

2020/13

LITTLE COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes from a meeting of the Parish Council, held via Zoom on Tuesday June 2nd 2020 at 7pm

OPEN FORUM – Nothing to report

PRESENT – Chairman C Rabbette, Vice Chairman L Haycock, Cllrs S Britten, N Jamieson, A Dermont and P Morris, District Cllr T Rowley and County Cllr A Hardman.

1. **APOLOGIES** – were received from Cllr M Kibble

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None declared

3. **MINUTES** from the previous meetings were approved and signed.

4. **PROGRESS REPORTS**

a) Highway Matters

- Pool Close – The parish council would continue to press WCC for the re-surfacing stressing the need for this work to take priority over other works. Cllr Hardman advised that Pool Close required full engineering works and was not a simple surface dressing. He would push for Pool Close to be prioritised but also added that he did not think the surface dressing would be carried out in Wick Road (this is a section out of Little Comberton towards Wick). It was agreed that the residents of Pool Close are made aware that the parish council have been communicating with WCC on a monthly basis regarding getting the works completed
- Lay-by Pershore Road – The parish council had been contacted by residents adjacent to the lay-by in Pershore Road to remind the council that this is a private service lay-by strictly for the residents in the adjacent bungalows only. Whilst fully appreciating the point raised it was evident that many residents were not aware that this was private. An email had been sent to remind parishioners of this and after discussion with the adjoining property owners it was agreed that we monitor the situation for the time being.
- Road Surface Elmley Road – The parish council had been made aware of an accident that happened on the Elmley Road (on the approach to LC from EC) where the recent road works had left the road surface in such a poor condition resulting in an accident where a cyclist came off his bike with the police and ambulance services being called out. The parish council were concerned to learn of this and since have also been made aware from parishioners that the re-surfacing is of a very poor standard. We have been in contact with WCC and awaiting a response.

b) Footpaths/Rights of Way – Nothing to report. The clerk referred to overgrowth that had been cut back from the footway on Pershore Road and which would be removed by the adjacent landowner.

c) Lengthsman – Cllr Jamieson reported that he would communicate with the LM to establish if there are any issues within the village

d) Planning -

- Fence at Orchard View, Manor Lane – Cllr Rowley reported that the formal Notice was prepared and that he supported the action being taken. The Notice will now be served and the property owners will have to respond within a specified time period.
- Appeal The Old Rectory has not yet been determined
- SWDP – Nothing further to report but Cllr Rowley advised that work is still going on. Publication of the revised plan is expected towards the end of the year.

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- 19/00759/AGR – Hay and Implements Barn – Cllr Haycock had raised concerns regarding the lack of consultation with nearby residents when this application was being consulted on last April. Cllr Rowley responded that as the application fell within ‘permitted development’ policy there would have only been certain grounds that it could have been refused, and that the application met all the criteria and there were no grounds to refuse it. He also commented that there is no duty for residents to be consulted other than the statutory notice which needs to be put up. Cllr Rabbette thanked Cllr Rowley for the clear explanation
- e) BHCG – Nothing to report.
- f) Ditches/ Water Courses:
 - Drainage Junction Orchard Drive / Pershore Road – the clerk would chase WCC with regard the collapsed drain issue
- g) Trees / Tree Warden:
 - Cllr Haycock kindly volunteered to take on the Tree Warden Role. The clerk would advise WCC and await further guidance
 - Tree, Elmley Road – this tree will be removed as soon as possible.
 - Trees, Village Hall – overhanging trees onto the VH roof to be cut back in the next few weeks

5. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT – Cllr Rowley reported that:

- 95% of Business Grants and Concessionary Grants have now been paid out to help businesses through the Covid crisis
- Planning Committee continues to meet, albeit remotely
- Bin caught at Nafford Lock had been reported. The clerk would establish if this is been removed and replaced at Pershore Bridges
- Cllr Morris advised that the VH had applied for the £10,000 small business grant. Cllr Rowley would check to see if this had been paid yet

6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT – County Cllr Hardman reported:

- 9 out of the 11 Household Recycling Centres in Worcestershire are now open
- Worcestershire has seen a significant increase in the number of Universal Credit applications
- Despite an increase in Covid testing, new cases are still running at around 3 per day compared to 50 per day during the peak although a second spike is expected during September
- Cases in care homes are now stabilising and testing will be increased so that all residents and staff can be tested over the coming weeks.
- Test and Trace has now been launched
- No significant issues with deliveries of PPE
- Comprehensive risk assessments are being carried out in partnership with schools to ensure compliance with guidance. There remains a level of parental anxiety. Attendance at school remains voluntary and on-line learning will continue
- Home to school transport is under review to ensure compliance with social distancing
- Covid restrictions had enabled a review in Adult Services on how service provision can be delivered differently in the future
- Highways maintenance and construction work is re-starting
- WCC staff will continue to work from home for the foreseeable future.

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7. FINANCE – Payments for approval / made since last meeting:

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|-------------------|--|-----|--------|
| Clerks Salary | | SO | 261.36 |
| Clerks Expenses | | SO | 12.00 |
| Zoom Subscription | | 721 | 19.98 |
| Weedkiller | | 722 | 50.00 |
| Brown Bin | | 723 | 49.00 |
| Clerks Salary | | SO | 326.56 |
| Clerks Expenses | | SO | 12.00 |

a) Copies of the accounts had been presented to councillors

Account Balances:

Current A/c (after u/p cheques) **6,350.54**

Deposit Account: **4,928.39**

b) Village Hall Insurance needs to be looked at in conjunction with the ownership of the village hall documents to ensure that there are no issues with it being jointly owned with the parish council

8. HEALTH & SAFETY – Cllr Morris reported that problems with the fire alarms had now been sorted with new sensors in the roof. Check lists have been draw up for all areas

9. COVID-19 UPDATE – The village volunteer scheme is continuing to work well. Face masks have been made by village seamstresses and a letter thanks to all volunteers is to be circulatd via village email account

10. CRIME:

- Neighbourhood Watch – Nothing further to report

11. MATTERS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS / DISCUSSION:

- **Bench Wick Road** – this has now been repaired and stained and thanks have been paid to the two residents who kindly gave up their time to do the repairs

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday July 14th