

2019/12

GREAT COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes from the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 4th September 2019 at 7pm

1. **PRESENT** – Cllrs K Collingwood, Vice Chairman, K Barnes, Cllrs S Hamilton, S Inglis, and A Lavell, District Cllr G Mackison and one member of the public
2. **APOLOGIES** – were received from Cllrs H Peart and T Pearce
3. **MINUTES** from previous meeting were approved and signed. Cllr Hamilton referred to the minutes of the planning meeting and commented that the reference to the number of affordable / social housing in Hands Orchard may not be accurate as a number of the properties were no privately owned but was happy that this was in response to planning application 19/00745 and the comments had already been submitted to WDC, and no changes were deemed necessary
4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Cllr K Collingwood – Planning Appeal - Tibbetts Farm Planning Appeal & Cllr K Barnes – Rooftop Housing shareholder

OPEN FORUM – Introduction was made to the member of the public in attendance, with an interest in encouraging wild flowers in verges

5. MATTERS ARISING

- a) Lengthsman – nothing raised
- b) Highway Matters:
 - Footways – the clerk had been advised by a member of the public that a stretch of footway was in real need of repair. There was some confusion as to the exact location and the clerk would ask for clarification and photographic evidence to support any request made to WCC
 - Grass Verges – Cllrs Collingwood and Lavell had met with representatives from WCC and WDC on two separate occasions with regard the introduction of wildflowers in the grass verges. They made the point that this would still need some sort of maintenance and this would need to be considered when agreeing on the areas and type of flowers. It was agreed that Yellow Rattle would be a good option on some of the main road verges but other varieties may be more suitable for the areas in front of properties. It was agreed that guidance would be sent to parishioners with a view to encourage and educate
- c) Police – The clerk advised there had been no crimes reported
- d) Footpaths- Nothing was reported
- e) The New Homes Bonus – currently stands at £4642. An email/letter to all residents had been sent, asking for their thoughts on how the NHB could best be spent to benefit the village. The feedback was poor with only 13 responses received. From those thirteen, seven were in favour of improved storage and toilet facilities at the village hall, four wanting to see tables/seating at the Quay and two for more dog waste bins. It was agreed that the village hall improvements were the preferred choice and would register this ‘interest’ with Wychavon District Council before moving forward with the full consultation process, costings etc. Proposed Cllr Inglis, seconded Cllr Hamilton
- f) Rooftop Housing – Cllr Barnes reported that had been an obvious lack of communication with Rooftop since their changes in staff. It was felt that this was disappointing as there had been a good relationship with them in the past. One obvious issue is one resident with overgrown front and rear gardens. As this property is privately owned we are unable to ask Rooftop to intervene. The play area had been cordoned off over the summer, apparently for re-surfacing but as yet this

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had not been carried out. Anti-social behaviour is an ongoing problem but being dealt with. There is no further news on the footway repairs.

- g) Notice Board – This has now been completed and we are awaiting ‘gate pass’ to enable us to collect it. A suggestion was made that the current notice board could be used elsewhere in the village
- h) Tree Warden – an invitation had been made to the new Tree Warden, but unfortunately he had been unable to attend. It is hoped he will make it to the next meeting
- i) War Memorial – The clerk had put in a Pre-Grant Application and awaiting feedback from the War Memorials Trust.
- j) Smartwater – Cllrs Lavell and Barnes had spent considerable time over the summer speaking to residents, looking for support to ‘sign up’ for the whole community Smartwater scheme. A total of 86 households are needed to commit to register to enable the parish council to receive greatly reduced kits for the whole village. To date 60 households had committed. If we reach the 86, the parish councils only outlay would be for £252 as £400 had been received from County Councillor Hardman towards the costs. Lengthy discussion took place, with some Cllrs wanting reassurance that there was no commitment to having to outlay the full amount, should we not reach the 86. Cllr Lavell would take further advice on this before the next meeting

6. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT – Nothing to report

7. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT - Nothing to report

8. PLANNING

- 19/00492 – Tibbetts Farm, Russell Street – construction of 3-bedroom dwelling *Cllr Collingwood did not participate in this discussion*. The clerk reported that this application was subject to Appeal. The parish council advised they had no further comments to make
- 19/01629 – land south of Greenfield – *awaiting decision by WDC*
- 19/01841 – Hollyoak Nursery – new agricultural building – Lengthy discussion with concerns raised by all Cllrs regarding the extent of the continued growth of the business and the impact this would have on the local community, pointing out this this would probably be more suited to one of the local trading / industrial estates. It was agreed that the parish council would object to this application with comments similar to those made on the previous application for the extended glass house All Cllrs were in favour
- SWDP – nothing to report

9. FINANCE

(i) Payments for approval/made since last meeting:

Lengthsman		691	144.00
Lengthsman (May/June)		692	288.00
Clerks Expenses		SO	12.00
Clerks Salary		SO	126.15
Lengthsman (July)		693	144.00
Clerks Salary		SO	126.15
Clerks Expenses		SO	12.00
Subscription Fees		694	201.44
Lengthsman (Aug)		695	144.00
ICO Registration		696	40.00
HMRC PAYE		697	94.80

- (ii) Accounts had been circulated to Cllrs
- (iii) Current Account Balance (less u/p cheques): £1446.48
Deposit Account Balance: £4852.07

10. **PRIORITIES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL** – it was agreed to defer this to the November meeting and also to include a review of the parish councils policies
11. **WCC PASSENGER TRANSPORT STRATEGY CONSULTATION** – the clerk would speak to a regular bus user for their thoughts on any response we make as a council
12. **DEFIBRILLATOR** – It had been pointed out that the defibrillator pads were almost at their expiry date. Approval was given to the clerk to make this purchase at approx. £77 incl. the VAT. It was also reported that a second ‘guardian’ was recommended, and this had been actioned. Finally, it seems the trend is now to leave the defibrillators in unlocked cabinets – previously being locked for security. It was agreed that the cabinet would remain unlocked
13. **ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS/DISCUSSION**
14. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Wednesday 6th November 2019 and Wednesday 8th January 2019