

COMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th June 2022 - approved

Present

- Elena Softley (ES) – Chair
- Denise Cripps (DC)
- Alan Revell (AR)
- Michael Green (MG)
- Cllr Parkinson (WODC)
- Julia Sharpe - Clerk
- Members of the Public – 0

72/22 Apologies

Deborah Phillips (DP)

73/22 Questions from the Public

None

74/22 Register of Interests

None

75/22 Minutes of the Last Meeting

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 11th May were read and signed as correct

76/22 Clerks Report and Progress on Actions

Playpark Update – none available

Parking in Orchard Close – letter to CPRE in hand

Parking in Recreation Ground – VH&RG to agree policy at their next meeting

Replacement posts by PC noticeboard – ongoing

Church Walk Repairs – ongoing

77/22 To Approve Payments and Note Sums Received

Payments	Gross	VAT
J. Sharpe – Clerks wages – May	£234.05	
J. Sharpe TsoHost – website hosting	£129.46	£21.58
WODC – Grass Cutting – April	£315.06	£52.51
DNS Electrical – Jubilee lighting	£290	
P. Merry – May Maintenance	£25	
Received		
WODC – Jubilee Grant	£230	
OCC – Grass Cutting Grant	£429.88	

78/22 To approve AGAR Forms

ES proposed that the 2021/22 internal audit report, sections 1 and 2 of the annual governance statement, the certificate of exemption and notice of public consultation be accepted and approved, MG seconded the proposal, all were in agreement and a Resolution passed.

79/22 Planning Applications

None

80/22 Report from County Councillor

Cllr Graham was unable to attend or provide a report.

81/22 Report from District Councillor

Cllr Parkinson reported that West Oxfordshire District Council have new leadership - the West Oxfordshire Alliance, consisting of the Liberal Democrats, Labour, and Green Party, led by County Councillor Andy Graham. The new cabinet has already risen to new challenges, including approval of funding for zero carbon housing in a disused playground in Chipping Norton which will be sold at 20% discounted market value. Other zero carbon affordable housing projects are also being investigated. The Council's £150 Energy Rebate Discretionary scheme went live on 6 June. The application window will be open for a 4-week period and will close on 5 July 2022. Residents entitled to a payment can make their application on the Council's website site: <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/council-tax-and-benefits/150-council-tax-rebate/>. For those residents who do not have access to the system, officers are on hand for support on 01993 861000. All details, including the eligibility criteria, is also available on the website at the above link.

The Chairman requested that, in future reports, Cllr Parkinson include details of planning proposals where they might impact on the village.

82/22 Gigaclear Update

DC provided a summary timeline on the work to date to connect Church Walk to the Gigaclear network. Cllr Parkinson requested a copy of the document. **Action – Clerk to forward.**

83/22 Weed Maintenance Policy

AR questioned the effectiveness of use of weedkiller on Mares Tail. MG offered to take soil samples of the area and it was agreed that further discussion on appropriate action to tackle the issue would take place once the results are known.

84/22 Use of Gender-Neutral Titles

An updated version of Standing Orders with gender neutral titles for the roles of Chairman and Vice Chairman was discussed. The Chairman proposed that the updated version, referring to the titles of Chair and Vice Chair be adopted, DC seconded the proposal, all were in favour and a Resolution that the updated Standing Orders be adopted was passed.

85/22 Jubilee Celebrations

DC proposed that a letter be sent to the Jubilee Committee thanking them for creating such a fantastic long weekend of celebrations in Combe for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This was unanimously agreed. **Action DC and Clerk**

86/22 Urgent Correspondence

None

Next Meeting

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