

**COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on**  
**Wednesday 14 October 2016 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm**

Members present:	Mr H Griffiths (Chairman) <sup>(HG)</sup>	Ms L Tatnell <sup>(LT)</sup>
Councillors:	Mrs A Barford <sup>(AB)</sup>	Mr N Taylor <sup>(NT)</sup>
	Mr A Hollick <sup>(AH)</sup>	Mr M Tebbit <sup>(MT)</sup>
	Mr S Moffat <sup>(SM)</sup>	Ms C Urquhart <sup>(CU)</sup>
	Mrs J Preston <sup>(JP)</sup>	Miss C Westgarth <sup>(CW)</sup>
	Mr T Scott <sup>(TS)</sup>	

In attendance: 6 members of the public including M Cassey (Nascenta), and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

**1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest**

- 1.1 To receive written apologies for absence and reasons  
 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr McCabe (unwell).
- 1.2 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda and details of any dispensations held  
 None.
- 2.3 To receive written requests for dispensations for interests and to grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate (if any)  
 None.

**Comments & observations from members of the public and County and District Councillor reports**

Sandra Hyde, President of Comberton WI, spoke about the defibrillator proposal. She stressed the importance of the equipment being fully accessible at all times, rather than located inside the Village Hall, and urged the Council to ensure that the village had access and knew where it was.

Cllr Moffat arrived at 7.34 pm.

Cllr Scott, as District Councillor, spoke to his previously circulated written report, which covered:

- A meeting with the Head of Comberton Village College and the possibility that pupils from Gamlingay Village College might be transferred and bussed to Comberton next year.
- The implications of photographs being placed on the SCDC planning website.
- A broken street sign at Swaynes Lane has been replaced.
- The City Deal and the proposals for a new busway, (route not yet decided) with an associated Park and Ride site, a possible station at Addenbrookes campus and a possible slip road for buses off the northbound M11 at junction 11.

Cllr Tebbit arrived during this item at 7.36 pm.

**2. Co-option to fill casual vacancy**

RESOLVED having considered an application from Naomi Jill Feldman, to co-opt Ms Feldman as a member of the Parish Council in her absence. <sup>(Prop CW, 2nd TS, unanimous)</sup>

**3. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 14 September 2016**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 14 September be approved and signed by the Chairman after correcting the spelling of “Nascenta” under item 5.1, and an amendment to item 5.4 to read “new Deputy Convenor of the Tree Group in Cllr McCabe’s absence.” (Prop CW, 2nd LT, unanimous)

**4. Matters arising or carried forward from the meeting or a previous meeting for discussion or decision and to note the Clerk’s report**

The Clerk’s report, which included background to items on the agenda and matters arising, was noted.

4.1 (5.1) Nascenta website proposal – to consider the Webmaster’s response

RESOLVED to accept the proposal from Richard Elleray to redevelop the website free of charge, and to thank Nascenta for their proposal. (Prop SM, 2nd CW, carried with 1 abstention)

4.2 (5.1) The Causeway – to consider the proposal for the installation of bollards  
Cllr Westgarth declared an interest as a Church Warden.

On a proposition by the Chairman, the meeting was briefly suspended at 7.50 pm to enable the residents to comment. It was suggested that the Church should also ask vehicles to avoid the Causeway, as they did. The meeting resumed at 7.51 pm.

RESOLVED having considered responses from Revd Booker and the residents, and the residents’ suggestion for a sign reading “No vehicular access except for residents that the Parish Council agrees in principle to the installation of a lockable wooden bollard, visible but in keeping with the surroundings, on the Causeway, set back from the road by a car’s depth to allow for locking and unlocking, with keys issued to the Vicar, Church Wardens and the residents, in order to protect the cobbles and prevent vehicles churning up and damaging the Causeway. (Prop SM, 2nd NT, carried with 9 in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention)

RESOLVED to write to CCC Highways to obtain their permission for the installation and positioning of the bollard.

On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to take items 4.7 and 6.1 together at this point.

4.7 (7.5) Football Club request for a net to prevent the loss of balls and request to remove a section of the hedge to let goals through

RESOLVED that the hedge had been cut and and looked very good.

A quotation from Buchans was considered.

RESOLVED to decline the request for nets to be erected.

RESOLVED, noting that when the extension was created the Parish Council intended to remove a piece of the hedging of about 6 feet, up to the dog bin, that the Council should agree to the removal of a section of the hedge as described provided that there is no cost to the Parish Council. (Prop NT, 2nd SM, carried with 2 abstentions)

