accounts and summary payments be approved. JH seconded the proposal; all were in agreement and a Resolution was passed.

157/21 Approve adoption of Financial Regulations, Standing Orders, Risk Assessment, Complaints Procedure, Code of Conduct and Asset Register

The Chairman proposed that the regulations and policies be approved and adopted. DP seconded the proposal; all were in agreement and a Resolution was passed.

158/21 Planning Applications

None

159/21 Speedwatch Update

AR reported the figures for September 2021:

	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
August	12320	5915	6415	33.7	29.6	72.3%	86.5%	68.5	52.6	768	572
Sept	12540	5787	6753	33.7	30.2	73.3%	55.0%	63.5	54.1	689	685

The Chairman proposed a motion to agree the implementation of a 20mph speed limit scheme throughout the village and to provide funding for signage. DC seconded the proposal. All were in agreement and a Resolution was passed.

160/21 Award Contract for Tree Works

Two quotes were considered.

DC proposed that the quote from Town and County be accepted. DP seconded the proposal. All were in agreement and a Resolution was passed. **Action - Clerk to notify parties accordingly.**

Paul Williams, Trees and Gardens offered to attend to the cedar tree free of charge. This offer was accepted. **Action - Clerk to notify accordingly.**

Town and County had been unable to identify the fungus on the oak opposite the Reading room. **Action - Clerk to make further enquiries.**

161/21 Urgent Correspondence

None

162/21 Next Meeting

The next meeting of Combe Parish Council will be on Wednesday 10th November at 7.30pm in the Reading Room, Combe.