

COMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 14th June 2023 - Approved

Present

- Deborah Phillips (DP) – Chair
- Elena Softley (ES) – Vice Chair
- Denise Cripps (DC)
- Alan Revell (AR)
- Michael Green (MG)
- Cllr Graham (OCC)
- Cllr Sumner (WODC)
- Julia Sharpe - Clerk
- Members of the Public – 0

67/23 Apologies

Mathew Parkinson (WODC)

68/23 Questions from the Public

Deborah Manning suggested producing a list of Combe organisations. It was agreed to make further enquiries with a view to making the document available online and a printed copy to be distributed to each household. **Action – Clerk to contact DM.**

69/23 Register of Interests

MG – items numbers 13 and 15.

70/23 Minutes of the Last Meeting

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, the Parish Council meeting and the report of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 10th were all agreed and signed as correct.

71/23 Clerk's Report and Progress on Actions

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

Playpark – The Clerk reported that additional repair is required to the zip wire platform and area around the big slide. It was agreed to ask Trevor Stewart to undertake repairs. **Action – Clerk.**

Coronation Mugs – The Clerk reported all but 4 of the mugs have now been sold and that all monies have been received.

Cllr Charlie Maynard – It was agreed to invite Cllr Maynard to a future meeting. **Action - Clerk to forward dates of July/September and October meetings.**

Kidlington Airport meeting – ES and DC have agreed to attend a meeting to discuss the volume of air traffic over Combe. **Action - Clerk to forward venue details.**

Speedwatch – AR reported that one person, in addition to the Parish Councillors, has offered to help with speed watch sessions. **Action – AR to arrange sessions.**

Speed Indicator Devices – The Chair reported that the Akeman Street SID is not working. **Action – AR and Clerk to check.**

Alma Grove Wall – Concern that the wall has still not been repaired was discussed. **Action – Clerk to contact Blenheim.**

War Memorial – AR reported a broken slab at the base of the War Memorial – **Action Clerk to arrange repair.**

72/23 To Approve Payments and Note Sums Received

Payments	Gross	VAT
J. Sharpe – Clerk's wages – May	253.63	
J. Sharpe, TsoHost	129.46	
Insurance	1555.02	
WODC – Grass cutting – April	314.16	52.36

P. Merry – Village maintenance & Alma Grove	155.00	
T. Stewart – Play Park – Roundabout running surface	756.00	126.00
WODC – Grass cutting – May	314.16	52.36
Received		
Mug Payments	2450.34	

73/23 Annual Governance Accountability Return – 2022/23

The Chair proposed that the 2022/23 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. ES seconded the proposal; all were in agreement and a Resolution passed.

74/23 Report from County Councillor

Cllr Graham reported that road repairs are ongoing, evidence of which can be seen in many areas. Some improvements and changes in drivers' behaviour is now beginning to be seen in the new 20mph areas. The new Woodstock restricted and payment parking scheme has gone well so far but the knock effect on the WODC car park needs to be evaluated. The payment machines have been recalibrated to change at midnight. There is an outstanding issue for staff parking. Finally, he said that the Parish Council and community should identify the need for electric vehicle charging points. **Action – July agenda item.**

75/23 Report from District Councillor

Cllr Sumner reported that he had been appointed to the Licensing, Environment and Uplands Planning Committees. He said that he was eager to attend meetings and village events and urged the Council to email him direct as issues arise.

76/23 Planning Applications

23/01367/HHD - Christmas Cottage – the application was considered and there were no objections.

77/23 PC Vacancy

One application has been received. It was agreed to interview the applicant but also consider re-advertising the vacancy should the need arise.

78/23 Zip Wire Repairs Tenders

The Clerk reported that three requests for tender had been made and that two responses had been received. The tenders were considered and it was unanimously agreed to offer the work to Trevor Stewart. **Action – Clerk to notify both parties.**

79/23 Botley West Solar Farm Project

AR reported that he had attended a meeting of the Stop Botley West Solar Farm action group where neighbouring villages were asked to provide venues and opportunities for the group to share their message with a wider audience. It was agreed to provide an opportunity in Combe. AR agreed to draft a letter for circulation and comment. **Action – AR.**

80/23 S3 Bus Service

The £2 per journey bus fare has been extended until October, however the possibility that the complete service will be withdrawn in 2024 is a very real. DC agreed to design a poster urging people to use the service. **Action – DC.**

81/23 Permissive Paths

It was agreed to ask residents to identify walks they regularly make on land not designated as either a footpath or permissive path and to create an interactive map of the areas with a view to asking Blenheim to designate the routes as permissive paths. **Action – ALL.**

Next Meeting

The next meeting of Combe Parish Council will be on Wednesday 12th July at 7.30pm in the Reading Room, Combe.