

**2018/13**

**GREAT COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes from a meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2018, in the village hall at 7pm.

**PRESENT** – Chair K Collingwood, Vice Chair K Barnes and Cllrs H Peart and S Hickey, County Cllr A Hardman, District Cllr G Mackison, co-option candidate S Inglis and one member of the public

**APOLOGIES** were received from Cllrs S Hamilton and T Pearce

**MINUTES** from previous meeting were approved and signed

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – K Barnes – Rooftop Housing shareholder

**CO-OPTION** – one application had been from S Inglis received to fill the vacancy. There were no objections from those present, proposed Cllr Collingwood, seconded Cllr Hickey – all in favour, and Mrs Inglis joined the meeting

**OPEN FORUM** - Issues brought to the attention of the parish council:

- Footpath – a request made for the styles to be replaced by gates in a couple of places. The clerk was asked to make enquiries if this is possible, either by the County Council or out of the New Homes Bonus

**MATTERS ARISING**

- a) Lengthsman – the clerk reminded Cllrs what the role of the LM was, and that it was not to undertake ‘cosmetic’ works i.e. leaf sweeping (unless obstructing a water course/drain)
- b) Police – The clerk advised that there had been a break-in in Little Comberton, a stolen vehicle had ended up in Little Comberton with further vehicle thefts in Elmley Castle. District Cllr Mackison advised that there would be a meeting in the New Year with the Police and Crime Commissioner, John Campion
- c) Footpaths – Footpath rear of Vectris House – this has now been cleared
- d) New Homes Bonus – currently stands at £4642. Cllr Mackison reported on the newly introduced Community Legacy Grant Fund
- e) Rooftop Housing – Cllr Barnes reported:
  - Playground – discussion with residents of Hands Orchard suggested that they would prefer to see the same type of equipment, and not ‘keep fit’ type equipment
  - Motorbike was causing a disturbance locally. It was suggested that this be reported to Regulatory Services
  - Repairs to Footpath – this had been put back until later in the financial year
- f) Sign at the Quay (Avon Navigation Trust) – Following several emails to ANT with no response, the intrusive sign is still in place. It was agreed that the clerk write to them, asking for the sign to be removed within 30 days, or the parish council will remove it and ask ANT to come and collect it

**COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT** – County Cllr Hardman reported:

- The previously suggested deficit in CC funds would not be as severe as first thought
- Russell Street drainage issues had been dealt with
- Repairs to footway is on ‘the list’ but no timescale offered
- Cotswolds AONB is being considered for National Park status

**2018/1**

**DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT** - District Cllr Mackison advised:

- A new leader of the Council had been announced, Bradley Thomas
- Community Legacy Scheme – a new £3 million fund to assist with ‘innovative, ambitious and viable’ capital projects. Clerk to check whether this could be used to purchase Brailles Orchard, if the church was willing to sell.
- Pershore Station – work to start soon to extend the platform length at Pershore Station, enabling longer trains to stop at Pershore without the need for passengers to ‘move down the train’ to disembark
- Refuse Collections – changes had been introduced to waste collections

Full report available from the clerk

**PLANNING**

- 18/02127 – Hollyoaks Nursery – Provision of 5 x accommodation units it was agreed that the parish council should comment on the application with concerns regarding the ongoing incremental planning application, ‘drip-feeding’ on to the site, and the fact that the seasonal works are likely to be pedestrians and that there are no footways along a potentially dangerous stretch of highway
- SWDP – Cllr Collingwood had met with Harriet Baldwin. Main points of discussion included the poor quality of design and layout due to caravan sites not being classed as development and therefore outside the normal policies. It was agreed that she and Councillor Mackison could meet Andrew Ford to query whether the caravans at the Golf Club should be classed as permanent rather than temporary, and to try to have policies in the SWDP covering them strengthened. It had also been identified that Brailles Orchard had been put forward in the recent ‘call for sites’. There is nothing to indicate who had put the Orchard forward, and NO decision has been made as to its suitability. There is an open exhibition in Pershore Town Hall on 21<sup>st</sup> November

**FINANCE**

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

Cerks Salary s/fall	657	9.76
Youth Bus Donation	658	25.00
Lengthsman	659	120.00
ICO Fees	660	40.00
Lengthsman	661	144.00
Brailles Orchard	662	100.00

**YOUTH BUS** – A donation from the Flower Show had been made available for the Youth Bus’s costs. The clerk advised that there had been problems with the bus parking in the lay-by, near the phone box, and that residents had complained if the bus was parked in the road. It was agreed that once we had received notification of future visit dates, a polite notice would be placed on cars using the lay-by, asking owners to keep the space clear on said date for the short period that the bus would be there. It was agreed that a number of children benefitted from using the Youth Bus and that we should continue to encourage its use.

**AOB/ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

- Bus Service – the clerk advised that the future of public transport in Great Comberton was at risk due to the lack of use. Two councillors present reported of issues they had experienced. New timetables are on display in the phone box and on the notice board

- Cllr Attendance – Cllr Collingwood reminded councillors of the importance of regular attendance, and the fact that at best, we had been just about quorate on most occasions of late. This made it difficult to give important issues, i.e. SWDP and controversial planning applications proper consideration
- Councillor Inglis was requested to forward the web link for the Parish website to all residents and inform them that minutes and agendas could be found there as well as on the village notice board.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 at 7pm