

Minutes of the Meeting of Comberbach Parish Council held on Tuesday 14 December 2021

Present

Councillors:

John Ryder (Chairman in the Chair)

Richard Chandler

John Darwin

Bob Holt

Jill Johnston

Denise French (Clerk)

Stephen Penwill (RFO)

The Meeting started at 7.15pm.

Public Open Forum

There were no Members of the Public present.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received and approved from:

(a) Councillor Jim Bradley for a 2 month period due to illness;

(b) Councillors Val McDermott and Steven Hornby due to family reasons.

2. To receive Members' Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 26 October 2021

(21/66) RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 26 October 2021 be approved as a correct record.

5. Progress Reports and Updates

5.1 BT Exchange, Senna Lane – following emails to BT including one from the Chairman to the Managing Director of BT about the appearance of the BT exchange on Senna Lane the grass had been cut but no further information or improvements had taken place. The Chairman would send further correspondence.

5.2 Scouts Project – the Clerk would contact the Comberbach and Antrobus Scout Group to progress their offer to help with cutting back hedgerows on Marbury Lane.

5.3 Abandoned vehicle – the Clerk had reported this to CWAC who advised it did not meet the criteria for investigation but to contact them if it was still in place in a month; the Clerk had notified CWAC that the vehicle was still in situ.

6. Cheshire West and Chester Councillors' (CWAC) reports

There were no CWAC Councillors present to provide a report.

7. Recreation Area and Pump Track

7.1 The Chairman updated:

- He had jetwashed the Tower/slide floor to stop it being slippery.
- He and Councillors Chandler and Darwin had tried to fit the new swing legs but the fittings did not match the frame; a number of phone calls had been made to HAGS without success so the Chairman would return the swing legs to the company's headquarters and the Council agreed that no payment should be made. A quote for a swing seat set had been received and a further quote was awaited. The Finance Committee on 7 January 2022 would look at options for a replacement swing set.
- Finance Committee would also look ahead to future plans for the Recreation Area in terms of provision of equipment and maintenance, repair and replacement requirements in order to inform budget planning.

7.2 The latest Inspection Report was considered. Members noted that there was standing water in the middle of the Pump Track but it was only shallow. Clark and Kent had fitted a soakaway but the rain had been especially heavy over recent weeks.

7.3 Zip wire matting – quotes would be submitted to Finance Committee for consideration and recommendation to the next Parish Council meeting.

7.4 The Council agreed the purchase of a length of fence to replace the current fencing at the back of the play area.

(21/67) RESOLVED: that

- (a) the update on the Recreation Area be noted;
- (b) the Finance Committee consider options for a new swing set and future plans and budget for managing the Recreation Area; and
- (c) the purchase of a 25m roll of welded garden fence in pvc green to replace current fencing at a cost of £150 including VAT plus wire strainer be approved.

8. Highways and Streetscene

The Parish Council considered:

8.1 the response from CWAC to the Clerk's email regarding suggestions for improving highway safety at Budworth Lane and Cock Lane. Members agreed the response was disappointing in its dismissal of all the suggestions to make improvements.

8.2 Speed Indicator Device – the latest data readings from the SID were considered. Councillor Chandler had shared the data with the PCSO who had referred it to the Response Team for consideration. The PCSO had advised she would be in the village with the speed gun before Christmas. The RFO would look at the data to produce exit reports for future consideration.

8.3 Community Speedwatch Group – there had been no new volunteers to help with a Speedwatch scheme.

8.4 Pilot scheme to address speeding – a number of Councils had progressed their interest in this pilot project and schemes would be included by the Police in a procurement exercise with suppliers/managers of speed cameras with a view to the Pilot schemes being implemented by the beginning of the new financial year.

(21/68) RESOLVED: That the Chairman will contact the Great Budworth Parish Council Chairman and Clerk to discuss how to make progress with improving highway safety at Budworth Lane and Cock Lane.

