

# COMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023 - Approved

## Present

- Elena Softley (ES) – Chair
- Deborah Phillips (DP) – Vice Chair
- Alan Revell (AR)
- Michael Green (MG)
- Cllr Graham (OCC),
- Julia Sharpe - Clerk
- Members of the Public – 13

## 29/23 Apologies

Denise Cripps, John Hunt, and Cllr Parkinson

## 30/23 Register of Interests

Chair – Combe House planning application. MG – Trial re-routing of footpath.

## 31/23 Report from County Councillor

Cllr Graham reported that the OCC budget had been agreed and that the final report on the Home to School Transport Review outlining 9 recommendations to improve the policy is to be heard by the Cabinet later in the month. Cllr Graham stated that options to relocate the Woodstock GP surgery are being actively addressed.

## 32/23 Report from District Councillor

Cllr Parkinson was unable to attend and no report was received.

## 33/23 Coronation Celebrations

Gini Beavis attended on behalf of the Coronation Celebrations Committee and outlined the proposed events and associated costings to celebrate the occasion including screening the Coronation with refreshments at the school, a barn dance on the Little Green on Saturday evening and a street party on Sunday afternoon. MG proposed accepting the requests to use the little green for the events and for the Parish Council to underwrite up to £580 to cover expenses, the Chair seconded the proposal, all were in agreement and a Resolution made. The Chair thanked Gini and members of the Coronation Celebrations Committee.

The Clerk reported that a total order of 365 mugs amounting to £3,536.10p would be required to enable the presentation of free mugs to the Combe school children. It was agreed that the Parish Council would underwrite the costs with the expectation that full costs would be recouped by the sale of additional mugs. A request that all village children of Combe school age receive a mug was suggested and it was agreed to liaise with the school to confirm numbers. **Action – Clerk.**

## 33/23 Planning Applications

Combe House – 23/00408/HHD and 23/00409/LBC detailing refurbishment works including construction of a new swimming pool and pool house, refurbishment and replacement of outbuildings and associated landscape works. Amendments to previously approved 22/02094/HHD and 22/02095/LBC including revised layout and materials were considered and no objections or comments were made. **Action – Clerk.**

Members of the public attended to raise Health and Safety and Safeguarding concerns caused by the intended use of the school access road, in particular access by heavy vehicles and the frequency and times that access would be required. School staff and Governors confirmed that they were aware of the arrangements and that good communication between the school, owner, and contractors was ongoing. The Chair confirmed that a meeting with the owner and the contractors had taken place and it had been

confirmed that the Church Walk entrance would be main access point and that the school access would only be used by large vehicles unable to access relevant areas of the site. The Chair also read the Risk Assessment for access and egress. In conclusion it was agreed to formally request confirmation of the frequency and times that traffic would be using the school access, the arrangements for weekend and Bank Holiday working and to invite the owner to the April Parish Council meeting. **Action – Clerk.**

### 34/23 Trial Re-Routing of Public Footpath

The trail re-routing of the footpath from the top of the playing field to Frogden Wood was discussed. It was agreed that as the trial footpath around the outside of the field was in addition to the reinstated original footpath across the field that no further action was required at this time.

### 35/23 Questions from the Public

**Low flying and increase in air traffic** – concern regarding the increase in light aircraft movements was raised by a member of the public – **Action – Clerk to pass concern to Aviation Authority.**

**Little Lane footpath** – a complaint that cycles are using the Little Lane footpath between Chatterpie Lane and Orchard Close was discussed. **Action – Clerk to obtain no cycle signs from OCC.**

### 36/23 Minutes of the Last Meeting

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023 were read and signed as correct.

### 37/23 Clerk's Report and Progress on Actions

**Soil Sample update** – MG – outstanding.

**Overhanging trees** – Orchard Close – trees removed – No further action required.

**Playpark** – JH – No new issues.

**SID Data** – AR – Data not available for analysis. AR proposed holding speed awareness sessions using the speed gun in the Spring. **Action – AR.**

**Election Update** – Application forms available and need to be returned by hand between 27<sup>th</sup> March and 4<sup>th</sup> April. Posters distributed.

**Spring Clean (25<sup>th</sup> March) Update** – Posters distributed.

**Annual Parish Meeting (12<sup>th</sup> April) Update** – Confirmation that Cllr Maynard will talk on reducing sewage outflow into our rivers.

**Combe Feast Update** – William Hebborn invited to April meeting.

### 38/23 To Approve Payments and Note Sums Received

<b>Payments</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>VAT</b>
J. Sharpe – Clerk's wages – February	234.05	
HMRC – PAYE	468.10	
J. Sharpe – Tsohost Domain Renewal	15.54	
OALC – Annual Membership	156.00	26.00
OPFA – Annual Membership	45.00	
P. Merry – village maintenance, new posts & cleaning	140	
Trees and Gardens – Christmas lights & tree maintenance	144	24.00
<b>Received</b>		
HMRC – VAT Repayment	815.35	

### 39/23 Gigaclear Update

DC was unable to attend the meeting and there was no update available. One additional Church Walk resident expressed keen interest to be connected to the service which would require an overhead wire connection. **Action – Clerk to forward details to DC.**

### 40/23 Community First Membership

A request to renew the CF membership was discussed. The Chair proposed renewing the membership for the forthcoming year, DP seconded the proposal, all were in agreement and a Resolution passed. **Action – Clerk.**

## 41/23 Donation to PCC for Footpath

A request for a contribution towards the resurfacing of the footpath from the Church Gate to the playing field was discussed. As the footpath is a considerable village amenity DP proposed making a contribution of £375, the Chair seconded the proposal, all were in agreement and a Resolution made. Cllr Graham offered to match fund the contribution from his 2023/4 Councillors' Priority Fund. Other funding suggestions were discussed. **Action – Clerk to notify the PCC.**

## Next Meeting

The next meeting of Combe Parish Council will be on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in the Reading Room, Combe.