

**Minutes of the Meeting of Comberbach Parish Council held on
Tuesday 21st January 2020 at Comberbach Memorial Hall**

Present

Mr J Ryder (Chairman in the Chair)
Mr J Bradley
Mrs R Bradley
Mrs J Johnston

Ms DJ French (Clerk)
Mr S Penwill (RFO)

The Meeting started at 7.15pm.

1. Public Open Forum

No Members of the Public were present.

2. Apologies for absence were received and approved from Mr S Hornby (illness) and Mr R Holt (family reasons) and CWAC Councillors L Gibbon, P Marshall and N Wright

3. To receive Members' Declarations of Interest – none

4. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10th December 2019

(20/01) RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2019 be approved as a correct record.

5. Parish Council budget and precept 2020-21

The Parish Council considered the draft budget and precept options, together with the recommendations of Finance Committee.

(20/02) RESOLVED

That:

- (a) the draft budget, as submitted, be approved; and
- (b) a precept request of £22,212.00 be submitted to Cheshire West and Chester Council which maintains the same Band D charge as the previous year and represents an increase of 1.4% over 2019/20 which will cover unavoidable inflation in Council costs.

6. Progress Reports and Updates

6.1 New signs for Comberbach – the design of the new signs had been approved by both the Parish Council and Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWAC). The sizing had been checked and it was recommended that additional posts be purchased for the sign on Marbury Road.

6.2 New noticeboard – a new noticeboard had been purchased and was intended to be located at the Primary School; it would be for use by all the community.

Pending a decision about where to locate the noticeboard on the School site, Members discussed using the new noticeboard to replace the old noticeboard at the Recreation Area car park which was in a poor state of repair. There was money in the budget for further noticeboards and another one could be purchased for the School site in due course.

6.3 Request for financial support to purchase replacement pads for the defib at the Primary School - the Clerk had contacted the Primary School with a request for further information regarding whether or not the school had budget provision for replacement unit and battery pack.

6.4 Letter to CWAC Chief Executive regarding highways matters in the village – the Clerk advised that a letter had been drafted.

(20/03) RESOLVED: That:

(a) five new gateway signs be ordered from the signage company and two sets of new poles be ordered from CWAC for the signs on Budworth Lane and Marbury Road;

(b) the new noticeboard already purchased be installed on Marbury Road by the bus stop to be easily visible from the footpath and a noticeboard to be located on the school site be considered when further information is received from the school regarding location;

(c) the Clerk contact the Primary School to seek a response about whether or not the school had made budget provision for a replacement unit and battery pack for the Defib Unit; and

(e) the letter to the Chief Executive of Cheshire West and Chester Council regarding various highways matters in the village be sent once comments have been received from Councillors.

7. Cheshire West and Chester Councillors' reports

In the absence of CWAC Councillors there was no update. Members had noted that speed monitors had been installed on Burgamot Lane and Cogshall Lane.

8. Finance Committee

(20/04) RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of Finance Committee held on 9th January be received.

9. Planning

9.1 Planning decisions were listed in Appendix 3.

9.2 There were no enforcement matters.

(20/05) RESOLVED: That the planning update be noted.

10. Recreation Area

10.1. Recreation Area Update – the Chairman updated: due to the weather the path and grassed areas were very wet and muddy; this was due to the water table which meant there was nowhere for excess water to drain off to. He and a volunteer had carried out a repair to the fence. A quote to supply and install replacement footboards on the Junior Multiplay area had been received from Northwich Town Council. In view of the level of the quote the Chairman suggested seeking an additional quote. The RFO confirmed that the Financial Regulations would require seeking at least 2 quotes. Northwich Town Council had also quoted to repair the swings.

10.2 The Clerk had authorised expenditure of £50 for the purchase of wood filler for repairs to equipment and feature pencils; the Chairman would undertake the work shortly.

10.3 It was suggested that when a quote was sought from an alternative company for repairs to the footboards on the Junior Multiplay area the company be asked about proposed solutions to the flooding issues at the footpath.

