

COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Draft minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 14th April 2020 at 7.30 pm, online via Zoom.

In attendance: Cllr Griffiths (Chairman),
Cllr Scott (Vice Chairman), Cllr Tierney, Cllr Feldman,
Cllr Hollick, Cllr Moffat, Cllr McCabe, Cllr Martin,
Cllr Elleray & Cllr Westgarth.



District Councillor: Ian Sollom

Members of the Public: Two – including Mrs Crang speaking about 'Time to Talk'

Clerk: A Bridges

The meeting held one minute's silence as a mark of respect to HRH Prince Phillip.

1. Chairman's Welcome

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

2. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Black. It was noted that Cllr Abraham had given her resignation with immediate effect. Cllr Abraham was thanked for all her work for the Parish Council.

3. To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda and details of any dispensations held.

Cllr Griffiths stated that he was a member of the congregation St Mary's. No further action needed.

4. Comments & observations from members of the public & County and District Councillor Reports

District Councillor Ian Sollom spoke about the current consultation with EWR. He highlighted the need for residents and the Parish Council to remain focused on local issues that may arise if the southern route is chosen by EWR. He felt that this was as important as campaigning for an alternative route.

Cllr Hollick asked about the likelihood of having a train station in Comberton. Cllr Sollom confirmed that EWR haven been clear that there will not be any stations between Cambourne and Cambridge. Cllr Sollom also felt that a new station would also bring new homes and felt this to be inappropriate for Comberton.

Cllr Scott asked about the five-year housing plan from SCDC and if it would involve larger developments or a smaller number of homes scattered in villages. Cllr Sollom confirmed that there no draft proposal yet and would update the meeting accordingly.

Cllr Sollom was thanked for his support for the EWR issues.

Mrs Crang introduced herself as representing the new initiative called the 'Time to Talk Listening Service'. She explained this had been set up in partnership with the local GP partnership, who would refer patients who needed support from a nonclinical listening service. The initiative was asking for donations to train more volunteers.

Cllr McCabe asked if some residents would be less inclined to use the service as it was run by the church. Mrs Crang explained that most users would be referred by the GP and that it addressed a need to offer more local support, especially after raised anxieties from Covid times. Cllr Martin enquired about potential numbers using the service. Mrs Crang said it was currently in a pilot stage and just one 'listener' and this will be reviewed before being expanded. The first review would be after three months with five clients.

Cllr Hollick asked if there was a need for this service, as there were other national organisations providing support - for example, the Samaritans. He also asked if local people would feel comfortable sharing their concerns with someone in the village. Mrs Crang confirmed that the service would be for users with much less complex needs than the Samaritans and they would aim to keep the service anonymous. She felt that by increasing the number of trained listeners, the less likely that the 'listener' would be known to the client. Mrs Crang also stated that there will be triaging for those with complex needs and they will work closely with the GP surgery. Cllr Hollick lastly asked why this was not a voluntary organisation. Mrs Crang confirmed that it was run on a voluntary basis, and the expense was for training only. Cllr Griffiths asked the level of funding required and Mrs Crang explained that it cost £180 each and they wanted to train six volunteers. The supervision is £45 a session.

Cllr Tierney expressed his support for this service and agreed that it had great potential to fill a gap for those who need support.

The Chair moved item 14.1 to the next agenda item.

14.1 Request for donating to the GP/St Mary's Church 'Listening Service'.

The Clerk confirmed the Parish Council have the legal authority to allow donations in this manner and this had been clarified by the SLCC.

Cllr Westgarth **proposed** that that the Parish Council will offer funding in principle (after its review), and this was **seconded** by Cllr Martin. **All agreed.**

Mrs Crang agreed to give an update after the review and left the meeting.

5. To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 10th March 2021

It was **proposed** by Cllr Elleray, **seconded** by Cllr McCabe to approve the minutes. **All agreed** with two abstentions due to absence.

6. Matters arising or carried forward from the last meeting or a previous meeting and to note the Clerk's report.

The Clerk stated that Community Heartbeat had confirmed that the current access to the defibrillator was acceptable. A virtual training date would be arranged shortly as staff sickness had delayed training.

Cllr Tierney updated the meeting by speaking about the recent Pond Working Group meeting. During this, they successfully fixed a manhole cover and gained interest from two potential new members.

Cllr Tierney also spoke of his recent training on the Gypsy Roma Traveller Inclusion Workshop, run by SCDC. Cllr Tierney described the lack of places for travelling families and the emphasis in the workshop of being supportive of different cultures and recognising diversity in every community.

Rev. David Newton entered the meeting at 8.25pm and it was explained that item 14.1 had been agreed. He thanked the Parish Council and left the meeting.

Cllr Feldman expressed her thanks to the resident who donated the new tree on the bank of the pond. It was **agreed** that the resident should be thanked in the next Contact Magazine.