9. Accounts and Financial Matters

9.1 The Parish Council Accounts at 30 November 2021 were submitted at Appendix 1.

9.2 The list of payments was in Appendix 2.

9.3 The RFO updated on advertisers in the Village Newsletter; there would be 6 advertisers in the January edition.

(21/69) RESOLVED That

- (a) the accounts in Appendix 1 with a balance of £18,526.20 and £21,374.67 in reserves be noted;
- (b) the payments in Appendix 2 be approved;
- (c) the update on advertisers be noted.

10. Projects

10.1 The commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee in 2022 would be deferred to the new year.

(21/70) RESOLVED That the Queen's Jubilee commemoration be deferred to a future meeting.

11. Planning

11.1 Planning decisions were listed in Appendix 3.

11.2 There were no enforcement matters.

(21/71) RESOLVED: That the planning update be noted.

12. Correspondence

The list of correspondence was noted.

(21/72) RESOLVED: That the correspondence be noted.

13. Representative Reports

Comberbach Memorial Hall Management Committee – no update

Fete Committee – the Committee would be meeting this week.

Bowling Club – the bowling green was now shut for winter.

Police Liaison – the PCSO would be holding a surgery at the Memorial Hall on Thursday 16 December

School Liaison – no update

Litterpick – no update

14. Exclusion of Public and Press – Part 2

That in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business due to the confidential nature of the matter to be discussed which relates to details of an individual.

Part 2

15. Recreation Area contract

The Council considered quotes submitted for the maintenance contract at the Recreation Area.

(21/73) RESOLVED: That the Recreation Area maintenance contract be offered to Supplier 1.

The Meeting closed at 9.07pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 18 January 2022

Signed
Chairman

Appendix 1 Accounts for 30 November 2021 were approved

Current account: £18,526.20	Reserves: £21,374.67
Cash book: £41,373.70	Unpresented cheques: none

Appendix 2 Payments

Item	Amount	Power
Synchroprint - CVN Nov 21	£182.00	LGA 1972 s 111
HMRC – PAYE Oct-Dec 21	£265.40	LGA 1972 s 111
Shane Ross – Grounds Maintenance Inv 3	£600.00	LGA 1972 s 111
D French – Expenses to Dec 21	£70.57	LGA 1972 s 111
A Woodcock – Donation for Christmas Tree	£160.00	LGA 1972 s 137
Northwich Town Council – Inspection Oct 21	£58.80	LGA 1972 s 111

Appendix 2b Pre-Authorised Payments

Item	Amount	Date	Power
BWM Creative – website hosting 2104	£273.60	29/10/21	LGA 1972 s 111
Chesh Community Action – subs 2105	£20.00	29/10/21	LGA 1972 s 111

Appendix 3 Recent planning decisions by CW&C

21/01937/S73 - Single storey side and rear extension and creation of first floor (Variation of conditions 2 (approved plans) and 3 (materials) of planning permission 19/01832/FUL) 31 Senna Lane	Pending
21/01836/FUL - Proposed one-bedroom (self-build) dwelling in replacement of existing garage and detached residential outbuilding, land at Comberbach Post Office, Senna Lane	Pending
21/02469/FUL – single storey rear extension and loft conversion, Mill Bank	Pending

Lime (T1) - Reduce crown by approx 1-2m. Dying Ash (G2) - Fell to low stump due to decline showing in crown; 7 Freshfields	Pending
21/03798/TPO - 2 x Cherry trees - Fell, due to shading, Three Oaks Marbury Road	Pending
21/03580/LBC - Enlarge the small existing doorway between the kitchen and the library / TV room to the south and the creation of a new opening on the west side of the room, matching the style and proportion of the proposed enlarged opening on the east side, Cogshall Hall Senna Lane	Pending
21/04035/PAA - Construction of an additional storey making the single storey dwelling a two storey dwelling, The Croft The Avenue	Prior approval required and approved
20/03702/OUT - Demolition of the existing garage and passageway of Senna House and erection of two three bedroom detached houses, 15 Senna Lane	Pending