

COMBROKE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 16 November 2015 at 8.00pm at the Village Hall

Present

Jo Price (JP)
Tim Goodhead (TG)
Brenda Rayson (BR), Chairman
Georgina Lowe (Clk), Clerk

Members of the Public 0

1. Apologies

CCllr Chris Williams (CW) and DCllr Chris Mills (CM)

The Clerk reported Mycroft Perry had apologized for missing the last three meetings due to family commitments. In the circumstances he felt he ought to relinquish membership of the PC and hoped he might be able to serve again once he had more time.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests

None.

3. Dispensation Requests

None.

4. Public Representation

None.

5. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on the 7th September 2015 had been circulated. Proposed JP, seconded TG and

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting be confirmed and signed by the Chairman

The minutes of the meeting held on the 21st September 2015 had been circulated. Proposed TG, seconded JP and

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting be confirmed and signed by the Chairman

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes

'Transparency Fund' – BR advised the initial bid had been rejected. The limit for website costs had been set at £500 and the Parish Council would therefore need to cover the difference between the SDC setup costs of £753 and the £500 grant funding potentially available. After discussion it was agreed that the long term advantages of setting the site up in partnership with SDC were sufficient to warrant the additional expenditure; all agreed.

BR

BR then went on to ask for the Councils permission to begin implementation of the project should the grant funding be awarded; all agreed. TG to be advised of training dates.

BR

7. Planning

7.1 Granted Village Hall 15/02150/LBC

To widen gateway at notice board to 2m. SDC have advised that a FUL application will also be required due to the site's close proximity to the highway. In the interests of completing formalities and in consultation with Councillors the Clerk has issued a cheque, £97.50, for the application fee.

7.2 Granted Band Hill House 15/03141/FUL

7.3 Granted Combroke House 15/03316/AGNOT

It was noted that the Council were disappointed that no effort had been made to consult with the Conservation Officer / land specialist over the concerns raised in the Parish Council's representation before approving this application.

7.4 CE Gilbert Site Update – splays; road naming

The Clerk reported that Roger Thatcher, Planning Enforcement Officer had confirmed that the conditions now set regarding visibility splays would only be triggered by the occupation of the site. After discussion it was agreed that a letter be sent to Knight Frank (the developer's agent) raising the PC's concern that these works should be completed before first occupation. The letter will be copied to CE Gilbert and SDC.

BR

Road naming to be discussed under Agenda item 11 below.

8. Ongoing Reports

a. Village Hall and Green

The Clerk reported insurance quotations for the Village Hall had been sought following the requirement by the Diocesan Authority that the insurance be taken out by the Parish Council as Tenant.

Having spoken with Zurich the Clerk was hopeful of negotiating an annual saving of around £400. As the insurance would need to be taken out before the next meeting it was agreed to instruct the Clerk to take out the appropriate cover.

Clk

It was noted the Village Hall Committee had made a start on the new access / opening in time for Apple Pressing in October. The materials for the project would be paid for by the PC and a grant obtained from the Village Hall Committee to cover the costs.

b. The Leys Project Update

BR reported that volunteers had cut, raked and burnt the long grass to prepare for sheep grazing during September / October. Thanks were recorded to Mick Harding and Liz Bates.

Bonfire building followed at the end of October with a well attended bonfire night and excellent fireworks display; thanks again were recorded to all those involved.

9. Lanes and Drainage:

9.1 County Highways Repair and Improvement

Church Hill – In response to the resident's enquiry about verges and hedges at the last meeting it was confirmed that the area in question was outside the SDC contract and therefore the responsibility of WCC Highways Authority. Having responsibility primarily to ensure that vegetation does not restrict visibility for users of the public highway mowing was carried out 3 times a year.

It was noted on SDC's website that *'should residents wish to maintain the verges outside their home to a higher standard, they are able to do this but should consider their own and others safety before doing so. Any such maintenance would not transfer ownership of the highway verge'*

After discussion the Parish Council recorded it's thanks to Henry for his community spirit.

BR to send email reference dislodged paving stone by fountain at bottom end of the village.

BR

9.2 Leys Drainage Flood Grant

Grant submission ongoing.

BR /
Clk

10. Members' Code of Conduct

BR reported that the SDC Monitoring Officer had released an advisory note on the interpretation of the SDC Code of Conduct. Copies of the note plus the Parish Council's adopted Code of Conduct were distributed to all Members.

After discussion it was agreed that in the interests of transparency Parish Councillor's will continue to declare if they are members of an association / group in common with any resident / applicant affected by any item for decision-taking.

11. Village Lanes and Postcodes

Correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting by both BR and TG.

The long standing issue of delivery drivers unable to find locations within the village was discussed along with concerns over unwanted additional street clutter and Google Maps incorrect labelling of street names.

The Clerk reported that there had been no further correspondence received from Mr Gilbert or Adrian Bethune from SDC regarding the street naming and numbering of the CE Gilbert site. After discussion it was agreed the matter should be pursued to ensure the site has a different postcode to the rest of the village and that all reference to Spring Lane be removed.

Clk

It was agreed the Council should continue to research if it is possible to add / correct road names on OS mapping / Google and or have every house name / number appearing on satnav displays.

12. Noise Pollution Update

BR reported that as all other attempts to contact the dog warden had failed, she had now completed their standard 'dog warden form' and specifically requested a call back. There had been no response as yet. BR to contact CM again to ask for his assistance.

BR

'Gateway Feature' Update

13. The Clk advised Debbie Poynton had confirmed it would be possible to keep the old style sign and its lettering and have it repainted/touched up and a gated structure set behind. After further discussion it was agreed the three Councillors would meet together at the two locations to agree a way forward.

All

Finance and Accounts for Payment

14. Current Account: £608.40 Deposit Account: £4,661.95

Income for the period

SDC £1,989.00 second and final precept payment

Village Hall Committee £300.00 contribution towards display boards

Totals reflect a £2,100.00 transfer from the current account into the deposit account, un-presented cheques issued and signed since the last meeting were noted and approved:

SDC planning application fee £97.50

Royal British Legion £40.00

Invoices were presented, approved and cheques signed for:

Clerk's October / November Salary £201.55 (total includes stamps, Vodafone top up voucher and 3 A4 ring binders)

15. District Councillor's Report

None.

16. County Councillor's Report

CCllr Williams report is attached to these minutes.

17. Other Correspondence

- Public Scrutiny Meeting 17th November 2015 at Kingsley School
- Spotlight on our Communities 2nd December 2015 at Warwick University, Wellesbourne Campus. SDC Annual Conference, an opportunity to meet the leaders from the District Council, County Council, Police, Health and voluntary sector
- Healthwatch Roadshow 14th April 2016 at St Peter's Presbytery, Leamington Spa

8. Councillors' Reports and Items for Future Agendas:

None.

19. Date of Next Parish Council Meeting:

Monday 18th January 8.00pm Village Hall

The meeting closed at 10.14 pm