

COMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9th March 2022 - Approved

Present

- Elena Softley (ES) – Chairman
- Alan Revell (AR) – Vice Chairman
- Michael Green (MG)
- Denise Cripps (DC)
- John Hunt (JH)
- Cllr Graham (OCC)
- Julia Sharpe - Clerk
- Members of the Public – None

30/22 Apologies

Deborah Phillips, Cllr Parkinson

31/22 Questions from the Public

Verge from the school gate to opposite Evenlode – a question from the public regarding adding a footpath in this area was considered. It was agreed to seek the views of the school before progressing this request.

32/22 Register of Interests

None

33/22 Minutes of the last meetings

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 9th February were read and signed as correct.

34/22 Clerks report and progress on actions

Gigaclear Update – Church Walk – connection still not made, expected 11th March.

Post Office – still no response re afternoon collections.

Network Rail – still waiting for a site meeting.

Playpark – zip wire inspected by Trevor Stewart and no-fault requiring attention found. **Action: JH to carry out regular inspection and report any faults to Clerk.**

Church Walk – work to repair section from the Old Chapel to Southernwood scheduled to commence within the next 2 weeks.

Village Spring Clean – collection of litter picks/purchase of bags and gloves/refreshments arranged. Posters distributed.

Grass Cutting & wildflower areas – WODC 5% increase. Wildflower areas: Little Lane and others within the recreation ground.

Clerks pay award – 1.75% increase. Apply to wages from April 2022.

Website – request for training to enable ongoing maintenance. **Action: Clerk to contact Cherwell Designs.**

35/22 Report from County Councillor

In addition to his written report Cllr Graham reported that due to additional government funding the anticipated cuts to the bus services would not now take place for a further 6 months and that Oxford would be one of the first to introduce electric buses with the hope that more people would be encouraged to use the service. Cllr Graham answered questions from the Councillors regarding the proposed Oxford United FC move to the Stratfield Brake sports ground, the Woodstock car parking consultation, the roll out of the 20 mph speed restrictions across the area and zero emission zones in Oxford.

36/22 Report from District Councillor

Cllr Parkinson was unable to attend but reported that the Welch Way WODC offices have been opened after refurbishment. He outlined WODC's request to Thames Water to provide detailed information on 6 key areas and reported that a new Monitoring Officer to whom Parish Councils can refer or seek advice from will be introduced.

37/22 To Approve Payments Note Sums Received

Payments	Gross	VAT
Town and County – tree works village green	£1,200	£200
J. Sharpe – Clerks wages – February	£230.20	
J. Sharpe – website domain name renewal	£14.34	
OALC – Annual membership	£151.30	£25.22
OPFA – Annual Membership	£45	
P. Merry – village maintenance	£50	
Received –	Nil	

38/22 Planning Applications

22/00623/FUL - Church of England Primary School – Erection of a garden office – No comments or objections. **Action: Clerk to notify decision to WODC.**

39/22 20mph

At the time of the meeting the consultation period was still open, however, the results to date show 80% in favour of a 20mph speed limit with 20% against or unsure, 73% in favour of the Parish Council part-funding the project with 27% against or unsure. Taking this into consideration and providing the final results don't change the situation it was agreed to progress the application for a 20mph speed limit through Combe with Oxfordshire County Council. It was also agreed to make further enquiries with OCC to see how the costs could be reduced. **Action: Clerk to contact OCC re costs, Chairman to complete report for submission to OCC.**

40/22 Annual Parish Meeting

The Chairman reported that Treescape are unable to attend. It was agreed to invite Colin Carritt to talk about the Village Transport Network. **Action: Chairman and DC to agree details of request, Clerk to send invitations to all Community Groups.**

41/22 Jubilee

A request for funding of £850 towards the costs of village activities to celebrate the Jubilee weekend was considered. JH proposed that the request be approved, MG seconded the proposal and all present agreed. A request for a road closure order from the Reading Room corner of the green to the War memorial on Sunday 4th June from 12 – 4pm was also noted. **Action – Clerk to notify outcome to Sally Pursell.**

42/22 Operation London Bridge

Details of the Parish Councils response to the Death of a Monarch were discussed and it was agreed to draft a letter of condolence and message for the website and to purchase a book of condolence. **Action: Chairman to draft correspondence, Clerk to purchase book, DC to advise Church of flag flying protocol.**

43/22 Urgent Correspondence

None

Next Meeting

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