

# COMBROKE PARISH COUNCIL

**DRAFT**

## **Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held via Zoom on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.30pm**

### **Present**

Stephanie Connah (SC)  
Nathan Griffiths (NG)  
Tim Goodhead (TG)  
Jo Price (JP)  
Brenda Rayson (BR)  
Georgina Lowe (Clk), Clerk

DCllr Chris Mills (CM)

Members of the Public: 0

### **1. Apologies**

CCllr Chris Williams (CW)

### **2. Acceptance of Apologies**

N/A – All Parish Councillors were in attendance

### **3. Declarations of Interest**

None.

### **4. Public Representation**

None.

### **5. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 had been circulated. Proposed JP, seconded TG and

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

### **6. Chairman's Report and Other Reports for Information Only**

- a. **Chairman** District Council change to Green waste bin subscription. We have highlighted this on noticeboard/website and sent a reminder to residents last week.
- b. **Clerk** No report

### **7. District Councillor's Report**

- i. **Business Support Grants** – Businesses in Stratford-on-Avon District which have been forced to close due to coronavirus restrictions may be eligible for up to seven separate grants to keep them going.  
Stratford District Council is currently administering the different grant schemes from central government as part of its COVID-19 support for businesses. The grants cover any businesses which have been affected from November 2020 through to the current national lockdown which began in January. These include grants for businesses affected by Tier 3 restrictions, Tier 4 restrictions, a specific grant for pubs and bars that do not serve food, and firms affected more generally by any COVID restrictions.  
In addition, further support was announced by the Chancellor on Wednesday January 6 where up to £9,000 will be paid to qualifying businesses based on their Rateable Value. The guidance for this scheme was released by Government on Wednesday January 13 so the District Council will start to look at those payments next week.  
It has advised that businesses do not need to make another, separate grant application if they've already applied for a previous grant.

For further details on each of the grants, payment thresholds and how to apply, visit [www.stratford.gov.uk/coronavirus/local-restrictions-support-grant-national-lockdown.cfm](http://www.stratford.gov.uk/coronavirus/local-restrictions-support-grant-national-lockdown.cfm)

- ii. **Stratford-on-Avon District Council Cabinet budget proposals out for consultation** - On Monday 18 January Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Cabinet agreed the draft budget proposals for the next five years (2021/22 to 2025/26).

The draft budget will be used to consult with the public, local businesses and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee before final recommendations to be made to Council are considered at the meeting of The Cabinet on 8 February 2021.

The proposed council tax increase this year is £5 per household, the maximum allowed by the Government – meaning a Band D property would increase in April this year from £144.12 to £149.12.

Despite cost savings and financial support from Central Government, the net cost to the District Council's finances last year (2020/21), predominantly the loss of income, is estimated to be around £2.6m, rising in total over the next five years (2025/26) to an estimated £7.5m.

- iii. **Clip and Collect Garden Waste Services** – From April 2021, Stratford-on-Avon District Council will be introducing a charge for the collection of green waste (the charge was deferred due to the Covid crisis). The annual charge will be £40 for each green bin, however, if residents sign up between 11 January and 28 February 2021, there is an early bird offer of £35 per green bin.

For more information please visit [Garden Waste Service | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#) or email the Streetscene team: [streetscene@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:streetscene@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

## 8. **County Councillor's Report**

CCllr Williams' Report is attached to these minutes.

## 9. **Planning**

### **9.1. Pending 18 Combroom 20/03262/FUL & 20/03266/LBC**

Replacement of rear kitchen/conservatory extension and internal alterations including moving of existing first floor bathroom

The meeting formally approved the submitted Representation.

### **9.2. Pending Fossedene Manor, Fosse Way 20/02141/FUL**

Conversion of an existing shed to Holiday Lets and construction of a new building incorporating Stables and Car-ports (including the introduction of a new access route to and from this building).

The meeting formally approved the submitted Representation.

### **9.3. Granted Red House 20/03051/VARY**

Variation of condition number 2 (Approved drawings) of planning permission 20/01331/FUL (Proposed outdoor swimming pool and pool house with associated landscaping)

## 10 **Chestnut tree update**

The Clerk reported she was struggling to get a second quotation. Members were encouraged to forward any recommended tree surgeon details to the Clk. Discussions remain ongoing with the County Highways team.

Clk /  
BR

## 11 **Financial Administration**

**11.1. To receive payments made under delegated powers and consider payments to be made** None

### **11.2. 2021/22 Precept**

The draft document was circulated and considered last meeting. Given the current

economic climate, it had been suggested not to increase the precept (to take account of increasing costs) and to manage the budget accordingly falling back on reserves if necessary. After further scrutiny it was unanimously agreed to keep the precept the same, at £4,533.00

**12. Lanes and Drainage**

**12.1 County Highways Repair and Improvement**

To note resurfacing of 'School Lane' has been completed. TG to survey potholes outside Hillside and Orchard Cottages.

TG

Footbridge – no further report, awaiting confirmed works to commence once replacement posts have been delivered.

