

Minutes of the Meeting of Comberbach Parish Council held on Tuesday 4 July 2023

Present

Councillors:

John Ryder (Chairman in the Chair)
Sandy Cameron
Richard Chandler
John Darwin
Jill Johnston
Val McDermott

Denise French (Clerk)
Stephen Penwill (RFO)

The Meeting started at 6.45pm.

Public Open Forum

There were no members of the public were present.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from the CWAC Councillors – Gibbon, Marshal and Wright.

2. To receive Members' Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 16 May 2023

(23/37) RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 16 May 2023 be approved as a correct record.

4. Progress Reports and Updates

4.1 Parish Council vacancy. The vacancy had been advertised and once the 14 day period had elapsed, Cheshire West and Chester Council would notify the Council whether an election was called or whether co-option could be arranged.

4.2 Rospa inspection. The Clerk had contacted Rospa regarding the timing of the Annual Inspection. Rospa had responded that their reduced rate inspections could be in either April or May as this was a busy time for Inspectors which meant they may run into the following month.

4.3 Pizza Van on the car park. The vendor had been advised of the Parish Council's decision to permit the siting of the pizza van once per month and was now

applying for the necessary permissions from CWAC. It was noted that the Barista Ze coffee van was now sited on the car park on Thursdays and Fridays.

4.4 Insurance. The RFO had liaised with Zurich and the premium had been reduced to remove the inflation indexation on the asset replacement values as the Parish Council had allowed for this in the annual asset review.

(23/38) RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

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

There were no CWAC Councillors present. Members discussed the weed spraying and grass cutting schedules. The Clerk agreed to contact CWAC Councillors to enquire about taking grass cutting in-house subject to a reduction in precept. The Clerk would also raise visibility issues due to high verges and hedges and ask that CWAC Councillors seek a resolution.

6. Recreation Area and Pump Track

6.1 The Chairman updated: the path surrounding the MUGA court needed a spray of weed control and Shane Ross would carry out this work. The infant slide unit had a small hole in the roof which required a small wood patch. David Massey from Massey and Harris had visited and confirmed that the basket swing was similar to ones installed at Rochdale and Stockport Councils. He would investigate accordingly and report back.

6.2 The recent Inspection Report was noted.

6.3 The Council considered quotes for the zip wire inspection and repair and approved the quote from Northwich Town Council.

6.4 The Council considered a quote to undertake tree works on the tree in the car park and the tree within the boundary of the Bowling Club following an inspection. The contractor had been recommended by CWAC who did not have the resource to undertake the works themselves.

6.5 A number of wooden slats needed to be replaced on seating; a budget of £200 was proposed and agreed.

6.6 A number of wooden slats needed repairing or replacing on the infant slide; a budget of £100 was proposed and agreed.

(23/39) RESOLVED: that

(a) The update on the Recreation Area and the recent Inspection Report be noted.

(b) The quote from Northwich Town Council to inspect and carry out repair works to the zip wire, be approved.

(c) The quote from OJT for tree management works on 2 trees on the car park and Bowling Club be approved in the sum of £330.

(d) A budget of £200 be approved for new wooden slats for seating at the Recreation Area.

(e) A budget of maximum £100 be approved for new wooden slats for the infant slide at the Recreation Area.

7. Highways and Streetscene

7.1 The Council considered 2 sets of data from the Speed Indicator Device. The March report referred to Marbury Road Northbound into the village and the May report referred to The Avenue Southbound into the village. The data showed 860 vehicles travelling above 40 mph with 8 travelling over 60 mph and 2 travelling over 70 mph.

Councillor Chandler updated on the PCC meeting held last month; he had not been able to find information about the criteria for taking action on data from a SID. He had met the Northwich Commander who asked that the SID data be sent to him which Cllr Chandler would arrange to do and would also share with the PCSO. The meeting had been informed that speed checks by a PCSO could result in a prosecution but only on designated roads. The police also welcomed dashcam and helmet cam footage. Average speed cameras were to be installed on certain roads in Cheshire. The local Sergeant or PCSO was expected to attend 50% of the Parish Council meetings but requested that their agenda slot was early in the meeting.

7.2 The Council received a response from CWAC to Antrobus Parish Council following a FOI request relating to works on Gibb Hill.

(23/40) RESOLVED: that:

(a) The SID data be shared with the Sergeant and PCSO.

(b) The update on Gibb Hill be noted.

8. Accounts and financial matters

8.1 The accounts for 31 May 2023 were listed in Appendix 1

8.2 The Council considered subscribing to Cheshire Community Action and this was agreed.

8.3 The list of payments was in Appendix 2.

(23/41) RESOLVED: that:

(a) The accounts in Appendix 1 with a balance of £22, 977.96 and £28,397.09 in reserves be noted.

