

Little Comberton Parish Council

2025/07

Parish Council Meeting - Minutes Wednesday 12th March 2025, 7.30pm Village Hall

Parish Councillors Present: N Jamieson, C Rabbette, L Schmitz, D Smaylen, District Cllr B Hardman, County Cllr A. Hardman.

Clerk/RFO: Nicola Harding

In attendance: No parishioners

1. Apologies

Received from Cllr D Smithson & Cllr N Smithson.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations.

3. Parishioner's Comments

There were none received.

4. Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 12th February 2025

Proposed Cllr Smaylen, seconded Cllr Rabbette, all in favour to approve the minutes as a true record.

5. Progress reports from Parish Activities: brief updates:

- a. Lengthsman: The February invoice had been received and footpath works have been completed. The new VAS sign will be rotated to the outer village pole in the next fortnight and speeds analysed for comparison with the inner village location.
Action: Lengthsman/Cllr Jamieson.
- b. Highways: The new village posts have now been installed on entry to the village, completing the parish council's speed initiative project. It was requested that sincere thanks be relayed to BB & WCC Highways colleagues for their support in assisting the parish council with the successful delivery of the scheme. *Action: Clerk.*
The Clerk informed the meeting that the sunken verges on Wick Road, just into Wick Parish, have been reported to WCC Highways and a works order has also been placed to refill the lay-byes in Little Comberton Parish with plainings.
Action: Monitor.
- c. Footpaths/PRoW: Cllrs expressed their sincere thanks to County Cllr Hardman for his support in achieving the successful delivery of the new footway from the village hall to the church. Cllrs were also asked to consider the condition of the remaining village footways – a suggestion was raised and noted by County Cllr Hardman.
- d. Trees: Cllrs discussed latest correspondence received from a parishioner regarding a tree recently re-sited at the memorial garden. A summary of the decision previously agreed by all Cllrs was provided and Cllrs were united in their agreement that a request be made for its removal by 31st March 2025. Alternative locations would be reiterated as a fitting alternative.
Action: Clerk/Cllrs.
- e. 'Our Community Can' WDC initiative: A new 'Dance Fit' session has commenced in Elmley Castle and will be subsidised for twelve weeks. There are no further updates at present regarding the potential for a craft session in Little Comberton, however it was noted that current decoration works at the hall have taken priority. It was suggested that should this activity not go ahead, that villagers be updated. *Action: Monitor.*
- f. Airband: Cllr Jamieson continues to make weekly contact on behalf of the parish council to request the removal of the 14 defunct telegraph poles on Endon Hill. No further responses have been received, however District Cllr Hardman agreed to raise this for potential support from local MP Dame Harriet Baldwin, outlining the protracted length of time in which this issue has been pursued.
Action: County Cllr Hardman/Cllr Jamieson.
- g. Local Police Team: The latest monthly newsletter has been received from the local police team and forwarded to Cllrs. This will be circulated via the village email.
Action: Cllr Jamieson.
It was noted that a continued village presence would be welcome, following a recent visit to the village hall car park by the safer neighbourhood team.
- h. Village Hall Committee: Designs of the new village hall mural are being finalised and a consultation is pending. It was agreed that a future unveiling in celebration of the project would be fitting.
- i. Water testing: Equipment issues have delayed the project, however it was confirmed by a volunteer in Great Comberton parish that an initial group meeting had taken place and testing had commenced.
Action: District Cllr Hardman to continue to follow up and update accordingly.

6. District and County Councillor's reports:**County Cllr:**

- The recently completed footway scheme was well delivered, as detailed in item 5c.
- Local Government Reform continues to dominate, with proposals currently under consideration to present to government.
- The County Council pension scheme shows positive funding @ 142%.

District Cllr:

- A meeting is scheduled at Wychavon next week to present views of unitary proposals to government.
- Cllrs are requested to consider ideas for future village projects, as funding may be available before the current organization of the District Council ends. Firm commitments would need to be presented this year. *Action: Cllrs to consider ideas.*

7. Planning

No applications have been received and there are none pending. The Clerk agreed to forward details of the Bredon View planning application once received by Great Comberton Parish Council, for information.

8. Finance**a) Current Balances at 1st March 2025**

Treasurer's Account:	£12,461.03
TOTAL	£12,461.03

b) Payments to report:

Salary: March 2025	£405.08
*Clerk's expenses: March 25	£12.00
*Village Hall hire: February 25	£13.00
*Lengthsman: February 25	£165.00

TOTAL £595.08

*Payments to be set up online for authorisation.

Cllrs agreed with a proposal to set up a monthly standing order for Clerk's expenses @ £12.00, with effect from 5th April 2025.

9. Correspondence

Worcs. Calc	Details of a free Calc briefing for councillors regarding local government re-organisation for the County on: Monday 31 March 6.30pm, at Pershore Town Hall. https://www.worcscalc.org.uk/council-training/310325 Clerk's training – A refresher session focusing upon Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and statutory documents and their importance; the election and co-option procedure and touching upon neighbourhood plans and planning is scheduled for Wednesday 9 April.
MK	Notification received that the pads for the Little Comberton Defibrillator expire on 31-08-2025. 2 x Adult sets to be purchased in the Summer.
WDC	Notification of £250 funding as a contribution towards events in the communities to mark the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War in Europe, on 8 May 2025. As the funding has been approved, it will be paid automatically into the council bank account on 17 March. Wychavon is also scrapping fees for road closure notices for anyone holding a street party either on Monday 5 May, Thursday 8 May or over the weekend from 9 May to 11 May. <i>It was confirmed that details had been forwarded to the Sports & Social Committee for consideration.</i>

10. Councillor's reports and items for future agenda: Cllrs to consider ideas for future village projects for discussion ahead of the annual parish meeting in May.**11. Date of Next Meeting - Wednesday 9th April 2025 at 7.30 pm**

Signed

Date.....

Chairman