Blocked gully on Church Hill - defect order confirmed, awaiting scheduling

County Highways to attend site visit to address the deepening channels at edge of road to the Fosse

TG

**12.2 Proposed Gateway at West Entrance to the Village**

No further report, as per December's Minutes

**13. Parking**

Following last month's discussion/agreement it was noted parking issues had worsened after an article in the Sunday Times promoting winter walks in which Combroke featured. It was also noted the article did not mention Combroke's limited parking (or give advice on where to park). It was suggested the PC write to the Editor, as had residents from this and other affected villages.

Advice is still to be sought from County Highways together with a proposed questionnaire to gather views. TG will work on the questionnaire for PC approval prior to circulation with the Pollution newsletter.

TG

**14. Combroke Climate Change Club**

To note the Christmas newsletter was circulated following December's meeting

SC reported she was now working on the Spring edition with a Zoom Meeting.

SC

**15. Pollution**

The Draft document had been circulated prior to the meeting; agreed amends and additions to be made

SC /  
BR

**16. Councillors' Reports and Items for Future Agendas**

None

**17. Dates of Next Parish Council Meetings:**

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

**The meeting closed at 9:04pm**

## **Combroke Parish Council 25<sup>st</sup> January 2021 County Councillor's Report**

### **Budget 2021/22**

It is difficult to remember that when the budget was set last year, Covid-19 had just broken out in China and all the plans we made in budgetary planning for savings were ultimately absorbed by the increased costs we have incurred. One of our problems in setting the budget for next year is that the government have not yet indicated as to how much will be allocated to local authorities to help with their budget problems. The government has indicated that WCC can allocate in our budget calculations an increase of 3% towards Adult Social Care. The feeling in the Council that this increase should be amortised across two years rather than incurring a one-off imposition on our residents. At this point of the deliberations all budgetary thoughts are towards restoring employment levels in the area. Warwickshire was fortunate that last year our reserves were sufficient to withstand the impact of Covid-19.

The budget will be decided on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021 and I will advise you of all our proposals in my next report.

### **Covid-19 Update as at 8<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

The government changed the category for our area from Tier 3 to Tier 4 Lockdown. This has imposed severe restrictions within our hospitality trade. We had had hoped that we would be reduced to Tier 2 by events proved otherwise.

In line with national figures the rates of infection have continued to rise. Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January and later figures show that for our area the seven day rate/100,000 is now 338.2/100,000 and the over 60's day rate is 278.2/100,000 (with 116 cases over the last seven days), which when compared to other areas in Warwickshire for all ages is Nuneaton & Bedworth 485.8/100,000, North Warwickshire 455,1/100,000, Warwick 392.3/100,000 and Rugby 489.3/100,000. The big jump in cases suggests there may have been a slight time lag in getting the positive case figures with the New Year bank holiday.

The situation regarding SWFT Hospital Beds has also increased with 107 (79) confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 5 (3) patients in ICU (figures in brackets are from 4 Jan). However, the capacity has increased to 12% from 9% on 4 January, which also reflects an increase of 'open' beds up to 369 from 286 earlier in the week, which is welcome.

The cumulative deaths across our area from the start of this second wave (28<sup>th</sup> August 2020) have sadly increased by a further seven since last report to 41 with 11 occurring in care homes, 27 in hospital and three at home, out of a total of 440 all cause deaths in our area for this new second wave period.

The cumulative total of deaths across Warwickshire for Wave 2 has now jumped to 202 from 173 for a total of 1939 all cause deaths. The cumulative total of Covid-19 deaths in our area is 209 since the start of the pandemic and in Warwickshire 802; over the same period there have been 5485 non Covid-19 related deaths in Warwickshire.

A new locally led Lateral Flow Testing facility for people without coronavirus symptoms is opening in Stratford at the Courtyard Theatre, with the aim of protecting those most at risk, using rapid testing to speed up the process.

The vaccine rollout has now started and is increasing in GP practices together with the Hospital sites; and WCC is involved with the setting up of a mass vaccination site which will be located in Stoneleigh in due course and will compliment another vaccination facility in Birmingham at Millennium Point. 24,000 vaccinations will have been delivered by the end of this week in Warwickshire and the county is doing 'quite well' at a local level than some other counties.

Essentially the three hospital hubs will be using the Pfizer vaccine and local GP's will be administering the OxfordAZ vaccine. Roving teams are carrying out vaccinations in care homes amongst staff and residents and it is anticipated to have all care homes in Warwickshire vaccinated by the end of the month, as this is a priority area.

The NHS has the capacity locally to deliver 47,000 vaccines per week and the plan is for all the over 50 and clinically vulnerable to be vaccinated by the end of March.

There are currently around 10,300 children still in school across the county representing those who are either vulnerable or children of key workers across Nursery, Primary and Secondary facilities and WCC is working with all schools on establishing Lateral Flow Testing for pupils.

I know none of us enjoy being classified as Tier 4 but the only way this pandemic can be controlled is for us all to follow the guidelines.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you all a successful New Year and that hopefully before too long we can look back at this period of time and reflect on how much we have learnt from the experience.

Unfortunately, as you know I am undergoing chemotherapy treatment at the moment and not enjoying the best of health. I will not be joining you at your meeting but should you have any queries or issues that I can help you with please do not hesitate to contact me by email and I will reply as soon as I am able.

**Cllr Chris Williams**

**Member for Kineton and Red Horse Division**

**[chriswilliams@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:chriswilliams@warwickshire.gov.uk)**

**24.01.21.**