(b) The Council will subscribe to CCA and they will be invited to the next meeting to discuss whether there are merits in progressing a Neighbourhood Plan.

(c) The list of payments in Appendix 2 be approved.

9. Projects

9.1 Environmental projects – this was deferred to a future meeting.

9.2 Freedom Fibre. The Chairman updated on Freedom Fibre. There had been around 100 residents signed up to the Government's Gigabit voucher scheme. Freedom Fibre would contact them with the next steps. The network was scheduled to be built in August and surveys had been conducted. Members discussed whether residents would be able to join the scheme if they had not already registered and Councillor Cameron agreed to contact Freedom Fibre with this query.

9.3 Resilience Plan. A draft Plan had been circulated. Members felt advice was now needed from CWAC and the Clerk would contact the Emergency Planning officer for advice on next steps.

9.4 Comberbach Fete. The Chairman updated that the Fete made a donation towards the cost of the marquee and a contribution towards traffic management costs. The Parish Council had paid the traffic management costs from 2021 as this had been an unexpected and unbudgeted cost for which the Fete Committee did not have sufficient funds. Since then it was felt that the Parish Council's contribution should reduce; this had been discussed with the Fete representatives who were happy to pay an increasing amount towards the traffic management costs in future and pay in full in a few years.

9.5 Lamp post poppies. The Council had purchased a number of poppies for Remembrance and considered whether to purchase some additional poppies; this was agreed.

9.6 D Day 80 Anniversary. The 80th Anniversary of D Day was on 6 June 2024. An information booklet on the commemoration had been circulated. Members discussed purchasing a female 'Tommy' statue and new wording for the Beacon.

9.7 Cheshire West Crowd. This was a source of funding for community projects and information sessions were taking place across Cheshire West; Members agreed to attend an event if possible.

(23/42) RESOLVED: that:

(a) The update be received and noted.

(b) Councillor Cameron contact Freedom Fibre to clarify points raised at the meeting.

- (c) The Clerk send the draft Resilience Plan to CWAC Emergency Planning to seek advice on progressing.
- (d) The Council will support the traffic management costs for the Comberbach Fete on a reducing level - 30% this year, reducing to 15% in 2024 and zero thereafter.
- (e) A further purchase of lamp post poppies be purchased for a maximum sum of £100.
- (f) The 80th Anniversary commemoration for D Day be considered further at the next meeting including the purchase of a female 'Tommy' statue and adapting the Council's Beacon to change the wording to reflect D Day.
- (g) All Members be encouraged to attend an Information Event about the Cheshire West Crowd

10. Planning

10.1 Planning decisions were listed in Appendix 3. The Clerk updated that application 22/04415/FUL, land on the northeast side of Senna Lane, had been withdrawn. Members also noted that the site had been sold. Members noted there was still unauthorised activity on the site. The Clerk had previously contacted CWAC Enforcement about the siting of portacabins on the site but had been advised that no enforcement action would be taken pending the outcome of the live planning application.

10.2 There were no enforcement matters.

10.3 Councillor McDermott queried whether a Neighbourhood Plan would be suitable for Comberbach; as above, Members had agreed to ask CCA to attend the next meeting or a date in autumn to discuss the merits or otherwise of a Neighbourhood Plan.

(23/43) RESOLVED: That:

- (a) The update be noted.
- (b) The Clerk contact CWAC Planning Enforcement requesting action be taken about the unauthorised activity on the land northeast of Senna Lane.
- (c) The Neighbourhood Plan be discussed with Cheshire Community Action at the next meeting or in September.

11. Correspondence

The list of correspondence had been circulated.

(23/44) RESOLVED: That the correspondence be noted.

12. Representative Reports

- Comberbach Memorial Hall Management Committee – nothing to update.
- Fete Committee – the Fete had taken place on 24 June and had been very successful.
- Bowling Club – the club continued to be busy.
- Police Liaison – update earlier in the meeting.
- School Liaison – nothing to update.
- Litterpick – nothing to update.

13. Exclusion of Public and Press – Part 2

(23/45) RESOLVED: 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 matters to be discussed.

14. Resurfacing the MUGA

The Council considered quotes and options to resurface the MUGA. Some reference sites had been visited.

(23/46) RESOLVED: that the quote from Supplier 3 be approved in the sum of £3450 + VAT subject to confirmation from the RFO regarding the financial position of the company. The works will involve a deep clean and moss treatment of the area, bind the court then paint and line mark for basketball and football in nonslip LTA approved paint.

The Meeting closed at 8.45pm.

The next meeting of Comberbach Parish Council will be on Tuesday 5 September at 6.45pm.