- 6.1 To consider the request for a storage container for the recreation ground and associated planning permission  
RESOLVED following a general discussion of possible sites and the relative costs of rental or purchase, to in principle to the installation of a container for the storage of items including goals currently stored in the Pavilion, subject to: establishing the exact size required; whether the goals come apart; the recommendation of the Recreation Working Group as to where it should be sited; and the costs for the containers and for obtaining planning permission; and sources of funding, that Cllr Scott should make enquiries and bring a report and recommendation to the next meeting. (Prop CW, 2nd SM, unanimous)
- 4.3 (5.4) To consider quotations to remove Hillfield Road cherry tree  
RESOLVED having considered two quotations, to consult with residents and seek their views as to the removal of the cherry tree, which has become very large and is overhanging the path, and to defer this matter to the next meeting. (Prop LT, 2nd NT, carried with 1 abstention)
- 4.4 (5.6) Normandy Close weeds and landscaping – to consider quotes if received  
RESOLVED to defer this item to the next meeting as quotations Cllr Taylor was still waiting for quotations.
- 4.5 (6.0) To consider quotation for slide rail, safety surfacing and dome edging  
RESOLVED to accept the quotation from RPM for £490.00 plus VAT to repair the safety surfacing and to seek additional quotes for the slide hand rail and dome timber edging. (Prop CW, 2nd AH, unanimous)  
RESOLVED that Cllr Tatnell should speak to both schools to draw their attention to the damage that had occurred.
- 4.6 (7.4) Pension provision – to consider alternative quotation if received and information on NEST scheme (confidential)  
On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to take this item at the end of the meeting.
- 4.7 (7.5) Football Club request for a net to prevent the loss of balls and request to remove a section of the hedge to let goals through  
Taken earlier.
- 4.8 (7.6) Funding of ongoing maintenance for play equipment  
RESOLVED that the Parish Council should fund the ongoing maintenance of the play equipment using S106 money. (Prop SM, 2nd LT, unanimous) The Parish Council noted that future maintenance should be borne in mind in relation to future projects.
- 4.9 (7.11) Transport Working Group (TWG) progress report on the proposed speed reduction in the various village-wide locations and considers how this should be funded and the next steps  
RESOLVED, having considered the funding implications for the current year's budget, and the advice of the Clerk, noting that the current provision could be regarded as seed corn funding, that the Transport Working Group assisted by Cllr Urquhart should develop the project plan and funding proposal for further consideration in the light of next year's budget.
- Cllr Moffat left the meeting briefly at 8.55 pm and returned at 8.58 pm.

- 4.10 (8.7) Highway Improvement Scheme invitation to bid  
 Cllr Scott left the meeting at 9.00 pm. Cllr Tatnell left the meeting briefly at 9.00 pm and returned a few minutes later.

The possibility of a pedestrian crossing by the Meridian School was raised. It was observed that vehicles exiting Woottens Road could not see cars approaching from the crossroads direction due to parked cars. It was noted that anyone could report problems and safety issues directly to Highways via the CCC website.

## 5. Finance, procedure & risk assessment

RESOLVED to note the completion of the Annual Audit by PKF Littlejohn LLP and their report which was read by the Chairman.

- 5.1 To receive the financial report and to approve the payment of bills  
 RESOLVED to receive the financial report and that this be checked against the invoices and statements before the cheques are signed at the end of the meeting.

RESOLVED <sup>(Prop NT, 2nd AH, unanimous)</sup> that the payments as listed in the financial report should be paid, plus Buchans (grass cutting) £1363.56, CAPALC (catch up day) £30.00 and EON (Direct Debit - electricity) £84.95.

Salary	£294.51
LGS Services (Admin support)	£1529.02
Buchans (Grass cutting)	£965.76
Paul Hardy (TWG mapping)	£200.00
Westcotec (Speed camera speed indicator)	£2880.00
CAPALC (Training)	£10.00
PKF Littlejohn (Audit)	£360.00

Credits including VAT reclaims, pitch hire fees, key deposit and the precept were noted.

- 5.2 Clerk's report on any use of delegated powers  
 None.

## 6. To receive reports and recommendations from committees, working groups and members

- 6.1 To consider the request for a storage container for the recreation ground and associated planning permission  
 Taken earlier.

## 7. To consider matters arising out of correspondence/communications received

- 7.1 Resident – complaint about nuisance dogs  
 RESOLVED following complaints by residents about dogs continually barking, to write to Environmental Health to raise the concerns and ask that they monitor the situation. <sup>(Prop CW, 2nd JP, carried with 8 in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention)</sup>

7.2 CCC Flood questionnaire

It was observed that one day of rain had recently resulted in large tankers clearing the sewage in Bush Close continuously for three days. Concerns were expressed about the potential effect of another 90 houses placing pressure on the sewerage system in Swaynes Lane and Bush Close, and the capacity of the pumping station to cope. The continual movement of the lorries were intrusive and noisy. It was felt the possibility of another pumping station to pump water to Haslingfield would only shift the problem to another location. A proposal to write to Anglian Water and the Planning Officers expressing the Council’s concerns and urging them to consider flooding and sewage very carefully when considering planning applications, will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

RESOLVED to complete and return the questionnaire. (Prop NT, 2nd AB, unanimous)

7.3 Herringland offer of two benches

RESOLVED gratefully to accept the offer of two benches from the Herringland Trustees, for a cost of £300.00 installed, to be placed in Watts Wood, and to place the order for two sleeper style benches with John Boocock of Barton. (Prop LT, 2nd AH, unanimous)

4.6 (7.4) Pension provision – to consider alternative quotation if received and information on NEST scheme (confidential)

At 9.20 pm, on a proposition by the Chairman, carried unopposed, in accordance with S1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, that is, employment matters, the public were temporarily excluded from the meeting and were instructed to withdraw. No members of the public remained. The Minutes Secretary left the meeting and did not return.

At 9.40 pm, the meeting was re-opened to the public.

8. **Closure of meeting**

There was no further business and the meeting was declared closed at 9.40 pm.

Signed .....Chairman .....date

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