

**2019/15**

**LITTLE COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes from a meeting of the Parish Council, held in the village hall on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 7pm

**PRESENT** – Chairman C Rabbette, Vice Chairman M Kibble, Cllrs S Britten and A Dermont, County Cllr A Hardman, and two members of the public – Mr Jamieson was in attendance as an observer with a view to being co-opted onto the parish council at the next meeting

**OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** – Points raised by one parishioner in attendance:

- Dog waste bins – in view of the recent notice in the LINK, it was considered that the parish council should be taking the issue of dog fouling seriously and that the purchase of at least one dog waste bin was needed. This was agreed by all present and lengthy discussion took place with regard location, either by the steps adjacent to Well Furlong, or the Conker Tree path. During the discussion it was suggested that our County Cllr may be prepared to assist with the finance. *County Cllr Hardman joined the meeting after discussion had taken place, and the question was asked as to whether he would be able to offer some financial contribution. He advised that he would be able to fully fund one bin, to which the parish council thanked him.* In the first instance the clerk would contact the landowner at Well Furlong to see if he had any objections to a waste bin being sited adjacent to his land.
- Lengthsman – concerns were raised that the lengthsman was not seen in and around the village. The clerk did point out that he often attended early in the day but would make a point of reviewing the works carried out. Specific attention to be paid to grips and an overgrown culvert in Manor Lane. It was also pointed out that there was standing water near Marybrook, on the way into Pershore. The clerk reminded the council that there had been an issue in the past regarding overgrowth of a small coppice which had been attended to by the landowners, some years ago. This would be looked at again.

1. **APOLOGIES** were received from Cllr Morris

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

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

4. **PROGRESS REPORTS**

5.

a) Highway Matters

- Speeding / Speed Data – following lengthy emails and phone calls between the parish council and Swarco, they had admitted that they were having problems with the model of sign we had purchased. They had offered a replacement, to which the parish council replied that this would only be acceptable on the following terms:
  - *A brand new (not refurbished) VAS, with bluetooth connectivity and all the functionality of the existing sign*
  - *12 months warranty*
  - *For this to be installed and commissioned by a Swarco engineer in the presence of our Cllr(s)*
  - *A 3-month 'trial' period to enable us to ensure that the sign is working effectively (with particular regard to night-time brightness levels and battery life between charges).*

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- *If, at the end of the 3-month period, we are not 100% happy, the sign to be removed/returned, at the expense of Swarco and a FULL refund within 14-days from the date of request of removal*

Swarco have agreed to the above and we are waiting for them to get back to us with a date for delivery and attendance on site

- Pool Close – An ongoing problem. Cllr Hardman advised that he had received a phone call from a resident in Pool Close regarding the poor condition and admitted there was a need for some top dressing. It was hoped to be on the list for the next financial years' budget
- b) Footpaths/Rights of Way – it was reported that the path on the left hand side, going out of the village towards Elmley Castle had been cleared. In the absence of the Footpath Warden, Cllr Britten advised that following a recent notice in the LINK for a 'deputy' to assist the FW, a village resident had come forward and was now assisting. It was raised that the footpath from the back of Grange Farm across to Old House Farm was overgrown. The clerk would take this up with the FW
- c) Lengthsman – Covered above in Public Question / Open Forum
- d) Planning -
- Fence at Orchard View, Manor Lane – Still with Wychavon District Council enforcement officers – the clerk was asked to chase this up
  - 19/00627 – Hickley Piece – Change of use of agricultural land to residential curtilage, construction of 3-bay garage and resiting of existing hedgerow – *approved by WDC*
  - SWDP – nothing to report
- e) BHCG – next meeting October 17th
- f) Ditches/ Water Courses – Cllr Rabbette had met with Cllr Hardman and another representative from WCC, along with two parishioners at the junction with the Great Comberton road, raising concerns about the unfinished work to replace the culvert under the road, due to a gas main being located. Cllr Hardman found it unacceptable that the WCC representative in attendance was not the engineer responsible for drainage works and that the meeting should really have been held when the drainage engineer was available. Cllr Hardman advise that due to holidays neither WCC representatives were available for several weeks. Clerk to chase if no response by the end of June
- g) Phone box – The exterior has been re-painted and now ready for the internal works to be carried out. The clerk would speak to the person carrying out the works. It was agreed that 3 additional signs be ordered, 1 for *Information*, and 2 for *Book Exchange* – the clerk to organise

### 6. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT – nothing to report

### 7. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT – In addition to comments made on agenda items, Cllr Hardman advised that a Transport Review, with a 12-week consultation period, is to commence on 6<sup>th</sup> June. He recommended the parish council make comments

### 8. FINANCE –

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

Hall Hire		673	13.00
Lengthsman (April)		674	144.00
Grass Cutting		675	125.00
Brown Bin		676	48.00
Lengthsman (May)		677	144.00
Internal Audit		678	120.00

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- b) Copies of the accounts had been presented to councillors

Account Balances:

Current A/c (after u/p cheques)           4915.82

Deposit Account:                               4919.30

- c) Annual Return – Internal Audit – this had been carried out and no issues raised
- d) Certificate of Exemption was signed – proposed Cllr Rabbette, seconded Cllr Kibble – all in favour
- e) Annual Return Part 2 – Section 1 Annual Governance Statements – this was reviewed with supporting documents, agreed and signed. Approval proposed Cllr Rabbette, seconded Cllr Dermont – all in favour
- f) Annual Return Part 2 – Section 2 Accounting Statements – these had been reviewed with supporting documents, agreed and signed. Approval proposed Cllr Britten, seconded Cllr Kibble – all in favour

### **9. HEALTH & SAFETY** – Nothing to report

**10. TREE AT MEMORIAL GARDEN** - following the recent falling of a branch it was agreed at the last meeting that a report be made of the condition of the trees and the banding on one of the trees for stability. This has been organised and we are awaiting the report.

### **11. CRIME :**

- Neighbourhood Watch – One resident had come forward and was willing to organise the NW in the village. A meeting is to be organised with the NW co-ordinator from Elmley Castle in the next few weeks. *This has now been scheduled for 18<sup>th</sup> June*

### **12. MATTERS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS / DISCUSSION :**

- **Cllr Training** – the clerk would ask Elmley Castle Parish Council if there was capacity for other Cllrs to join their arranged group session
- **Bonfires** – Still an ongoing problem and to kept on the agenda
- **Co-Option** – Interest had been received from Mr Jamieson to fill one of the seats on the parish council. There were no objections to this and would be formalised at the next meeting

### **13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2019