7. **To confirm details of the Annual Parish Council Meeting 2021** – The Clerk confirmed that current legislation meant that virtual Parish Council meetings were not permitted after May 7th. The Parish Council agreed that the Annual Parish Council Meeting would be on May 4th at 7.30pm, subject to no further changes in the law.

8. **To confirm details of the Annual Parish Meeting on May 5th 2021,**

Action: Clerk to distribute a list of potential village groups to invite to the Annual Parish Meeting to the Parish Council.

9. **To discuss Clerks CiLCA training**

The Chair proposed that Item 9 was to be moved to end of meeting and Cllr Westgarth seconded this. **All agreed.**

10. **To discuss Cambridgeshire Local Initiative from Cambridgeshire County Council**

Cllr Tierney discussed the workshop he had recently attended, which focused on engaging with residents and bringing communities together. This included setting up time banks, good neighbourhood groups, repair cafes and street parties. It was agreed by all to be revisited in the June Parish Council meeting.

11. **Planning Matters**

8.1 To receive a report from the Planning Committee.

No comments.

12. **Finance, procedure and risk assessment**

12.1 To receive the finance report and to approve the payment of accounts (list of invoices to be listed at the end of the agenda).

The Clerk informed the meeting that an extra payment was added to the payments. This was to reimburse a resident who bought plants for the village crossroads (£34.98). Cllr McCabe asked if the Clerk could thank the resident for this work, which was **agreed** by all. It was **proposed** by Cllr Elleray, **seconded** by Cllr Martin and **resolved** that the payments are approved.

12.2 To approve an additional five signs for EWR at £37.37 each

Cllr McCabe queried if further signs were needed. Cllr Moffatt felt that the impact of signs in neighbouring villages was much greater and he felt that increased awareness of the potential impact of EWR on the village was needed.

It was **proposed** by Cllr Moffatt and **seconded** by Cllr Tierney to purchase five more signs. **All agreed** with one abstention.

12.3 To note late payments of Cambridge Water – July 2020-January 2021

The Clerk confirmed that this was due to a change of billing address. Payment noted.

12.4 To approve costs of two hourly clean of the pavilion from 29th March until June 21st at £15 an hour - £360.

The Clerk confirmed that the Pavilion required extra cleaning during this time, to ensure it meets Covid secure guidelines. It was **proposed** by Cllr Martin, **seconded** by Cllr Elleray and **agreed** by all.

12.5 To approve tree works at Baker Close at £228

It was **proposed** by Cllr Griffiths, **seconded** by Cllr Feldman, and **agreed** by all to accept the quote.

13. To receive reports and items from committees, working groups and members for information:

13.1 LDP Working Group

No further updates.

13.2 East West Railway Working Group report.

Cllr Moffatt spoke of the current consultation from EWR and felt that more information and awareness was needed. It was agreed that this should be included in the next Contact publication.

13.3 C2C Busway Working Group report

No updates

13.4 Recreation Ground Working Group report

Cllr Martin confirmed that the group had been involved in collecting quotes for the tennis courts and for updating the pavilion with minor repairs.

14. To consider correspondence/communications received

14.1 As above

14.2 An update on Lot Way footpath – Cllr Westgarth stated that she had not had any contact from the farmer to discuss this further. Cllr McCabe asked if the PC could write to landowners to see if they would consider permissive paths around the village. This was agreed to be reconsidered at the June Parish Council meeting, if discussions had not taken place verbally before then.

14.3 Exercise classes on recreation ground fee - Cllr Martin **proposed** that a £10 charge would be applicable (to small groups up to 10) and this was **seconded** by Cllr Hollick. It was agreed that two sessions per week could be covered under that fee. **All agreed.**

14.4 'Post Lockdown' village party – It was felt by Cllr Westgarth and Cllr Tierney that promoting a post lockdown party should be delayed until further notice as Covid is still prevalent, and the government is still advising caution.

15. Motion to Exclude the Public and Press

That the public (including representatives of the press) be excluded during the consideration of the remaining item No 15 because it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during the item(s) there would be disclosure to them of exempt information of Category 1 & 2 Part 1 Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

16. Business Matters

The Parish Council agreed on a contract to a potential catering business, to be situated by the pavilion. This will be reviewed every six months.

17. Employment Matters

The Parish Council agreed to offer the role to a suitable candidate.

9. To discuss Clerks CiLCA training

The Parish Council agreed to pay the Clerk and additional four hours per week, whilst the course is ongoing.

18. Motion to Re-Admit the public and Press

To resolve that the confidential business having been concluded, the press and public are re-admitted to the meeting.

19. Closure of meeting – the meeting finished at 9.36pm.

Date of next meeting – Annual Parish Council Meeting 4th May via Zoom

Annual Parish Meeting 5th May via Zoom.