Signed
Chairman

Appendix 1 Accounts for 31 May 2023 were approved:

Current account	£22,977.96	Reserve	£28,397.09
Cash book	£51,375.05	Reconciliation:	0

Appendix 2 Payments

Item	Amount	Power
HMRC – PAYE Q1 22/23	£284.40	LGA 1972 s 111
HMRC – Outstanding interest on account	£0.54	LGA 1972 s 111
Cheshire Community Action – Subs 22/23	£20.00	LGA 1972 s 111
S Penwill - Stationery	£13.29	LGA 1972 s 111
Shane Ross – Maintenance invoice 23-01	£600.00	LGA 1972 s 111

Appendix 2b Pre-Authorised Payments

Item	Amount	Power
Techquarters – Microsoft Office (DD) May 23	£21.43	LGA 1972 s 111
Techquarters – Microsoft Office (DD) Jun 23	£21.43	LGA 1972 s 111
Tesco Mobile – Apr 23 (DD)	£9.95	LGA 1972 s 111
Tesco Mobile – May 23 (DD)	£7.50	LGA 1972 s 111
PAP2302 – Playsafety, RoSPA inspection May 23	£111.00	LGA 1972 s 111
PAP2303 – Synchroprint, CVN May 23	£188.00	LGA 1972 s 111
PAP2304 – Jacksons Marquee Hire, Fete 23	£1709.10	LGA 1972 s 111
PAP2305 – Dutton Traffic Mgt, Fete 23 Traffic Mgt	£1014.00	LGA 1972 s 111
PAP2306 – Shires Accountants, Payroll mgt 23/24	£295.20	LGA 1972 s 111
Zurich Insurance, Credit Note 23/5/23	(£102.95)	LGA 1972 s 111

Appendix 3 Recent planning decisions by CW&C

APPLICATION DETAILS	DATE OF VALIDATION	CURRENT POSITION
21/05070/OUT - Outline planning permission for a mixed use development of up to 1,550 units of residential dwellings including affordable housing (subject to viability); specialist accommodation for older people including residential care home; local centre	Wed 22 Dec 2021	Awaiting decision

and active ground floor uses comprising up to 600 sqm of flexible floorspace for retail (including small convenience food store); up to 275 sqm of health, nursery and community; up to 7,700 sqm of employment space; up to 950 sqm of cafe, restaurant, takeaway and public house floorspace; up to a 2,250sqm (up to 2FE) primary school with associated playing fields (Use Class F1(a)); and associated road infrastructure, landscaping (including Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems), public realm and amenity space (all matters reserved except for vehicular access), land at Winnington Works		
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	Fri 30 Apr 2021	Awaiting decision
22/00953/FUL - Demolition of existing porch, single storey glazed link extension, single storey and two storey extension, first floor balcony, alterations to existing garage, Wayside Cottage, Hough Lane	Tuesday 26 April 2022	Refused
22/00792/FUL - Change of Use of Land from Horticulture to Landscaping Business including Use of Previously Existing PolyTunnels (x2), Tool Shed, Potting Shed and Reuse of Porta Cabin as Office, Erection of Tool Shed, Small Workshop Building and Office Building and Siting of 4x Mobile Containers, Land To South of Hough Lane Farm	3 May 2022	Awaiting decision
22/03311/FUL - demolition of existing dwelling, erection of dwelling, and a single storey outbuilding to provide ancillary accommodation, 57 Senna Lane	2 September 2022	Awaiting decision
22/04415/FUL - Siting of 4no. glamping units, reception hut, bike storage, recycling/waste facilities and a new permeable parking/turning area with electric vehicle charging points with	28 November 2022	Withdrawn

associated footpaths and a water treatment plant for onsite drainage, land On The Northeast Side of Senna Lane		
22/04625/FUL – single storey side extension and single storey rear extension 12 Cogshall Lane	15 December 2022	Approved
22/04506/FUL <u>Erection of side garage, additional front porch and part render to front elevation</u> Glaslyn, Marbury Road	28 February 2023	Awaiting decision
23/00251/FUL Drop the kerb to the side of property on Freshfields to allow access to create a new driveway and raise the kerb at the rear of the property removing the current drive way 22 Cogshall Lane	6 March 2023	Awaiting decision
23/00659/FUL Removal of existing front tile hung cladding and replacement with PIR insulation board, finished with a light cream render 22 Burgamot Lane	1 March 2023	Awaiting decision
23/00734/FUL Two storey rear extension and first floor side extension, with storm porch to front and roof alterations 27 Senna Lane	7 March 2023	Awaiting decision
23/01116/TPO Ash (T1) on rear boundary - Reduce crown by approximately 25% by reducing main limbs to appropriate growing/reduction points as previous reduction points (stubs) are starting to die. 11 Brookfield Road.	4 April 2023	Awaiting decision
23/01658/TPO - 1 x alder - crown lift to 4/5 metres 2 Bracken Way	19 May 2023	Awaiting decision
23/01738/CAT - Beech tree - Prune in the region of 4m from the canopy overhanging 11 Kennelwood Road	12 June 2023	Awaiting decision