

2018/01

LITTLE COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes from a meeting of the Parish Council, held on Tuesday 16th January 2018 at 7pm.

OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - None

PRESENT – Chairman C Rabbette, Vice chairman J Gough, Cllrs P Morris, S Britten and A Dermont, District Cllr G Mackison and footpath warden P Gough

1. **APOLOGIES** – Cllr J Edwards

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

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

4. **PROGRESS REPORTS**

a) Highway Matters

- Speeding / Speed Data – Cllr Dermont had researched options and costings involved in the purchase and maintenance of a VAS sign. Although our County Cllr had offered a contribution of £500 toward the purchase, the parish council would still be looking to finance at least a further £2,000. It has been made clear by WDC, that New Homes Bonus would not be an option, so we would have to look at possible fundraisers. Another option could be advanced warning signs of the speed limit from Elmley Castle. The clerk would investigate if this is an option. It was suggested and agreed that it may be useful for the parish council to create a sub-committee for speeding. *Action Clerk*
- Pool Close – the situation will continue to be monitored and pressure on County Council to continue.

b) Footpaths/Rights of Way

- Definitive Map Modification Order – Nothing further to report. In hands of CC
- Concerns has been raised with regard access via Double Hedges but some remedial work had been carried out

c) Lengthsman – The clerk was asked to liaise with the LM, regarding the removal of branch from the verge near the junction with the GC turning. *Clerk has since spoke with the LM, and this has been removed.*

d) Planning:

- Great Comberton Golf Club – Refused by WDC, but appeal expected
- Orchard View, Manor Lane – the parish council are aware of a possible breach of planning with regard the fence that has been fixed to Post Box Cottage. The parish council has notified WDC enforcements for their views. *The parish council has since been advised that planning approval is necessary and that WDC will be contacting the owners direct.*

e) BHCG – Nothing to report

f) Ditches/ Water Courses – Following an email sent to all landowners in Little Comberton, the clerk had not heard anything back. The clerk was asked to arrange for G Brienza (WCC) to meet with Chair and Cllr Gough to establish a way forward. The clerk would also liaise with WDC with regard historic communication regarding the ditch from the GC junction, past Porters Cottages, and running towards Pershore. *Action Clerk*

g) New Homes Bonus - £2721 available. It was agreed that this could be spent on a WWII memorial plaque and the phone box renovation, subject to consultation once costs had been clarified.

h) Phone Kiosk – Awaiting quotes for sandblasting and internal renovations *Action Clerk / Cllr Morris*

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i) WWII Memorial – Wording had been approved. Clerk is awaiting reply from Royal British Legion for confirmation of names to be included *Action Clerk*

5. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT** – Attached.

6. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**- None

7. **FINANCE** –

a) Payments for approval / made since last meeting – approved.

1st December	L Yapp		SO	12.00
1st December	L Yapp		SO	258.90
15th December	L Yapp (wine)		610	71.76
15th December	B Arrowsmith		611	144.00
15th December	LCVHT		612	12.00

b) It was agreed that the clerks hours be increased to 28 hours per month. Her salary had not been reviewed or increased for almost 10 years. This was agreed.

c) The clerk had presented the parish council with past years expenditure, the current years estimated expenditure and the forthcoming proposed financial year expenditure. She pointed out that we had kept previous years increases below the 2% threshold, but due to increasing costs, we were at risk of being in a situation whereby we would have to start spending ‘reserves’ just to run the parish council. The parish council has included a ‘contingency’ for lengthsman services, a reserve to build up a ‘tree maintenance’ fund and a contribution to cover the mowing at the churchyard and Memorial Garden. To take into account these additional costs, it was unanimously agreed that the budget requirement for 2018/19 be increased by 4.9%

8. **MATTERS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS / DISCUSSION**

- Re-planting Manor Lane – it was agreed this be reviewed in the Spring, once we have had an opportunity to look at any new growth.
- Land opposite Lantern Cottage – It had been reported to the parish council that high winds over the New Year had caused some damage to trees opposite Lantern Cottage. The landowner had arranged for works to be carried out, but it was suggested that some additional work was still necessary. The clerk would contact the landowner, requesting that additional works were still required
- Wychavon District Council – Community Recognition Awards – the parish council were in agreement that Mr D Saunders (former parish councillor) should be nominated for Volunteer Award, for continually winding the church clock, every week for 50 years. The clerk would speak to Mr Saunders in the first instance before making the formal nomination

8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS: Tuesday 13th February 2018**