

# COMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2025 - Approved

## Present

Deborah Phillips (DP) – Chair, Peter Sloan (PS) – Vice Chair, Elena Softley (ES) Denise Cripps (DC), Michael Green (MG), Julia Sharpe (Clerk)  
Cllr Sumner (WODC), Cllr Early (WODC)  
Members of the Public – None

## 46/25 Apologies

Cllr Graham (OCC)

## 47/25 Appointment of Parish Councillor

Adjourned as the interviews did not take place due to family illness. **Action – Clerk to check with WODC how long vacancy can be left open.**

## 48/25 Questions from the Public

None.

## 49/25 Register of Interests

None.

## 50/25 Minutes of the Last Meeting

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June were read and signed as correct.

## 51/25 Report from County Councillor

Unable to attend and no report received.

## 52/25 Report from District Councillor

Cllr Sumner outlined concerns regarding ongoing parking problems in Witney and Woodstock and details of a current scam where people receive a text message purporting to be WODC relating to a parking fee and asking for bank details.

Cllr Early outlined the Local Plan consultation process and confirmed that the process would be ongoing despite future plans to changes in the Local Government structure.

## 53/25 Clerk's Report and Progress on Actions

**Playpark Update** – Recent inspection found one broken fence post. Confirmed that lottery grant applied for. RoSPA inspection due in July.

**Combe Feast** – Final advertising design agreed. DC to arrange printing and distribution of posters and flyers. **Action – DC.**

**Telephone Kiosk/Payphone** – Confirmation from BT that the payphone will not be removed. A note will be posted in the kiosk to discourage people from leaving books on the floor of the kiosk and not to leave books if shelves are full. **Action – Clerk.**

**Park Road and Horns Lane Speed Monitoring** – Following discussion it was agreed not to monitor speed in Horns Lane again at this time. MG offered to fund monitoring in Park Road. **Action – Clerk.**

**Oak tree on the green survey report** – The report concluded that all areas tested show adequate residual wall thickness to maintain suitable structural strength of the stem. The tree is assessed as being suitable for retention. Tree to be re-tested in two years. **Action – Clerk.**

**Combe Sewage Pollution** - Community Awareness meeting – noted.

**Shipton Under Wychwood Letter re flooding** – It was agreed to highlight the flooding issues around the Railway Bridge, Swan Bridge and The Mill. **Action – Chair and Clerk.**

**Local Plan Consultation** – Councillors to send comments to Chair by 1<sup>st</sup> August. **Action – Chair to respond.**

**Local Government Reorganisation Consultation** – It was agreed that all Councillors would respond to the consultation individually. **Action – All.**

**APPG call for evidence – an opportunity to stop off-roading** – No evidence that recreational motor vehicles are using green lanes to hinder others from using public rights of way to access nature in this Parish. No response required.

## 54 /25 To Approve Payments and Note Sums Received

Payments	Gross	VAT
J. Sharpe – Clerk’s wages – June	£284.92	
HMRC – PAYE	£569.85	
WODC – Grass cutting – May	£670.20	£111.70
WODC – Bin emptying	£522.29	£87.05
P. Merry – Village maintenance	£25	
P. Merry – Playpark repairs	£150.00	

**Received – Nil**

## 55/25 First Quarter Accounts and Summary Payments

The first quarter accounts and summary payments were presented by the RFO. PS proposed that they be accepted, the Chair seconded the proposal, all were in agreement and a Resolution to accept the first quarter accounts and Summary Payments was passed. **Action – Clerk.**

## 56/25 Planning Applications

Application Number 25/01292/HHD, Furze House, Chatterpie Lane to widen entrance and addition of new gates. The application was considered and there were no objections or comments. **Action – Clerk.**

## 57/25 Parish Magazine

The Chair reported that good progress had been made with meetings having been held with the publishers of the Stonesfield Slate and several residents who had already expressed an interest in being involved with the publication of a new village magazine. There are many decisions to be made, including the name of the new magazine, a bank account, a website, email addresses and additional volunteers to be recruited.

## Next Meeting

The next meeting of Combe Parish Council will be on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2025 at 7.30pm in the Reading Room, Combe, followed by the Annual Parish Walk.