10.4 Northwich Town Council had quoted for the annual Play Area inspection.

(20/06) RESOLVED: That:

- (a) the update on the Recreation Area be noted;
- (b) advice and a further quote be sought for the repairs identified at the Junior Multiplay area; any company asked to quote be also asked to offer solutions to the flooding issues at the footpath;
- (c) the repair to the swings in the sum of £98 be approved;
- (d) the expenditure authorised by the Clerk in the sum of £50 for wood filler be noted;
- (e) the SLA with Northwich Town Council for inspections of the Play Area in the sum of £196 be approved; and
- (f) the options around the flooding issues on the footpath be considered further at the next meeting.

11. Accounts and Finances

11.1 The Parish Council accounts to 31st December were submitted at Appendix 1.

11.2 The list of payments was in Appendix 2.

(20/07) RESOLVED: That

- (a) the accounts in Appendix 1 with a balance of £12,800.48 and £42,821.55 in reserves be noted; and
- (b) the payments in Appendix 2 be approved.

12. Representative Reports

- (i) Parishioner issues from the open forum or from contacting the clerk – all covered on the agenda.
- (ii) Newsletter Group – none
- (iii) Comberbach Memorial Hall and Bowling Club – Councillor R Bradley reported that she was retiring from the Memorial Hall Management Committee. She also reported on an initiative to make the Hall shed part of the ‘Men in Sheds’ project.
- (iv) Fete Committee – none.
- (v) School – none.

(20/08) RESOLVED: that the updates be received.

13. Correspondence

The list of correspondence was received. The Clerk drew Members’ attention to the consultations on ‘Local Cycling and Infrastructure’, Liverpool John Lennon Airport Airspace Change Programme and an additional consultation recently received from the Police and Crime Commissioner. There had also been a request from Cheshire West and Chester Council for information on planned commemorations for VE Day.

(20/09) RESOLVED: That:

- (a) the correspondence be noted; and
- (b) the Clerk contact the primary school and all local groups to ascertain whether they have any plans regarding VE Day and if not, whether they would be interested in participating in any commemorative events that the Council may wish to organise.

Part 2

None

The Meeting closed at 8.10pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 10th March 2020.

Signed
Chairman

Appendix 1 Accounts for 31st December 2019 were approved

Current account: £12,800.48	Reserves: £42,821.55
Cash book : £11,134.69	Unpresented cheques: 4 cheque

Appendix 2 Payments

Item	Amount	Cheque	Power
HMRC – PAYE Quarter 3	253.20	22623	LGA 1972 s 111
RFO (DSG Retail) Clerk laptop	649.00	22624	LGA 1972 s 111
RFO – stationery, ink, stamps	55.41	22625	LGA 1972 s 111
Synchroprint – January newsletter	170.00	22626	LGA 1972 s 111
S Ross – winter maintenance	250.00	22627	LGA 1972 s 111

Appendix 2b Payments since last meeting

Item	Amount	Cheque	Power
Comberbach Memorial Hall – Open Day catering	50.00	22622	LGA 1972 S111

Appendix 3 Recent planning decisions by CW&C

19/01511/FUL - Change of use from agricultural barn to 3No holiday let, Ivy Lodge Farm	Approved
19/03064/FUL - Demolition of existing garage and erection of two storey dwelling, Comberbach Sorting Office 12 Senna Lane	Pending
19/03228/FUL - Demolition of existing garage and conservatory, erection of rear extension, roof alterations to create	Pending

first floor, single storey side extension and front porch canopy, 37 Senna Lane	
19/04150/S73 – variation of condition 2 (plans) of planning permission 17/04952/FUL, 25 Senna Lane	Pending
19/04094/FUL - Single storey extensions to front and rear and two storey extension to side, 28 Senna Lane	Approved
19/03817/FUL – single storey rear extension, 4 Chapel Close	Pending
19/03786/S73 - Removal of condition 5 on planning permission 06-1003-FUL, Cogshall Hall	Pending
19/04487/FUL – widening of existing drive and two storey side extensions, 14 Chapel Close	Pending